

Dear Future RHS Parents,

As a sophomore, your child will have the opportunity to do what so many other successful students have done before: participate in the Music Department at Riverton High School.

The biggest reason students take music classes are because they are **FUN!** It's also the perfect environment to make lots of **friends**, build **self-esteem**, and learn how to **self-motivate**.

With the replacement of the **No Child Left Behind Act** by the **Every Child Succeeds Act**, music is now listed as a **Core Independent Subject** and considered an important part of any balanced education.

Music Education is more than just playing an instrument! Music immerses your student in a culture of successful peers and teachers who care about education. It challenges each child to use the creative side of their brain while at the same time learning the only language spoken in every country of the world... Music.

We welcome every level of student at Riverton. Whether your student has never played a note in their life, has been taking lessons since they could walk, or any ability in between, there is a place for them here. Previous musical experience offers an advantage, of course, but any student with a good work ethic and desire to learn music is welcome in our program.

The vast majority of sophomores will enroll in the courses listed on the back of this letter. Remember, it's easier to try something and quit later than it is to join after we've already started. If your student already plays an instrument, they are welcome to participate in any of these classes, auditions for advanced ensembles are on a case-by-case basis, however due to the competitive nature of those ensembles and high numbers of Juniors and Seniors, it is rare for a sophomore to enroll in them.

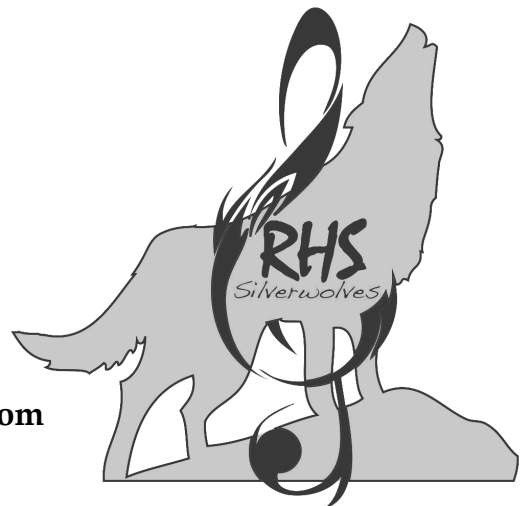
If you have any questions at all, please feel free to send us an e-mail. We're pretty cool and would love to clear up any questions or uncertainties you might have.

We hope to see you and your student next year!

Jason Weimer - Director of Instrumental Music
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Chris Jessee - Director of Percussion and Jazz
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Check out our website at: www.rivertonhighmusic.com



Sophomore Level/ Open-Enrollment Courses:

Symphonic Band – Flutes, Clarinets, Saxophones, Trumpets, French Horns, Trombones, and Tubas! Students will continue their middle school band experience working on advancing their instrument specific techniques. Open to beginners as well as experienced sophomores. This class works on grooming musicians for the Wind Symphony, J.V. and Varsity Jazz Band.

Color Guard – While not a music class per se, the color guard accompanies the marching band-dancing, spinning flags, rifles, and sabers. Think of it as a sort of modern ballet with props. Boys and girls **who like to dance**, welcome! **Extra-Curricular with Marching Band**

Marching Band – This is the premier extra-curricular band ensemble at Riverton High School. **Students receive .25 P.E. credits for each year!** We compete throughout the fall and take an in-state tour yearly! For details, our first meeting is May 13th at 3:15pm in the RHS band room. **Meets over the summer and after school in the fall with Mr. Weimer and Mr. Jessee**

Junior Varsity Jazz Band: Funk, Rock, Swing! Explore a wide variety of music and styles. Learn the basics of Improvisation and jazz fundamentals! Due to the competitive availability of membership- sophomores in Junior Varsity Jazz Band must be dual-enrolled in Symphonic Band.

Intermediate Percussion– Sophomore level percussion ensemble! Students will continue their middle school percussion experience learning concepts in snare drumming, mallet playing, world percussion, and drum set. Open to beginners as well as experienced sophomores.

Symphonic Orchestra – Violins, Violas, Cellos, and Basses! Students will continue their middle school string experience learning to advance string techniques such as shifting and vibrato. This class works on grooming musicians for the Philharmonic Orchestra.

Advanced Level/ Audition Courses:

Due to the competitive nature of membership and enrollment of Juniors and Seniors, acceptance into audition courses is on a case-by-case basis for sophomores.

Contact Mr. Weimer/ Mr. Jessee if interested.