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Superintendent:  
Demetrus Liggins, PhD

An Equal Opportunity  
School District

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February 8, 2024

Greetings music enthusiasts! You are certainly in for a treat today, with a unique opportunity to enjoy performances by the Lafayette Wind Symphony, Lafayette Madrigal Singers, and Lafayette Chamber Orchestra over the next few hours. Led by world-class music educators, each of these ensembles has prepared exciting selections for your listening pleasure.

In the Fayette County Public Schools, we pride ourselves on offering a full complement of academic and co-curricular opportunities that give students avenues to discover and cultivate their gifts and talents. A robust music education program is part of our commitment to educating the whole child by providing experiences that encourage creativity, imagination, and intellectual curiosity. Our more than 100 music teachers offer instruction in every elementary, middle, and high school, with orchestra starting in fourth grade, and band beginning in fifth grade.

The fine arts program at Lafayette High School has a long-standing tradition of excellence, which continues today with the incredible achievement of having three major ensembles selected to perform at the 2024 KMEA Professional Development Conference.

Under the expert guidance of Director of Bands Dee Bishop, Associate Director of Bands and Director of Percussion Aaron Jones, Associate Director of Bands and Director of Jazz Ensemble Dr. Chris Strange, Director of Choirs Ryan Marsh, SCAPA Vocal Instructor and Director Laura Howard, Director of Orchestras Phil Kent, and Assistant Director of Orchestras Aaron Breeck, each of these groups earned this accolade through their dedication to personal excellence, long hours of rehearsal, love of music, extraordinary commitment to improving their skills, and desire to succeed.

The students who will be playing for you today are wonderful ambassadors for Lafayette High School, their families, and the Fayette County Public Schools, and we are proud to have them represent us. Years of classroom learning, family support, and individual practice will converge on the concert stage today as students embrace this opportunity to express themselves through song.

If, as Hans Christian Andersen observed, “where words fail, music speaks,” it is clear that our students have a lot to say.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Demetrus Liggins".

Demetrus Liggins, PhD  
Fayette County Public Schools Superintendent

