

## **North Cougar Band Takes National Title**

The CMS North band was selected as a National Wind Ensemble winner this past week by a select panel of university directors.

The North band was chosen as a National Winner in the Mark of Excellence, Wind Band Honors Project, a competition supported and promoted by The Foundation for Music Education. Held in Washington, DC, one hundred sixty-one bands representing forty-two states competed to make the top ten cut.

Adjudicators for this contest were John Whitwell, Director of Bands Emeritus - Michigan State University, Dr. Steven Peterson, Director of Bands - Ithaca College, and Dr. Frank Wickes, Director of Bands - Louisiana State University.

Comments from judges included:

“This is the finest middle school band program in the nation, congratulations to you and your community.”

“Wow, just an incredible performance by such young musicians with ability many years beyond their age. Always a joy and treat to hear the Coppell bands. You set the standard for the country.”

“Coppell school district has become known world-wide for their excellence in music and you once again put Coppell on the map.”

The North Band total scored 298.6 out of a possible 300 points.

The Cougar musicians have just come off the State Honor Band Title for the second time in 5 years and are in preparations for their trip to Austin and San Antonio to perform at the state capital and the State Texas Music Educators convention in February.

The 347-member strong the band is off to a great start on another rewarding year with exciting performances for all.

The band is under the direction of Mr. Joey Ashbrook and Mr. Jeremy Lindquist. CMS North Principal is Dr. Leanne Dorhout.