



Blackman High School *Blaze Band*

Brenda Monson, Director |

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Dear Blaze Band Family:

It is my pleasure to introduce you to our new Assistant Band Director, Mr. Erich Zimmerman. Mr. Zimmerman is dedicated to excellence in teaching and performing music, he has a wealth of knowledge and experience, and he is excited to be a part of the Blaze Band. I would like to share with you his bio as it is filled with numerous credentials and qualifications.

Erich Zimmerman has completed his 23rd year as a music educator in Middle Tennessee. Mr. Zimmerman began his teaching career in Sumner County, serving as the Director of Bands at Westmoreland High School, Westmoreland, TN. He then spent 10 years teaching in the Nashville Metropolitan School System, serving at McGavock High School, J.T. Moore Middle School and Martin Luther King Magnet School. In 2002 Mr. Zimmerman came to Rutherford County where he helped open Rock Springs Middle School and has served in various capacities at both Rock Springs Middle and Christiana Middle Schools and most recently at Thurman Francis Arts Academy.

Outside of teaching, Mr. Zimmerman was a member of the Capitol Brass Quintet from 1990 2011 and in July of 2011 was named the conductor of the Tennessee Valley Winds, a community band based in Murfreesboro, TN.

Prior to teaching, Mr. Zimmerman was a trumpet instrumentalist with the United States Navy Band, Washington D.C., where he served in both concert and ceremonial capacities. His navy tour of duty included a 1988 national tour, weekly concerts in and around the nation's capitol, and numerous ceremonial duties for Naval District Washington. He was also an active free lance musician in the Washington D.C. area.

Mr. Zimmerman's education includes receiving his Master's +30 certification from MTSU in Administration & Supervision, a Master of Music Degree in Trumpet Performance from the University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Music Education from Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, TN.

Mr. Zimmerman is a member of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), the Tennessee Music Education Association (TMEA) and the Middle Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association (MTSBOA). As a member of the MTSBOA he served as President-Elect, President and Past-President. He is also a member of the Phi Mu Alpha, a professional music fraternity and the Phi Beta Mu, an honorary Band Director's fraternity.

I am very proud of the Blaze Band, past and present. I am proud of the band's outstanding achievements and look forward to each year as we make music together. I am confident that Mr. Zimmerman will be a wonderful addition to our program. Please help me in welcoming him!

Brenda A. Monson