

2018-2019 RMS Jazz Band Info Sheet

The RMS Jazz Band is a co-curricular group which means that students must be enrolled in band class and their involvement is an extension of class. We will meet once a week for rehearsals and will only have 12 rehearsals before our first concert. Students are required to come to all rehearsals, even during track-outs. Just like other extra-curricular activities, (ie sports teams, cheerleading, etc.) joining the jazz band includes a commitment to making the practices necessary to be successful, even during track-out. Tracked-out students are invited to stay the remainder of the day if that helps solve transportation issues that may arise for pick-up after rehearsal. Absence exceptions will be accepted under emergency situations or with **plenty** of prior notice. Students who miss 3 rehearsals risk being dismissed from the group and not allowed to perform with us. We will meet in the band room from 7:45am-8:45am on Wednesdays with a short break between 8:10am and 8:15am for students to check into homeroom. Our 1st rehearsal is on August 29th. The back door to the band room will be unlocked at 7:30AM. Please drop off students there.

There isn't going to be an "official" audition, I debated it, but ultimately decided students are expected to know how to count and play all the rhythms on their "Syncopated Rhythms Worksheet" with 100% accuracy. Students also need to know their chromatic fingerings for their instrument with the exception of a few lower notes and a few higher notes. With the limited time we have together, students will need to be ready to play challenging music, be ready to practice music at home and have it ready/better for the next rehearsal so that we can put music together as a band quickly. I will provide lots of supplemental materials. Concerts for Jazz Band will coincide with the Beginning Band concerts on November 27, 2018 & May 7, 2019 at 7pm). We also plan to do some optional performances throughout the year starting in the spring. I will give plenty of notice when these opportunities arise. I am looking forward to making great jazz music together!

-Mr. DiDonna

(Please sign and return bottom part)

***We have read the Jazz Band Info Sheet and understand the absence rules.

Student Printed Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____