

7th GRADE BAND LETTER

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome back! We had a great year in band last year, and we know this year will be our best yet!

Please take a moment to review the Riverwatch Band Handbook and calendar posted on the band section of the RMS website (go to the “Academics” tab and click on “Connections”). The calendar is also copied on the back of this letter for your convenience. **Then**, please fill out the following Google Form by **Wednesday, August 7th** to acknowledge that you have read the RMS Band Handbook and agree to abide by the policies set forth therein:

<https://forms.gle/H5oeUMjxwL2DgLSY9> (QR code to the right)



Every student in the band needs a black RMS band polo shirt. If you do not have the band polo, or if you would like to purchase a new shirt, please log on the MyPaymentsPlus to contribute \$20.00 to cover the cost. **If your band polo still fits from last year and is in good condition for concerts, there is no contribution needed.**

We will be communicating with parents throughout the year using email addresses listed in Parent Portal. Please make sure your email address is up-to-date on Parent Portal so that you will receive band emails.

As always, we are available for extra help and pass offs in the morning from 8:00-8:45 a.m. (w/ the exception of faculty meetings). If you ever have questions, concerns, broken instruments, etc., we encourage students to take advantage of this time before school.

We are looking forward to a great year with the Riverwatch Bands! Please feel welcome to contact us with any questions or concerns at dpatterson99@forsyth.k12.ga.us and hmcgee42@forsyth.k12.ga.us.

Sincerely,

Mr. Dean Patterson
Director of Bands

Mr. Hunter McGee
Associate Director of Bands

Did you know?

The Riverwatch Band received the 2019 Georgia Music Educators Association Exemplary Performance Award. This is the highest honor awarded by GMEA.

Riverwatch Band has been recognized on the international and national level by “The Midwest Clinic”, “National Band Association”, “Bands of America”, and the “National Foundation for Music Education”.

The Riverwatch Band has had the highest number of students earn position in GMEA’s Ninth District Honor Band for the past 10 years.

Visit the Riverwatch Band Website for more information:

(You can also go to the Riverwatch Middle School home page, click on the “Academics” tab, then go to “Connections” and click on “Band.”)



Riverwatch Band 2019-20 Important Dates

Updates to the calendar will be posted on the band page of the RMS website and communicated to parents via email. This calendar does not include rehearsals.

Events required for band members in specific grades/classes are indicated in plain font.
Many of these events are optional opportunities indicated in *italics*.

- Friday, Sept. 6th *Band Rock-a-thon! (4:30-9:30 p.m. in RMS cafeteria)*
- Tuesday, Sept. 17th *7th & 8th Grade Pep Band Night at Lambert High School (After school, students picked up from Lambert HS Stadium by 8:15 p.m.)*
- Oct. TBD Symphonic Band Preview Concert (7:00 p.m. in Gym, students report at 6:40 p.m.)
- Fri., Nov 1st Symphonic Band Invited Performance @ Reinhardt University (Field Trip after school, Performance is at 7:00 p.m.)
- Tues., Nov. 5th *All-State Mock Auditions (after school @ RMS)*
- Nov. TBD 7th Grade Concert (7:00 p.m. in Gym, students report at 6:40 p.m.)
- Saturday, Dec. 7th *1st round All-State auditions (held at Otwell MS)*
- Dec. TBD 6th Grade & Symphonic Band Concert (6:30 p.m. in Gym, students report at 6:10 p.m.)
- Saturday, Jan. 11th *Final round All-State auditions (Perry MS, Perry, GA)*
- Jan. 31-Feb. 1 *District Honor Band (Denmark HS, Alpharetta, GA)*
- Mar. 5-Mar 7 *All-State Band (Athens, GA)*
- Mar 23-25 7th & 8th Grade State Performance Evaluations (Location/Date/Times TBA, during school day)
- Saturday, April 18th *GMEA Solo & Ensemble Festival (hosted at Riverwatch MS)*
- Wed., May 13th 7th Grade Spring Concert (7:00 p.m. in Gym, students report at 6:40 p.m.)

Message from Forsyth County Schools:

Due to the real-world, applicable project and performance-based learning environment of Performing Arts education related to a student's unique interests, supplies and equipment/instruments may be needed for student's own possession and use/performance. If you have specific questions or concerns, please reach out to your student's Performing Arts teacher.