

Interest in Dover High School Orchestra Growing

The opening of the new high school cannot come fast enough for Dover High School's Orchestra. The ensemble has grown by 15-20 members this year, alone.

"We're growing by leaps and bounds," said Orchestra Director David Rutter. "We're going to be ready for the new high school in a year and a half. We need the bigger space. The program is growing; the middle school program is growing. We have a lot of great kids who do things in our district that kids in other districts don't have the opportunity to experience."

Dover is the only district in the county to have an orchestra and it's fairly rare in Ohio for a smaller school to have one.

"Even what I think is more impressive," said Rutter, "there aren't a whole lot of schools that have band, choir and orchestra, let alone the other ensembles we have here at Dover."

Between fifth grade, middle school and high school, Rutter estimates there are about 200 members of the



Dover is the only district in the county to have an Orchestra and it's fairly rare in Ohio for a smaller school to have one.

orchestras, which is a testament to the value Dover residents place on music, especially considering the strong numbers in the other music programs.

"I'm not from Dover," Rutter said. "I'm from the Cincinnati area, so it's taken me a couple years to understand the community here. The one thing I've always understood is it's a great place to have a family."

"That's Dover. It's a family place. You see that in school a lot and I'd like to

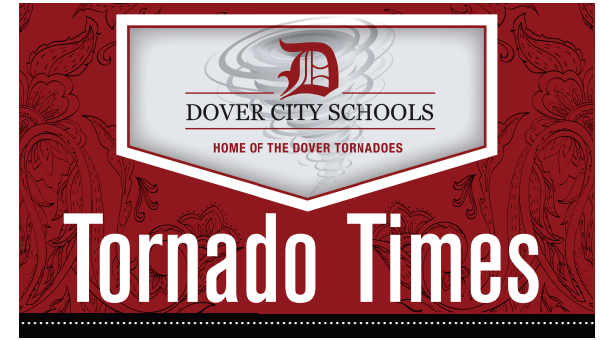
think you see it in the music department, as well. We look out for the kids like we would our own. We want to give them all the opportunity we can. I think that's why you see so many music opportunities in Dover and so many kids taking part in them."

Technology is also becoming an increasingly bigger part of Dover's orchestra. Rutter finds himself using a SMART Board to test key signature identification. Having it right in front of the entire room is much easier than printing 80 sets of flash cards.

The program's music library is becoming digitized, as well. This will be a huge space saver going forward.

As far as what it will be like to be in the new building, beyond space upgrades, Rutter will appreciate the proximity his room will have to the auditorium, as compared to the current setup.

"Right now we're on the second and a half floor," he said. "So if I have eight basses in the orchestra, and I want to go practice onstage, I have to find the time to get eight full-size basses down a flight and a half of stairs. It's quite a process!"



Absentee Voting Has Never Been Easier

The November 6 election is an important time to make sure your voice is heard in our Democratic process. As a reminder, Dover City Schools is on the ballot as Issue 3. This 8.9 mill operating levy is needed to address rising costs and reductions in state funding. Issue 3 will allow the district to maintain quality academic programs and well-rounded opportunities for our students, which are valued by the entire community.

Early voting started October 10th! If you want to beat the crowds and skip the lines, you can do so by voting by mail (absentee vote). Any registered voter may vote by absentee ballot. You no longer have to state a reason to receive an absentee ballot. Learn more how to vote absentee voting inside our latest Tornado Times!

INSIDE: How to Vote by Mail

Absentee Voting - How To

This election, all registered voters were mailed an absentee ballot application by the Ohio Secretary of State.

If you still need an absentee ballot, visit myohiovote.com and fill out an application.

► Here are detailed instructions:

1. Once you fill out the application, mail it to:
Tuscarawas County Board of Elections
P.O. Box 69
New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663
2. Wait to receive your ballot in the mail from the board of elections.
3. Return your voted ballot. You can send it by **U.S. Mail** or deliver it **in person** to your county board of elections.
4. To make sure your absentee ballot is counted, it must be received by your board of elections by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day (November 6) OR be postmarked by the day before Election Day.



Early Voting Begins:
Wednesday, October 10



Election Day:
Tuesday, November 6

