River Ridge High School Band
Marching Band Camp Commitment Form
2021-2022

Greetings! It is very important that we start the year off right (on the left foot!) and when it comes to marching band, there is a lot to be learned in a very, very short time if we wait for the school year to begin before we start working on marching band. In order to deal with this, we have a marching band camp in the summer to help give us a boost into the fall marching season. At the camp, we will learn & do the following:

- Meet and get to know your student leadership including:
  - Drum Majors (Madison Calma & Patrick Mercier)
  - Section Leaders
  - Band Club Officers
- Meet and get to know the various volunteer instructors
  - Color Guard (Heather Scharpf)
  - Percussion (Thomas Edwards)
- Learn the marching style used by River Ridge High School Band
- Learn the music for the Fall show (memorize it)
- Learn the drill for the Fall show (with music)
- Meet the other band members and make some friends before school starts!!
- Have some fun as well as do all of this hard work!!
- Get a free RRHS Marching Band shirt!!

Without the summer camp, we really cannot do what we want to do next year with the marching band, so while it is not required for the class to come to the camp (it is outside the school year and cannot be graded), we really do expect you to be there. There is no fee for this camp...it is free of charge to you!!

Those who do not come to camp most often feel way behind the curve when it comes to learning what to do with marching band in the Fall. The rest of the group will be working from the starting point of already knowing upwards of 2/3 of the fall show when school starts. Because of this, students who do not attend camp will not have a spot on the field (both to relieve pressure on them and to not slow down the learning of the show), but will be able to be involved and have other options including:

- You may elect or be asked to join the percussion pit on the sideline for the field show regardless of what instrument you normally play so that you just have to learn the music and not the marching for the show. In that case, you would still play your normal instrument in the stands at games and on the parade route when the band marches in parades.
- You may choose to “shadow” someone on the field...follow them around during practices and learn their spot on the field. You will be guaranteed one performance (late-season) of the show. When not performing the show either during halftime at a football game or at a competition, you will help with props for the field and being our “ground crew”.
- There is a possibility that you may so many conflicts with marching band that learning a pit percussion part or shadowing someone may not be an option. In that case, with special permission from Mr. Theine, you will be on permanent ground crew and (unfortunately) participate in that capacity only. This is only to be done in the most extreme circumstances.

The calendar for this year’s camp:
- **Tuesday, July 27, 2021, 9 AM to 4 PM**: Student Leadership Day...all section leaders, drum majors, officers should plan on attending.

- **Wednesday, July 28, 2020, 9 AM to 4 PM**: Percussion & Color guard Day...a day for the marching percussion and color guard to get together, get settled in, and get a leg up on the basics that they need beyond what the rest of the band does.

- **Thursday, July 29 & Friday, July 30, 9 AM to 8 PM**: Full band! These are the “basics” days where you learn everything you need to know about our marching style as well as get an introduction and leg up on the music! (Make sure that you bring your instruments!)

- **M-F, August 2 – 6, 9 AM – 8 PM**: “Drill Week”...This is where we do the hard work of learning the show. Our goal is to be able to perform it at the end of camp at 7 PM for anyone who wants to come and watch! If we hit this goal, then we just need to refresh and refine it in the fall rather than try to learn it during the chaos of football season and the start of school. (Make sure that you bring your instruments!)

All meal breaks are 1 hour (12 – 1 for lunch and 4 – 5 for dinner when we have late days). Food is not provided other than dinner on the last day...potluck the sides and drinks, Band Boosters provide the main course! You should also make sure that you have:

- Face Mask & Bell Covers (I will be collecting these at the end of school and checking them out during camp)
- Good athletic shoes...you will be marching around for hours each day!!!
- A refillable water bottle.
- Weather appropriate (yet within the district dress code) clothing including hats and sunglasses. We have had some issues with heat exhaustion because of clothing choice...please be careful about this! **Light colored clothing is preferred.**
- Sunscreen!...let’s not look like a lobster band by the end of the camp! (You are not supposed to share sunscreen between students...so BYOS!...Bring Your Own Sunscreen! We also may have to have meals outside and music rehearsals outside, so we will be outside for long stretches of time each day.)

In order to help us plan for the camp, we need information from you. Please fill out and return the attached camp commitment form to me at:

River Ridge Marching Band Camp  
PO Box 3035  
Lacey, WA 98509

...or (preferably) scan/photo (with phone) and...

Upload to Canvas (Returning Students)

Send to: jtheine@nthurston.k12.wa.us (New Students)

Please contact me at the e-mail above if you are unable to print and scan/snap a photo with your phone. See you this summer!

John Theine, Director  
River Ridge High School Band