

DANVERS PARENTS FOR MUSIC EDUCATION



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 21, 2008

CONTACT:
Steve O'Connell / Home: 978-762-4534
Peter Collins / Cell: 978-766-7515
DanversPME@Yahoo.com

Danvers Band Director Gains National Recognition *Parsons Selected from Massachusetts*

Danvers - The beat goes on for the Falcon Marching Band, as Band Director Ronald Parsons was recently selected by the School, Band & Orchestra Magazine (SBO) to represent Massachusetts in a feature article entitled, **50 Directors Who Make a Difference**. The December issue of SBO highlighted one director from each of the 50 states. The article spoke of the dual roles that music educators across the country face, not only having to be teachers, but mentors and coaches to their students. Parsons and other music educators were chosen for the many ways they provide a positive impact on the lives of their students.

"Successful music educators are bridge builders," Parsons said in the article. He added that his keys to success include engaging community, fostering a solid working relationship with administrators, colleagues, the music booster group, and maintaining a strong advocacy of the program. "It's equally important to excite and empower students to take ownership of their band," he continued, "and instill in students a strong sense of responsibility for themselves and accountability to each other."

Parsons has been the Band Director at Danvers High School for the past 22 years. He has built an exemplary program which has earned the music program national notariety, including 2 trips to the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade in 2001 and 2006, and a third invitation scheduled for January 2, 2010.