

Martin Orchestra Family,

August 19th, 2017

A new school year always brings feelings of great anticipation and excitement and there is absolutely no exception to this year.

It came as a surprise to hear Mr. Stringer would be leaving Martin and entering into the AISD central administration. While I am ecstatic for Mr. Stringer's promotion, it is no secret that the Martin Orchestra Program lost a magnificent teacher & mentor. I look forward to honoring Mr. Stringer's legacy through a special celebration later in the school year.

The Martin Orchestra is made of individuals that strive to be excellent every time they pick up their instrument. Each of you enter the Martin Orchestra Room ready to accept new challenges and master techniques at hand. You have won state titles, performed at Carnegie Hall, earned multiple Sweepstakes awards and have now been invited to perform at the Midwest National Convention in Chicago. The head director has changed, but you have not.

You are the Martin Orchestra.

There will still be Bohemian Rhapsody at every social event, and I will still only dance to the Wobble. We will still have an obnoxious drum at Secret Santa, Mr. Branch will wear his Chewbacca onesie and you will still have to give awkward hugs. We will reminisce about Mr. Stringer's cartwheels and weird animal songs. You will continue to be educated about Mrs. Ovalle's Sophomore Girl Graph. And the best part: you'll still complain about finger patterns. Some things will never change.

I am humbled to have been chosen as your next Head Director. The shoes to fill are rather large, but I am confident the legacy of excellence will continue for many years to come. I cannot express how truly excited I am to see you all on Monday. I assure you – this is going to be a fantastic year.

Mrs. Ovalle