

To: All 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Students
From: Ms. Hanson, RCS 5-8 Band Instructor
Re: BAND



Welcome back to SCHOOL! I hope you had a wonderful, restful summer and are now ready to get back to work this school year. As you probably know, I am the band director for grades 5-8 in the Rochester Catholic Schools. I would like to invite all RCS students to participate in band! If you have already been in band, that's great! And there is important information for you in this document. I want to make sure that each and every RCS student knows they are welcome to join band even now that you are a little older than the "normal" beginning band student. It's never too late to try! If you tried in 5th grade and quit, why not give it another try? We played a lot of great music last year, and we had a lot of fun too! I'd love to have you join the band! You can contact me at Whanson@rcsmn.org with any questions you or your parents may have about joining band.

***Now, information for all band members. There is an additional RCS fee in order to participate in band. The fee for the year is \$275 and this is payable through the on-line registration portion of the RCS website. We use the Affinity Solutions website for this registration. The web address for the Affinity Solutions (the site for registering for BAND as well as sports) is: <https://rochesteracs2025a.cf.affinitysolutions.com>. To use this site, you will need to either log in (if you have already set up an account), or create an account. You will also need to know your student number (available on the Infinite Campus portal) and student's date of birth. Look for the Grades 5-8 Band button and register from there.

Band is a full-year class and will have lessons on the following days for woodwinds and brass:

St. Francis 7-8:	Tuesday
St. Francis 6:	Thursday
St. John 6-7-8:	Monday, Wednesday and Thursday

I will be at St. Pius and Holy Spirit on Fridays for 5th grade band.

Mr. Krueger, our percussion instructor, will be teaching percussion lessons and will share his lesson schedule with the percussion students.

Because of Covid health concerns, we will not be having our full band rehearsals each week. Students will receive small group (no more than 3 in a group) lessons as we begin the school year. We also will not be able to have at least our first concert (usually in January). Lessons will focus on instrument technique, solo playing and small group playing. Students who have chosen to distance learn are still able to participate in band. We will do this through Zoom lessons.

You will receive a detailed letter about Covid procedures for band, grading, rules, expectations, supplies, and other important information regarding band at our first band lesson. **Please make sure to bring a pencil with you to the first band lesson (and all other lessons as well).**

I'm so excited about getting started with band this year! See you soon!



Wendy Hanson
RCS 5-8 Band Instructor
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