

BENNETT LENTCZNER

November 2004

Dear 1960-1977 Band Students of Bennett Lentczner:

We all know the old saying "you can't go back." True enough, but we do remember!

Forty-five years ago fate brought me to the North Shore community where I found incredible personal rewards in sharing my love of making music with an enthusiastic and committed group of young people. The challenge of fulfilling our individual potential as musicians gave all of us a "yes I can" approach to life itself.

We shared something very special in those days. And now, thanks to the efforts of several members of the bands I had the privilege to work with during my career at North Shore Schools, we will all have the opportunity to reunite and reminisce this coming June.

I invite you to join me June 17 through 19, 2005 at North Shore High School for a weekend of memories and music making. The Reunion Committee (see the enclosed notice) met this past July and created a plan for three days none of us will want to miss. After all, how many times in our life do we have the opportunity to rekindle memories with those we shared so much with?

And yes, we will play together again. After all, making music is what brought us all together in the first place. I am sure that many of you have not played in several years. No matter. There will be no practice sheets or grades. We will mail you the music sometime in January so you can practice and be more comfortable with the material. And if you need an instrument to get some of the rust off your embouchure, email Jeff Byrne at jbyrne@portnet.k12.ny.us. He **WILL** have some suggestions on how to get you back playing again in a reasonable amount of time, and may be able to help you secure an instrument to practice.

The last time we got together for a reunion was in 1981. It was a time those of us there remember it with great warmth. We are now all a bit older and certainly wise enough to know that there will not be an abundance of opportunities to remember together for band reunions such as this one. I hope to see you this coming June so I can thank you personally for enriching my life.

With warm regards and sincerity,

Bennett Lentczner
Band Director 1960-1972
North Shore Schools