

Rocky Mountain High School Music Department Handbook



Band Choir Orchestra

2026-2027

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“Our schools tend to refine intellects but neglect to discipline emotions. For anyone to grow up complete, music is imperative.”

~Paul Harvey (Broadcaster/Commentator)

MISSION STATEMENT

The directors of the Rocky Mountain High School Music Department share a vision of serving a music organization that is consistently recognized for its high quality and the wide variety of musical experiences offered to its students. We endeavor to instill within our students the values of commitment, work ethic, and teamwork. We commit our collective efforts to the interest of fostering a musical family united by **Integrity, Passion and Excellence**. It is a department goal to instill in every member of the music program a lifelong appreciation for music, and to consistently embrace the ideals of self-discipline, commitment, and teamwork. Through the cooperation of music students, parents, administration, the community and the Poudre School District, the Rocky Mountain High School music program will strive to provide musical opportunities that are consistently recognized as the finest of their kind.

PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES OF MUSIC EDUCATION

Research has shown that the study of music, and in particular performance, actively involves more of the domains of the brain than any other discipline. The Rocky Mountain High School music program engages students in a group activity that can enrich their lives, personally and socially. It develops proper work habits through the successful implementation of a daily practice routine. It develops confidence and promotes students' abilities of self-expression and intelligent listening skills that encourage heightened communication skills. The primary objective of the music program is to provide cultural, educational, leadership, service and recreational opportunities.

RATIONALE FOR PARTICIPATION IN CORE ENSEMBLES

At Rocky Mountain High School, our ensembles fall into one of two categories: The first category is our core curricular ensembles (those that meet daily during the 4-period block), where our goal is to provide students with a well-rounded music education. Core ensembles are where essential concepts such as music literacy, healthy instrumental and/or vocal technique, music theory, and the full breadth of music literature throughout history are taught. The second category is our extracurricular ensembles (those that meet outside the 4-period block), where our goal is to provide supplementary experiences and extended opportunities to work on the concepts and techniques taught in the core classes. Because of the limited rehearsal time of our extra-curricular ensembles, we cannot begin to teach the scope and breadth of information covered in a block class and still have time to prepare literature for performance. For this reason, students must participate, excel and be in good standing in a core ensemble (block class) in order to be considered for membership in an extra-curricular ensemble (jazz ensembles and chamber ensembles).

COMMON CURRICULUM

There are many aspects of music education that are class specific. For example, vocal health is essential for students in choirs, but not necessary for students in band or orchestra. However, there are two areas in the music curriculum that the music staff at RMHS feel are essential for students to have a common understanding of: music theory (how music works) and a historical perspective of the development of Western music.

The music theory curriculum is taught in all freshmen level courses, and all students must demonstrate a working knowledge of the music theory curriculum (80% or higher proficiency) before they can advance to an upper-level ensemble. The music history curriculum is taught in all middle level courses, and all students must demonstrate a general knowledge of the history of Western music (80% proficiency) before they advance to a top-level ensemble. Any student that moves from an entry level ensemble directly to a top-level ensemble is expected to learn the music history curriculum in either an independent study or a small group setting.

GRADING

Music is unique at Rocky Mountain High School. It has curricular requirements, just like other academic disciplines, but it also has out-of-class requirements. The music directors at Rocky take their jobs very seriously. Music ensembles provide a medium through which students progress academically, musically and socially. Musicianship, attitude, attendance, punctuality, conduct and a desire for excellence are absolutely expected from each student. Band, Choir and Orchestra will use the following breakdown when reporting grades:

Grading Scale Breakdown
Participation/Daily Assignments/Attendance - 33%
Sight-reading/Theory/History/Skill Evaluations - 33%
Performances - 34%

ABSENCES – CLASSES AND PERFORMANCES

In a music ensemble, each individual is crucial, so attendance matters greatly to both individual students and the success of the group. Students will receive 10 points per school day for class participation. In order to receive full participation points, students must be on time and prepared. Students will lose their 10 points per day for an absence whether it is excused or unexcused.

Points lost due to excused absences may be made up in full. To be excused from class, your parent/guardian must call the attendance secretary at Rocky. If you know you are going to be absent from a performance, please let your director know as soon as possible. Look over the music department calendar now and let your director know if you have any conflicts - school related or not.

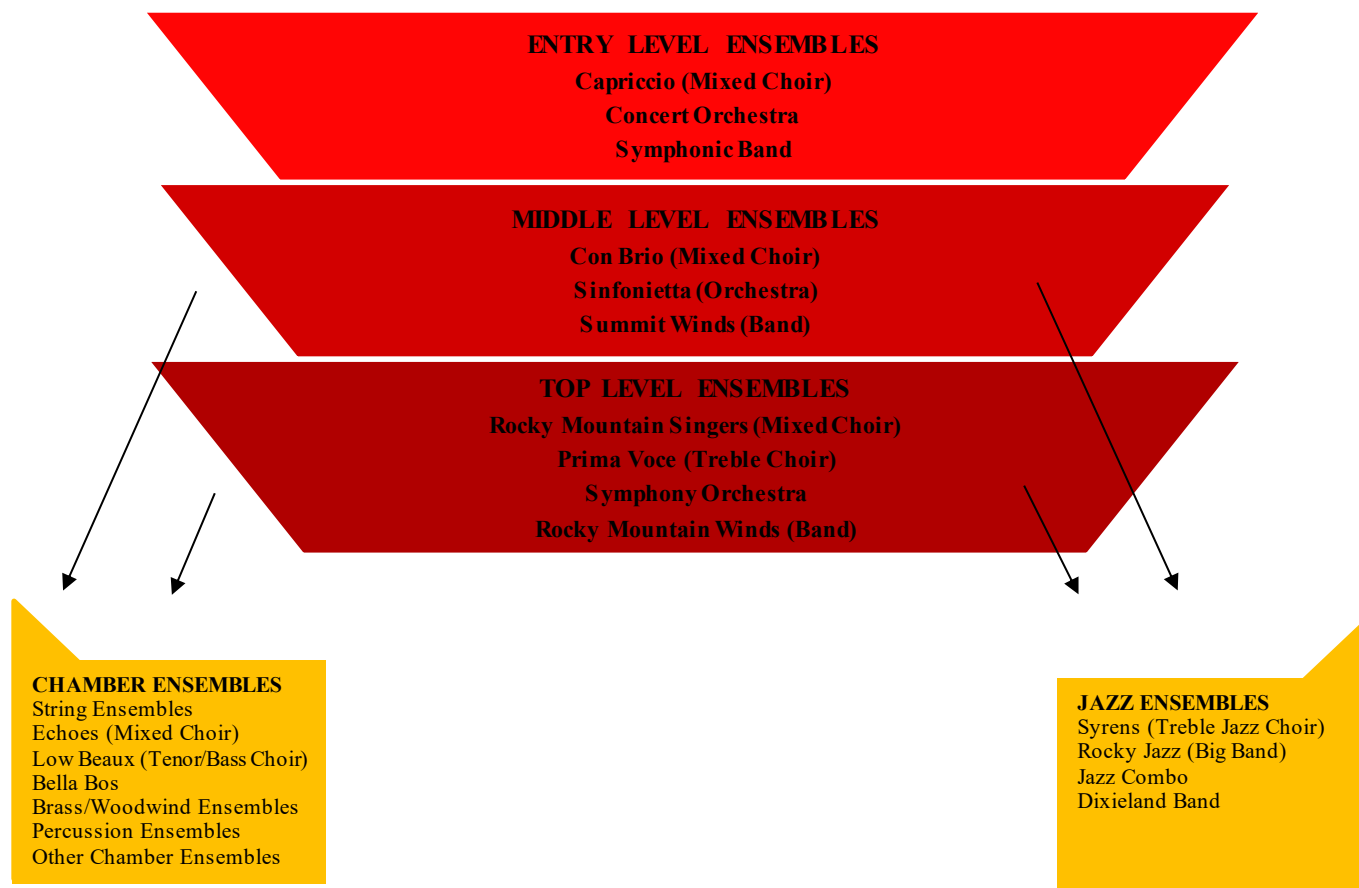
All efforts will be made to keep extra rehearsals and sectionals to a minimum. When an extra rehearsal is called, students are expected to participate.

NOTE: Any student who is absent from regular school classes the full day of a performance (due to illness) is considered too ill to attend the performance and will be required to do the necessary make-up work.

***BAND:** Students must completely fill out a written notification of absence (found on Google Classroom) and turn it in before makeup work will be assigned.

SUGGESTED 4-YEAR PLAN AND ACADEMIC ADVISING

Scheduling can become a complex matter of balancing academic needs and fulfilling mandated requirements. Do not hesitate to schedule a time to discuss planning to participate fully in the RMHS music programs. Middle school students (as early as entering 6th grade) may schedule a time to come and speak with a director about how classes taken or not taken may impact the flexibility of their schedules during their RMHS career. Any student can have full experience with the music programs at RMHS; however, foresight and planning can increase the breadth and depth of their experience.



CROSSOVERS

Because of the block system at RMHS, the music department has made a major concession to allow students who want to be both vocalists and instrumentalists the opportunity to take one music class and split their time between the two (known as Crossovers). Being a Crossover is a privilege and only students committed to both areas should consider the added workload which comes from learning twice as much music in half the amount of time.

Expectations:

- When students report to choir first, they should have their instrument set-up, and all required equipment needed for their instrumental class out and ready before reporting to choir. They need to be in choir before the tardy bell rings.
- When students report to choir second, they should leave their instrument and all required equipment on their chair, leave directly to choir and put their instrument and equipment away after being dismissed from choir.
- Students should not be a distraction as they leave or enter a rehearsal. Enter/leave quickly and quietly and report DIRECTLY to the crossover ensemble.
 - Crossovers should not use crossover time to go to the restroom, check texts or talk with friends. In essence you should report to the crossover class in less than 30 seconds after you leave the first class.
 - It is the student's responsibility to watch the clock and leave at the appropriate time. Teachers will not remind you when it's time to leave. If you fail to leave on time, you may be considered tardy to your crossover ensemble. If a teacher holds you late in order to finish something, they will let the crossover teacher know why you were late, and you will not be held accountable.
- It is the student's responsibility to know what they missed in the class they were not in. Students should check in with Google Classroom, section leaders, or other friends in the class to find out missed announcements, instructions and generally what was covered when they were not there. Crossovers will be held accountable for all information – regardless of their attendance.
- Students who are consistently un-prepared, or who receive a grade of D or F in one area may be put on a contract – giving them one quarter to raise their grade or learn their material more thoroughly on a daily basis. Students who do not correct the problem will no longer be allowed to be a crossover, and with parents and counselors, a decision will be made as to which ensemble they will be dropped from.
- By being a crossover, you will have additional evening and school-day commitments. Crossovers are highly encouraged to keep a calendar with dates, expectations and assignments from both classes to help keep you organized and prepared for all events.

Being a crossover is a year-long commitment. Changes to ensemble personnel mid-year have a major effect on group dynamics.

CONFLICTS WITH OTHER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Many music students are involved in other school activities and school sports. RMHS has a great tradition of having students involved in many things. We also have a great tradition of working out conflicts (when or if they do happen) between coaches and directors.

It is a Rocky Mountain Music Department belief that students should not be put in the middle between two conflicting activities.

If there is a conflict the following guidelines generally apply:

1. Performances/Games take precedence over practices.
2. State sponsored events take precedence over all other non-state affiliated events.
3. District level sponsored events take precedence over local events or conference events.
4. School events take precedence over non-school events.

ETIQUETTE AND EXPECTATIONS

REHEARSALS

We all look forward to the performance, but the real learning takes place during the rehearsal. Rehearsals are mandatory for producing any quality performance. Remember, a student cannot reap the benefits of a rehearsal or rehearsal segment they miss. Please don't make plans that involve leaving rehearsal early or arriving late. You will be held to high expectations during all rehearsals and performances.

Music Student Responsibilities:

1. Have a positive attitude – it's infectious.
2. Be regular in attendance and account for all absences. If possible, avoid scheduling medical or other appointments during class time.
3. Be prompt and prepared – pencils, instruments, and music at every rehearsal. Early is on time, on time is late and late is unthinkable.
4. Don't chew gum. No food or drink other than water is allowed in rehearsals.
5. Stop and listen immediately when cut-off is given.
6. Instrumentalists, start playing an individual warm-up when you get to your seat at the beginning of the rehearsal.
7. Vocalists – care for your voice. Your voice is your instrument. Get adequate rest and hydration. Refrain from yelling and smoking so your "instrument" is in top condition every day.
8. Consult Google Classroom to know what will be covered at the next rehearsal and be sure to have that material learned and ready to rehearse.
9. Books or other materials from another class may not be taken to your seat.
10. Respect everyone – directors, staff members, student directors and your peers. Be honest and fair with others concerning equipment, music and school life. Musicians will not play on or with other's equipment/instruments. This practice can lead to potential damage and a general lack of respect for the property of others.
11. When you experience failure, analyze it and make a plan to improve and succeed next time.
12. Do your best to make those around you look and sound better.

A Word about Respect: Members of the ensemble are responsible in showing respect to whoever is leading them. This includes student directors, section leaders, parents, guest artists, substitutes and the music directors. This is a courtesy among musicians. Whoever is on the podium must be given the undivided attention of everyone in the ensemble.

Director's Responsibilities:

1. Provide a quality rehearsal setting.
2. Encourage daily progress of the individual and the entire ensemble.
3. Provide students with a full musical education through rehearsal, performance, teaching, testing and listening.
4. Deal appropriately with members who are not contributing to the program.
5. Evaluate each music student on his/her musicianship and music education.

PERFORMANCES

Music Student Responsibilities:

1. Arrive before call time in your complete concert performance attire.
2. Do not talk during a performance.
3. There are absolutely no cell phones in the performance hall.
4. Applaud at the end of each selection performed. Be excited and respectful of your peers' performance.
5. All students must stay for the duration of the concert. You must be dismissed from the performance by your director.

Parents/Audience Responsibilities:

The RMHS Music Department would like to thank our audiences for their continued cooperation and support in our endeavor to teach everyone, young and old, proper concert etiquette and to create a concert environment that acknowledges respect for the students' hard work. Parents, please become an equal participant of the music program by reading all emails sent from music staff, and by following the concert etiquette rules below.

1. Because you are the student's most important audience, parents are highly encouraged to attend all performances.
2. If you happen to arrive late, please enter the performance room only between musical selections.
3. Since each performing ensemble deserves to have a great audience, we ask that you please stay for the entire program. If you must leave, please do so between musical selections.
4. Please do not talk during a performance. Please do not use cell phones or laptops during a performance. Be sure to silence all noise making devices.
5. Please applaud at the end of each selection performed by concert groups. Hold applause until all movements are completed in a multi-movement selection as indicated in the concert program.
6. Please applaud immediately after a soloist's performance in a jazz ensemble performance only.
7. Please do not take pictures that require a flash during a performance.

PRACTICE

Regular practice is necessary to ensure musical growth, development, and enjoyment. Playing an instrument (including voice) requires coordinated muscle development just like athletics. These muscles need regular exercise to stay in shape. Each music student should practice EVERY day. It is much better to practice a little every day than a lot only one or two days per week. In order to maximize your practice time, it is also important to set and keep track of goals. Focusing on improving one or two passages and/or techniques per practice session will allow you to accomplish much more with your time than playing mindlessly through your music.

Knowing your part makes your experience more enjoyable and makes the group sound better. Being unprepared, in contrast, brings the entire group down. Every musician is equally important to the success of the group. There are no unneeded or unnoticed musicians at RMHS. Class time is used primarily for addressing ensemble concerns, not as time to learn your individual part. Therefore, students should plan to take their instrument and music home every night or make arrangements with your director for practicing at a certain time in a practice room.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Private lessons are the key to developing an outstanding musical organization. Students are strongly encouraged to take private lessons regardless of their ability level. Private lessons and regular practice will not only develop better players; they also will add considerably to the enjoyment of music. There simply is not enough time during music class for each student to get the individual attention they need in order to excel to their full potential. Those students who study privately, with a professional, show rapid improvement in individual musicianship. As these students improve, their excitement and increased achievement help them become a stronger contributor to the overall success of the ensemble.

The key to satisfactory results from private instruction is to start as soon as possible. This is the truest, quickest, and most efficient path to success and satisfaction as a musician. One of the great benefits of living in a college town is the availability of skilled teachers.

INSTRUMENTS AND EQUIPMENT

School Owned Instruments

School/district owned instruments will be provided to those who are financially unable to own/rent their own. If a student owns/rents their instrument, they will not receive a school-owned instrument except in select cases. Cellos and basses will be available for use during class time.

Complete information on policies regarding the use, repair and returning of school-owned instruments is included on the use-form which every student and guardian signs when they receive their instrument.

School owned instruments are not to be treated as "free" instruments. Basic supplies must still be purchased, and repairs must still be made just like personally owned instruments. Please strive to treat these instruments as if they were your own. Most school owned instruments exceed a \$2,000.00 value.

Instrument Care

1. Each music student is responsible for the care and maintenance of his/her instrument.
2. Every student's instrument case should have a tag attached with his/her name and RMHS written clearly on the tag.
3. Each student should write down the instrument's serial number and keep this in a safe place.
4. All instruments must always be maintained in top playing condition.
5. Always show the director your instrument before taking it for repairs.
Anyone who has not been trained in instrument repair SHOULD NOT attempt to repair an instrument. Often times more damage is done when an unqualified person tries to repair an instrument.
6. Be careful with your instrument. Place it in a safe location if you set it down (this is especially true at football and basketball games). Never play around with or play on anyone else's instrument.

Equipment

Each student is personally responsible for all equipment, including music that is issued to them. Each student will be held financially responsible for any equipment that is lost or damaged through negligence, whether caused by the student or someone else. Store your instrument where designated in the instrument storage area with the case closed and latched. The instrument storage areas are not for personal storage (this includes food and drink – **do not put food in your music lockers**). You should use your school hall locker for personal items.

CONDUCT – PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Student Expectations:

1. All rules of conduct and order that apply to rehearsals and performances will also apply to all public appearances.
2. Let your conduct – before, during and after performances – be above reproach. Your conduct reflects on your performing ensemble, your school, and your community.
3. Proper language is to be used at all times.
4. Appearance must be neat when in uniform and/or when representing Rocky Mountain High School and the RMHS Music Department.
5. A performance or appearance is **not completed** until students are officially dismissed from pertaining activities.
6. After dismissal, be sure that you have all of your personal items before leaving the place of the concert or appearance.

The following infractions of conduct will be referred to the RMHS building administration:

1. Destruction or theft of school property and/or equipment.
2. Destruction or theft of another student's or staff's personal property.
3. Possession or use of alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco, or any mind-altering substance before or during any music activity.
4. Any actions that are illegal or prohibited by the Poudre School District Board of Education.

MEDALLION AWARDS

The Rocky Mountain High School Music Department uses medallion points/awards as their “lettering” system. Students receive points for a wide range of activities. **These activities must relate to the Rocky Mountain Music Program.** Some points are easy to receive – like membership points that are awarded to every student who participates in a performing ensemble. Other points require more focus, such as the points awarded to students who receive A's in their music classes.

Since the Rocky Music Department awards medallions for lettering in a music class, they do not give out chenille letters for the school letter jacket. However, once a student has received their red medallion, they may purchase a chenille letter from the department. Also for purchase is the pin that goes on the chenille letter to denote “music” and bars that represent which color ribbon is attached to their medallion. Please see the department secretary if you would like to make these purchases.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION PROCEDURES

If a student or parent/guardian is concerned about any aspect of the study or performance of music in the Rocky Mountain High School Music Program, we request that the following steps be followed for a quick and satisfactory resolution:

1. The student should initiate a conference with the classroom teacher. In many cases, a clear understanding of each person's concern (student [parent]/teacher) and an understanding of why something was said or done will resolve the issue. Ideally, the student and the teacher will reach an agreement which allows the student and teacher to understand the other person and come to a resolution that everyone feels good about. When necessary, the Music Department Chair will be informed of the concern and the outcome of the conference.
2. If an agreement is not reached, the matter will be referred to the Music Department Chair.
 - a. In an interview with the student, the Music Department Chair will evaluate the nature of the concern.
 - b. The Music Department Chair will meet with the staff member and any building or district administration to gather background, policy and relevant historical case studies.
 - c. The Music Department Chair will follow up the two meetings with a third meeting that involves both parties and explains his/her perception and includes any building or district policy that has an impact on the situation. At this meeting, all parties will work together for an acceptable resolution.
3. If an agreement is not reached with the Music Department Chair, it will be referred to the RMHS Music Department Administrative Liaison.

HONOR ENSEMBLES

Audition only Music Honor Ensembles:

Western States Honor Orchestra
All State Band, Choir and Orchestra
Combined League Honor Choir and Orchestra
Colorado State Honor Band
Northern Colorado Honor Band

Throughout the course of the school year, the Rocky Music Department will have many students audition and be selected to one of these ensembles. The policy for payment is as follows:

Auditions: In most cases, students will pay the audition fee. *Note: If a student chooses to perform an audition or perform at a festival, the student will be expected to pay the fee. If a student doesn't perform or audition for any reason after they have submitted their form, they will be expected to forfeit their entry fee. If a student is required as part of their classwork to perform an audition or perform at a festival, the Rocky Music Department will pay the audition fee. If a student has a financial hardship, speak to the director or department secretary.*

- **Registration:** Once a student is selected to an Honor Ensemble, the Rocky Music Department will pay their registration fee.
- **Lodging and Meals:** Rocky Music will pay for one meal for students. The students will be responsible for any other meals. If there is travel involved for the Honor Ensemble, the Rocky Music Department will provide transportation and hotel. Students are participating as a group, so they are expected to stay with that group for all meals.

TRAVEL

In order to prevent confusion and misunderstanding in regard to bus trips, the following regulations will be followed. It is our feeling that the fewer regulations we have, the more successful our trips will be in terms of efficiency and pleasure. Rocky Mountain High School students should conduct themselves as mature and intelligent students and musicians. It is felt that all RMHS music students are willing and able to reflect the pride and spirit in the organization at all times.

BUS REGULATIONS

1. Mode of transportation will be provided or approved by the school. Students traveling with a RMHS music group must travel with that group in the vehicle provided. Exceptions must be approved by the director.
2. Students will ride both ways on a school sponsored trip on their assigned bus. A student may ride home with a parent/guardian if written permission is received by the director before departure. The director must release the student personally to the parent. A student will not be released to anyone but his/her parent or legal guardian.
3. While out of town, students will not ride in any private automobiles without permission from the director.
4. One adult chaperone will be riding on each bus. They will take attendance and communicate important information to you regarding the upcoming performance or event.
5. While traveling on buses, you will obey the instructions of the bus driver.
6. Please dispose of trash properly.

CELL PHONE USE

In alignment with PSD Policy JICJ – STUDENT POSSESSION AND USE OF PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES, Rocky Mountain High School has a school-wide expectation that student personal communication devices (PCD) will not be allowed to be used in class, except when deemed appropriate by the teacher. Furthermore, student PCDs should not be visible by the classroom teacher during instructional time. In the event that a student consistently utilizes their PCD during instructional time, RMHS Music Department Teachers reserve the right to collect the device daily.

CHAPERONES AND VOLUNTEERS

Poudre School District has made it a policy that chaperones for field trips must be PSD employees. However, parents of music students may be asked to volunteer in different capacities throughout the year. **In order to chaperone, you must be a registered volunteer with Poudre School District.** For more information about volunteering or to sign up to be a volunteer with Poudre School District, please go to:

psdschools.org/community/volunteers

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE POLICY

Student Guidelines

As a community, here at Rocky, we believe student voices matter, and we are committed to creating a space for original insight and commentary. We value the generative and creative process of learning as well as the finished product. At RMHS, students can be proud of their ability to read, write, and think on their own; we provide the following policy in support of student success. Expectations for all assignments:

If not specifically asked to use generative artificial intelligence (AI), then AI is not permitted on the assignment. If AI is allowed on an assignment, the type and extent of use will be specified by the teacher, and students should follow teacher directions on AI use.

1) All typed assignments will be completed in a teacher-created and supervised document.

Students are expected to demonstrate their entire learning process in this document, including notetaking, outlining, and drafting. Assignments that have been cut and pasted from other documents will not be graded, and students will have to discuss a plan with the teacher.

2) In general, AI use that is not permitted includes generating ideas/answers, altering grammar/punctuation/syntax, creating an outline, and editing drafts/answers. Spell checkers may be permissible; Grammarly is not. Generative AI, such as Google's AI summary, cannot be utilized as a cited source.

First violation: The student will be required to redo the assignment for reduced credit with a penalty of up to 50% of the earned grade. Parents and deans will be notified of the student's first offence.

Second violation: The student will receive a zero on the assignment and cannot earn credit by redoing the assignment. Parents and deans will be notified of the student's second offence. The student will be referred to the deans for consequences.

Third and subsequent violations: The student will receive a zero and cannot earn credit by redoing the assignment. Parents and deans will be notified of the student's third and subsequent offenses, and the student will be referred to the deans for escalating consequences which may include assignments to be handwritten without the use of technology.

***Within a school year, two different offenses in two different classes constitute a second offense; it does not have to be in the same class.**

Automated AI Detection Software

The district does not support the use of automated AI detection software. Leading educational institutions have established that these tools are fundamentally flawed and highly inaccurate.

Human reasoning should be the sole and final authority on grades. Therefore, teachers can provide evidence of misuse of AI according to their professional judgement and documentation of student work

Communicating AI Expectations to Students

“Allowable technology” will not be open to student interpretation. Every task will be explicitly labeled and expectations will be set using the PSD AI Assessment Scale below:

- **Level 0:** No AI (Human-Only Zone) — For evaluating foundational skills, basic math modeling, hand-drawn art, or direct knowledge retention.
- **Level 1:** AI-Assisted Editing & Revision — For allowing students to check spelling, refine written mechanics, or polish pre-written code and formulas after they have created the complete draft or solution themselves.
- **Level 2:** AI-Assisted Planning & Brainstorming — For utilizing AI to suggest research pathways, map project outlines, explore software structures, or spark creative themes before work begins.
- **Level 3:** AI Collaboration & Critique — For interactive tasks where students and AI act as partners (e.g., debugging code, checking AI-generated math proofs, or analyzing an AI's historical summary).
- **Level 4:** Full AI Explorer — For advanced digital literacy where the student is graded on their ability to write prompts, manage automation, and critically direct a tool to output complex, large-scale projects.

HOLIDAY STOCKING AND AWARDS CONCERT TICKETS

The Holiday Stocking is an annual holiday concert presented to the Fort Collins community by the Rocky Music Department and is held at the Lincoln Center. The Awards Concert is the music department's end of the year finale which is held at Faith Church. Both of these concerts are held off campus to give students the opportunity to perform in a professional venue, plus the auditorium at Rocky would not be able to seat everyone who attends. Both performances are ticketed events. The music department must charge for these concerts in order to cover the costs associated with performing off campus. If there is a financial issue with purchasing tickets to see your child perform, please contact the music department secretary.

“The things I learned from my experience in music in school are discipline, perseverance, dependability, composure, courage and pride in results. Not a bad preparation for the work force!”

~Gregory Anrig (President of Educational Testing Service)

FINANCIAL HELP

The Music Department at Rocky Mountain High School wants to make sure that any student who wants to be a part of the music program at Rocky will not be turned away because of financial issues. We have set in place a variety of ways we can offer help to any student.

Many past music students who no longer need their concert attire donate it back to the department, so we, in turn, are then able to loan concert attire to those students who would not be able to afford it. We only ask that they return it to Rocky when they are finished with it so someone else can benefit the following year.

Please contact the Music Department Secretary to discuss your options. ***We do not want anyone to walk away from music because of financial issues.***

PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

All Rocky Mountain High School Music Students are expected to wear the appropriate attire for all performances and special events. This attire should provide each member with a spirit of unity and a sense of purpose and pride. Each ensemble will have a specific uniform. The uniform can be purchased from the school or borrowed from the music department. Please read the section in this handbook about financial help if you know you will be needing help purchasing your concert attire. Students will be measured either during the first week or two of the new school year.

The way you wear your uniform reflects the pride you have in your music ensemble. Our uniform, when worn properly, projects an image of pride and dignity. It is everyone's responsibility to see that all members wear their uniform properly at all times. Uniforms should always be clean and pressed. **Students showing up to perform without the proper attire on will not be allowed to perform or travel with an ensemble until the problem is fixed.** Please do not wear flashy jewelry, hair accessories or embellish your concert attire with scarves, flowers, etc. If a student encounters a problem with their concert attire they should report it to the music secretary immediately. The time for repairs and additional purchases is not the hour before a performance.

PERFORMANCE ATTIRE REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH ENSEMBLE

SYMPHONIC BAND, CAPRICCIO, CONCERT ORCHESTRA

ALL students in these ensembles will wear the black polo shirt with a RMHS logo embroidered on it. Students will need to provide their own black dress pants (no jeans/no leggings/no stretch pants/no yoga pants), black dress socks/stockings (no ankle socks/no “no show” socks) and completely black closed-toe shoes (no sandals/no tennis shoes/no Vans/no Doc Martens). Students may also choose to wear a black skirt instead of pants, but the skirt must hang below the knee. Polo shirts must be tucked into pants/skirts for performances. Medallions, if the student has earned one, should be worn at all performances.

SUMMIT WINDS, CON BRIO, SINFONIETTA

Students in these ensembles will choose between the dress option or suit option detailed below:

DRESS OPTION: Students will purchase or borrow a full-length black crepe dress from the Music Department. The dress option must be worn with black dress socks/stockings (no ankle socks/no “no show” socks) and completely black closed-toe shoes (no sandals/no tennis shoes/no Vans/no Doc Martens). The dress will need to be hemmed when you receive it. Please measure the hem from the floor up while wearing the shoes you plan on wearing for performances. The bottom of the hemmed dress should be no more than 1½ inches from the floor with your shoes on. Medallions, if the student has earned one, should be worn at all performances.

SUIT OPTION: Students will purchase or borrow all parts of the Rocky Music Tuxedo **except** the jacket from the Music Department. Students choosing the suit option are required to wear black tux pants, burgundy wave vest OR new black vest (starting Fall 2026), white tuxedo shirt OR new white dress shirt (starting Fall 2026) and tux jewelry set (studs, cufflinks and button cover) OR new black tie (starting Fall 2026). The black tuxedo pants, when purchased new, will need to be hemmed so that the bottom just “breaks” on the top of their shoes. The suit option must be worn with black dress socks (no ankle socks/no “no show” socks) and completely black closed-toe shoes (no sandals/no tennis shoes/no Vans/no Doc Martens). Medallions, if the student has earned one, should be worn at all performances.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN WINDS, PRIMA VOCE, ROCKY MOUNTAIN SINGERS, SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Students in these ensembles will choose between the dress option or suit option detailed below:

DRESS OPTION: Same concert attire requirements as the DRESS OPTION detailed above for Summit Winds, Con Brio and Sinfonietta.

SUIT OPTION: Same concert attire requirements as the SUIT OPTION detailed above for Summit Winds, Con Brio and Sinfonietta **with the addition** of the tuxedo jacket. Tuxedo jackets will need to be purchased or borrowed from the Music Department.

JAZZ and SMALL ENSEMBLES

Non-block classes may be allowed to wear something different for their performances than the “regular” concert attire. It is up to the ensemble, in conjunction with their director/coach, to decide what they will wear for a performance. All attire must comply with the RMHS dress code.

SPIRIT BAND and MARCHING BAND

Spirit Band attire must include the spirit t-shirt, school appropriate pants/shorts, and shoes (no flip-flops). Marching Band attire will include the music department polo shirt (the same ones worn in Symphonic Band), black pants, black socks and all black shoes (no white or other color on the shoes).

Cold Weather Accommodations: For Spirit Band and Marching Band, students should always plan on having their shirt (spirit or polo) on top. If the weather is cool, students are welcome to wear a long-sleeve shirt or Under Armour UNDER their performance attire. If the weather is cold or wet, the directors will notify students when they can wear coats or rain gear OVER their performance attire.

**Because of the limited time we spend marching, students must plan on marching during class every day during our two-week marching period. If the weather is bad, students must bring a coat and appropriate shoes to rehearsal as we will more than likely be going outside to march.*

MUSIC DEPARTMENT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The music department calendar is located on the Rocky Performing Arts webpage. All dates and times are subject to change.
<https://rmh.psdschools.org/academics/academic-departments/performing-arts>

Poudre School District

Risk Management
2407 LaPorte Avenue
Fort Collins, CO 80521
970-490-3627

Permission for Student Participation in a Rocky Mountain High School Music Class

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): Music is an elective class at Rocky Mountain High School; your child's participation in this class is strictly voluntary and subject to the terms and conditions specified in this permission form. **In order for your child to participate in the Music Class for the 2026-27 school year, you and your child must sign this permission form, and the signed permission form must be returned to your music director on or before September 4th, 2026.** In consideration of Rocky Mountain High School allowing the undersigned Student to participate in the Music Class the Student and his/her Parent(s)/Guardian(s) hereby covenant and agree as follows:

Students participate in performances in Music Class (the "Activities"), which are scheduled to take place at various locations in the local community and surrounding areas including but not limited to locations such as Colorado State University, the Lincoln Center, schools within Poudre School District, and other school districts within the state of Colorado. These trips are one day or less and do not require an overnight stay. Activities involving an overnight stay will require a separate *Extended Field Trip Release, Indemnity and Assumption of Risk* form to be signed.

Student and Parent(s)/Guardian(s) understand that a significant portion of Student's grade is dependent upon participation in the Activities, and that such participation requires Student to report to various locations where the Activities are scheduled on dates to be determined by the instructor. The Activity locations and dates are subject to change from time to time depending on such factors as the weather and availability of facilities. Student and Parent(s)/Guardian(s) also understand that Rocky Mountain High School may, on occasion, be unable to provide district transportation. In these instances, neither Rocky Mountain High School nor Poudre School District assume any responsibility for Student's transportation to the Activities; Student and/or Student's Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are solely responsible for making appropriate arrangements for Student's transportation to and from the Activities when district transportation is not made available.

Student and Parent(s)/Guardian(s) understand that participation in the Activities may potentially involve risks and responsibilities for your child that are beyond the scope of those normally associated with educational activities at school. Such risks include the potential for personal injury and/or damage to personal property. You are encouraged to inquire in advance concerning the nature, details, and potential risks of the Activities.

Student and Parent(s)/Guardian(s) hereby release and hold harmless Poudre School District and its board members, employees and agents from any and all liability, claims, causes of action, damages and demands of any kind whatsoever that Student and/or Parent(s)/Guardian(s) may have against the School District, its board members, employees and/or agents for any and all damages, including personal injury to the Student, that may arise out of or in connection with Student's participation in any of the Activities.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless Poudre School District and its board members, employees and agents from and against any and all claims, liabilities and causes of action, including attorney fees and costs, for injury of any person caused by Student and/or for damages to or destruction of any property caused by Student, which may arise out of or in connection with Student's participation in any of the Activities. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) also agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless Poudre School District and its board members, employees and agents from and against any and all claims, liabilities and causes of action, including attorney fees and costs, for injury to the Student and/or for damages to or destruction of property belonging to the Student or Parent(s)/Guardian(s), which may arise out of or in connection with Student's participation in any of the Activities.

(continued on next page)

Permission for Student Participation in a Rocky Mountain High School Music Class (continued)

Student and Parent(s)/Guardian(s) understand that Poudre School District is protected from liability under the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act for injuries and damages that may arise out of or in connection with the Activities, and understand that any injuries or damages arising out of or in connection with the Activities may not be covered by School District insurance. For these reasons, it is recommended that Student or Parent(s)/Guardian(s) obtain appropriate insurance from qualified sources to cover medical expenses and other costs that could result from injury to the Student, and damage to or destruction of property belonging to the Student or Parent(s)/Guardian(s), which may arise out of or in connection with the Student's participation in the Activities. **Poudre School District has information available regarding accident and health insurance that may be purchased to cover Student's participation in the Activities. Student or Parent(s)/Guardian(s) may enroll at www.k12studentinsurance.com or obtain a brochure through the school office.**

Student and Parent(s)/Guardian(s) understand that the Student shall be subject to the School District Code of Conduct at all times related to Student's participation in Music Class regardless of location, including travel to and from sites where the Activities take place. As a condition of participating in the Activities, Student shall comply with all instructions and safety precautions communicated by school and Activity site officials.

We the undersigned Student and Parent(s)/Guardian(s) have read this permission form and understand the nature of the Activities to which it applies and the risk of injury associated with Student's participation in the Activities. We also understand and agree to abide by the release, indemnity and assumption of risk provisions of this permission form, which are a necessary condition of Student's enrollment in the Music Class and participation in the Activities. We execute this document voluntarily and with full knowledge of the rights we are giving up and the obligations we are assuming.

PRINT Parent or Guardian Name

SIGNATURE of Parent or Guardian

Date

Parent Email Address _____

PRINT Participant Name

SIGNATURE of Participant

Date

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT HANDBOOK AND THE DEPARTMENT HANDBOOK(S) THAT PERTAINS TO ME. *Handbook can be found on Rocky Mountain High School website on the Performing Arts Page.

PRINT Parent or Guardian Name

SIGNATURE of Parent or Guardian

Date

PRINT Student's Name

SIGNATURE of Student

Date