

8th 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 complete and turn in the bottom of this form by **Friday, August 16th** to acknowledge that you have read the RMS Band Handbook and agree to abide by the policies set forth therein.

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 to SchoolPay 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.

The band room will be open for morning practice from 8:00-8:45 a.m. every day (w/ the exception of faculty meetings). We will announce the start date for pass offs soon. 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 hmcgee42@forsyth.k12.ga.us and klarkin@forsyth.k12.ga.us.

Sincerely,

Mr. Hunter McGee
Director of Bands

Ms. Katie Larkin
Associate Director of Bands

I acknowledge that I have read and agree to the terms outlined in the Riverwatch Band Handbook for the 2024-2025 school year.

Parent Name (print): _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Name (print): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

DUE BY FRIDAY, August 16th, 2024

Riverwatch Band 2024-25 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*.

<i>Tues., Sept. 3rd</i>	<i>7th & 8th Grade Pep Band Night at Lambert High School (After school, students picked up from Lambert HS Stadium by 8:15 p.m.)</i>
<i>Friday, Sept. 13th</i>	<i>Band Rock-a-thon! (4:30-8:30 p.m. in RMS Bus Lanes)</i>
<i>Monday, Nov. 4th</i>	<i>All-State Mock Auditions (after school @ RMS)</i>
Friday, Nov. 15 th	8 th Grade Concert (7:30 p.m. in Gym, students report by 7:15 p.m.)
<i>Saturday, Dec. 7th</i>	<i>1st round All-State auditions (Otwell MS)</i>
<i>Saturday, Jan. 11th</i>	<i>Final round All-State auditions (Union Grove MS)</i>
<i>Jan. TBD</i>	<i>District Honor Band (Location TBD)</i>
<i>Feb. 27th-March 1st</i>	<i>All-State Band (Athens, GA)</i>
March TBD	7 th & 8 th Grade State Performance Evaluations (Location/Date/Times TBA, during school day)
<i>Saturday, April 19th</i>	<i>GMEA Solo & Ensemble Festival (hosted at Riverwatch MS)</i>
Thurs., April 24 th	8 th Grade Concert (7:30 p.m. in Gym, students report by 7:15 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.