



**Ryan High School**  
"Home of Champions"  
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**Ryan Band Website**  
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Future Ryan Band Students and Parents:

Soon you will be making some very important decisions about your first year at Ryan High School. I want to ensure you that the band directors, coaches, counselors, and principals will be working together so that you can stay involved in the activities that interest you. Our class schedule at RHS allows band students to also be involved in athletics, clubs, other fine arts, the Advanced Technology Center, and other activities. Ryan Band students are involved in so many other ways at RHS. They are true leaders on campus. We are very excited about what you and your classmates will add to the Ryan Band program, and we hope you are equally as excited to experience what we have to offer.

Entering high school is a giant step forward in every child's educational journey. You are facing some important decisions that will have a long-term impact on your future. Often young people fear the added workload of the high school curriculum and assume they will not have time to participate in band. Ironically, it is often the continuation of music studies that serves as the transitional key to success. Being a member of the band ensures instant acceptance in a respected organization at the onset of freshman year. A group of supporting friends is already established with a firm sense of "belonging."

Things to consider:

- Research shows that when music is included in a student's daily learning that reading, writing, and math scores improve.
- There is a high correlation between positive self-perception, high cognitive competence scores, healthy self-esteem, total interest in school activities, and the study of music.
- College admission officers give special consideration to students who are part of their high school music programs.
- The longer an individual studies music, the higher his/her scores tend to be on both the verbal and math portions of the SAT examination.
- Employers often seek out students who are part of their high school music programs because of the student's ability to solve problems and work well with all kinds of people.
- Scholarship money is available to college students who perform in their respective college's band regardless of major.
- In band, students develop self-discipline, organizational skills, and an attitude of mastery.

There are many benefits that result from the study of music. The aesthetic joy of music making cannot be duplicated in any other art form; it is a communication unto itself. It has also been found that the study of music strengthens the mind's learning potential. Students that are in band tend to achieve at higher levels in all areas of school. Simply put: music makes better students, and music makes students better. Ongoing research continues to offer dramatic statistics concerning young people who participate in school music programs. The College Board has published, "Students with course work in music performance scored 89 points higher on SAT tests than students with no coursework in the arts."

Your child's educational experience is designed to create a solid foundation. This foundation may be used for advanced education and as a training ground for developing successful life-patterns. The very qualities that are essential for success in business and education such as analytical skills, self-discipline, communication skills, creative thinking, and achieving mastery are foundation blocks of our band program. What students are learning in band is preparing them for a more successful and enjoyable life.

The Ryan Band has an outstanding reputation of excellence in music and academics. Our students are consistently among the top achievers at Ryan HS. Band students maintain a high GPA and many of our alumni have graduated with honors such as Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Ryan Band students are also found in nearly every activity at RHS: student council, clubs, and a wide variety of athletic teams. Our bands consistently earn the top honors at music contests and festivals, including Texas UIL evaluations. Our website contains a list of our awards as well as recordings of our outstanding performances.

On our website [www.ryanraiderband.org](http://www.ryanraiderband.org) we have a "Future RB Members" (<https://www.ryanraiderband.org/future-rb>) area where you will find:

- Ryan Band FAQ
- 2024 Pre-Season and Summer Band Camp Schedule
- Band Parent's Guide to Competition
- What should you expect to learn in band?
- Schedule of Classes

Your middle school has helped you to a great start on your instrument. You are really going to enjoy all of the amazing things you get to experience in the Ryan High School Band. I wish you all the best in your final year of middle school. Please contact the Ryan band directors any time if you have any questions concerning our band program. We join you in your commitment to the best educational experience possible.

Sincerely,

*Jarrold Beard*

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