By Jan Schultz
The Imperial Republican

Christmas concerts presented by K-12 singers and instrumentalists at Chase County Schools will be presented in a few different formats this year.

The first one arrives tonight (Thursday) at 6:30 p.m. in the school auditorium, featuring the high school concert band, Simply Jazz, the high school chorus and 9th St. Singers. The groups are planning to do one combined Christmas medley together at the concert, according to the schedule.

Directors are Randy Hayes and Agnes Strand.

The same two directors will return to the stage with their junior high musicians and vocalists on Monday, Dec. 17, also at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

At that concert, the fifth grade band will feature its woodwinds and brasses in separate sets. Other performances include the sixth grade band, junior high band and its jazz group, as well as the junior high chorus and show choir.

K-6 concert

The school's concert season will conclude Tuesday, Dec. 18, with the K-6 vocal concert, under the director of Jodie Liess, also in the auditorium.

The concert will begin at 6 p.m. with the kindergarten classes, who will be singing a few songs.

Beginning at 6:30 p.m., the first and second graders will be performing "The Littlest Christmas Tree."

In the story, Santa (Peyton Dubas) and Mrs. Claus (Raissa Nevarez) chose their tree from a large group. Each tree thinks it is the prettiest and will be chosen by Santa. The trees also think they are the most important part of Christmas. Santa and Mrs. Claus are very upset the trees think this way, but one little tree (Maddie Hanes) knows the true meaning of Christmas.

Grades 3-4 will be performing "Santa's Stuck in the 50's," starting at 7:15 p.m.

In this story, Mrs. Claus (Courtney Odens) and the elves are cleaning out the attic and discover boxes and boxes of toys left over from the 1950s. Santa (Cedric Maxwell) decides to give these toys to the children and asks them to write letters to him explaining what good things they have done throughout the year. A number of fourth graders have spoken lines and solos, Liess said.

Beginning at 8 p.m., grades 5-6 will be performing "Twas One Crazy Night Before Christmas," a funny variation on the traditional Christmas story.

Narrator C.C. (Parker Dillan) takes the audience through the story. The cast sings about sleeping on the floor when all the relatives arrive and one girl (Kirsten Biesecker) sings about Martha Stewart.

The show also features three imposter Santas (Kadin Vrbas, Logan Mendenhall, Braden Space) and a song wishing for what they want (not the annual gift of slippers). Others involved are Adelaide Maxwell, a mom who is making dinner like a football game, and Rylie Mintling, who wants to meet Santa.

Liess said parents and others may come for the entire evening, or just for one program at the stated times. She said it promises to be a great evening filled with laughter and singing.