Weekly Update

Week of

8/24/26 - 8/28/26

Connections Schedule

B A B A B

News of the Week

Membership agreements are past due.

All dates and ensembles are listed on the orchestra website.

Reminders

Students should be practicing at home at least 3-4 days a week for a minimum of 15 minutes each day. Practice is the students homework in orchestra nd is expected of ALL students.

WWW.RHMSORCHESTRA.ORG

Announcements

Connections Schedules can be found on the RHMS Official Website. The schedule I use is the schedule listed on the school's master calendar.

This Week in Orchestra:

- **Nothing after-school this week**

<u>METHOD BOOKS</u>
6th Grade students will need "Habits of a Successful Young String Musician." This book IS provided in the accessory pack from Portmans Music.

7th and 8th Grade will need "Habits of a Successful Middle Level String Musician." These can be picked up on Amazon.

<u>STAY INFORMED!</u>
Please download the Band App and join our group to get text on what is happening in the RHMS orchestra program.

<u>PARENT GOOGLE FOLDER</u>
Find all forms, handbooks, and program materials in this folder. Check the link on the contact page.

<u>FUNRAISING:</u>
October - Spiritwear

<u>MY MUSIC OFFICE</u>
Please make sure your account information is up-to-date!

Log in information will be sent out later this week and first of next week. Please expect an email and physical copy sent home.

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

My Music Office logins have been sent to all parents. Please take a moment to review your account and update your information as needed. Although much of this information is also available in PowerSchool, I do not always have access to PowerSchool, so My Music Office serves as an important backup for communication.

Please make sure the following information is current in My Music Office:

- **Parent/guardian contact information**
- **Current email address and cell phone number**
- **Any name your student prefers to be called in class**

Important Reminder: All orchestra emails will now come from "My Music Office" rather than directly from my school email address. Please be sure to watch for those messages.

All new orchestra parents received an email last week containing our New Parent Resource Guide. If you did not receive that email, please check the email address currently listed in PowerSchool, as well as your spam or junk folder.

Returning orchestra families can access the Parent Resource Guide at any time in the Parent Google Folder.

Have a great week!
Dr. Mock

6th Grade

THIS WEEKS

MUSIC MAKING

Practice Material

This week students will:

Continue:
Learn about their new instruments
This week is focused on how to play the instruments and learning the open strings.

Handout will include:

Test have been moved to Thursday and Friday.

TESTS:

Parts of the instruments

7th Grade A-Day

Practice Material

This week students will:

Review scales and work on tone
Learn their warm-ups
Learn about the Habits book

Chair Placements have been completed. Chamber list will be posted later this week and an email will go out to all of those parents.

Students will work on the second half of " An American Hymn" and will sight-read new pieces.

TESTS:

None this week

7th Grade B-Day

THIS WEEKS
MUSIC MAKING

Practice Material

This is where you will find this week's assignments.

This week students will:

Returning members will have chair placements on Thursday.

Students will be given "An American Hymn" to sight read on Tuesday.

New members will be paired with a returning member to continue foundational performance skills.

New members will also work on Music Theory packets.

TESTS:

None this week

8th Grade (A-Day)

THIS WEEKS
MUSIC MAKING

Practice Material

This week students will:

Review scales and work on tone
Learn their warm-ups
Learn about the Habits book

Chair Placements have been completed. Chamber list will be posted later this week and an email will go out to all of those parents.

Students will work on the second half of "Burst!" and will sight-read new pieces.

TESTS:

None this week

8th Grade (B-day)

THIS WEEKS

MUSIC MAKING

Practice Material

This is where you will find this week's assignments.

This week students will:

Returning members will have chair placements on Monday.

New members will be paired with a returning member to continue foundational performance skills.

New members will also work on Music Theory packets.

TESTS:

None this week

All-State Orchestra

Students who are interested in auditioning for All-State Orchestra may sign up in the Orchestra Room until Wednesday, September 9.

There is a $25 fee which will be added to My Payments Plus later this week. It takes a couple days after I place the request.

First Round Auditions will be at RHHS on Saturday, October 24.

Second Round is in Atlanta on Jan. 16.

Students who sign up must be able to perform the three octave scale requirements. The music and requirements have been posted on the GMEA website below:

https://www.gmea.org/aso-information

Chamber Orchestra

NEXT REHEARSAL

Due to the extended time needed for auditions, we will push all rehearsals starting after Labor Day to allow families an opportunity to plan for the after school rehearsals.

Student's families who make Chamber will be provided a survey after the chamber membership announcement is posted.

Monday, September 14, 2026

Students who score an 80 or above on their chair placement tests will be ranked from highest score to lowest and will fill spots until filled.

All 7th and 8th Grade students and 6th grade students will at least one full year of instruction are eligible for Chamber.

Chamber Rehearsal Schedule

Please review the calendar attached

Orchestra Communication Tools

Website

www.rhmsorchestra.org

Our website is the primary location for all things orchestra. You will find our handbook, policies, and up-to-date information on the main page and under the student/parent resource tabs. This is also where the official calendar is located. We recommend you check this site before contacting the orchestra staff. Most answers can be found in the various documents located on the site.

Band App

The band app will be our text based communication tool for the 2025-2026 school year. Please download the app and follow the QR code to access our group.

My Music Office

My Music Office (MMO) is our primary toolforstoring your information and communicating via email. You will be providedastudent account and temporary password at the beginning of the year. Weaskthat you update your contact information so that you can stay up-to-dateonwhat is happening in the orchestra. The emails from PowerSchool will be loaded,ifthat email is not one you check often, we recommend updating this information inMMO. Emails will be seen as "My Music Office" NOT Mr. Mock's school email. The emailmay be sent to a junk folder. If you need to contact Mr. Mock directly, please usejmock@bryan.k12.ga.us.

Handbook, Class Syllabus, Rubrics, and Additional Forms

Scan this QR code to access the Parent Google Drive.

Orchestras
RICHMOND HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

2026-2027 Important Dates

August

10-14 - Chair Auditions

September

9 - All-State Due Date
14 - Chamber Rehearsal
21- Chamber Rehearsal
28 - Chamber Rehearsal

October

5 - Chamber Rehearsal
15 - High School Concert
19 - Chamber Rehearsal
24 - All-State Round 1 (RHHS)
26 - Chamber Rehearsal

November

2 - Chamber Rehearsal
9 - Chamber Rehearsal
13-14 - District Honor Orchestra (TBD)
16 - Chamber Rehearsal
19 - Fall Concert (7th/8th @ RHHS))
30 - Chamber Rehearsal

December

1 - HS Orchestra Concert
7 - Chamber Rehearsal
8 - Celebrate the Arts (Chamber @ RHMS)
14 - Chamber Rehearsal
TBD - Airport Performance (Chamber)
TBD - Recruitment Visits (Chamber)

January

10 - Future Wildcat Night @ RHMS
16 - All-State Round 2 (Atlanta)
19 - Chamber Rehearsal
25 - Chamber Rehearsal

February

1 - Chamber Rehearsal
2 - Mid-Winter Concert (ALL GROUPS @ RHHS)
11 - Chamber Rehearsal (Tentative)
17 - Chamber Rehearsal
18 - Pre-LGPE Concert w/HS (LGPE Groups only @ RHHS)
22 - Chamber Rehearsal
23 - LGPE - Savannah (LGPE Groups only)

March

1 - Chamber Rehearsal
4-6 - All-State in Athens
15 - Chamber Rehearsal
22 - Chamber Rehearsal
29 - Chamber Rehearsal

April

12 - Chamber Rehearsal
19 - Spring Concert (All Groups @RHHS)
24 - Solo and Ensemble
28- High School Concert

Fundraising

October - Orch. Spiritwear
March - Spring Fundraiser

Dates are subject to change, please review the official calendar on the website regularly.