

Summit Middle school is still buzzing with the sights and sounds of the Dallas Brass. The students REALLY enjoyed your visit. For many of the students it was the first time that they got to hear musicians of your quality. They are really fired up about music! We will be reaping the benefits of your visit for quite some time. Here are just a few that we have experienced already: In class students have set their musical goals higher now that they have seen and heard the results of hard work. Through your website and the web search that they did, the students learned more about what professional musicians do for a living (a good thing to learn and this addresses one of our state standards in music).

Several parents inquired about getting their students started in private lessons. We are currently starting the process of having students sign up for solo and ensemble contest. I have more students talking about trying to put an ensemble together since you folks made it look like so much fun. The girl (percussionist and cheerleader) who got her arm signed by Chris was showing everyone her autograph and telling everyone how cool it was to perform with you. The teachers have heard about the concert, the kids in school have heard about it... Being in the band has been the big talk at school this week. Yeah!! Your visit reinforces so many concepts and ideas that I try to teach them on a daily basis (for example, how to warm-up properly, why it is important to have good posture, how to breath properly and why it is so essential to your playing, how to perform as an ensemble etc.). It's almost like you can see the light bulbs popping on above their heads as they say "oh, I get it! Thank you for overlooking our lack of ambiance and agreeing to come perform in our gym. When you visit our schools, you are doing more for us music educators and our students than you will ever know!! You do make a difference. A heartfelt thanks and best wishes to you!

Sincerely,
Sue Jehl Band Director
Summit Middle School