

Rockwall High School Varsity Orchestra Contract

2022-2023



Congratulations on your acceptance into the RHS Varsity Orchestra for the 2022-2023 school year! We are looking forward to an amazing year! We have some exciting music and events planned, and we are confident this is going to be the “best year yet.” However, in order to reach our full potential, an additional commitment outside of the regular school day is required.

The Varsity Orchestra will rehearse daily in the RHS Orchestra Room from 8:00-9:25 AM every day. Additional sectionals will take place on an “as needed” basis at 7:15 AM before the large group 8:00 AM rehearsal. 1st Period is an “athletic period” in Rockwall ISD, meaning that athletics and fine arts classes have the ability to start practice before school and then continue without interruption into the start of the school day. 45 minutes per day (the regular class period length) is simply not enough time to learn the challenging music we have planned at the highest level possible. We are grateful that Rockwall ISD has created a schedule that allows our regular class period to be extended (so that we don’t have to schedule a lot of extra rehearsals beyond the extended “athletic period”). The Varsity Orchestra will begin tuning at 8:00 AM each day, so students need to arrive a few minutes ahead of time to allow time to uncase their instruments and prepare to play.

The Varsity Orchestra typically prepares two different sets of music for the UIL Concert & Sight Reading Evaluation in the spring: a string orchestra program and a full orchestra program. The full orchestra music includes members of the RHS Band program and is one of the most exciting projects we work on all year! **Since the top band and top orchestra do not meet at the same time, it is necessary for us to have some additional after school rehearsals to put the full orchestra music together. Please add the dates below to your calendar.** These after school rehearsals will be in addition to the regular 8:00 AM rehearsals and before school sectionals. As of this time, these are the only after school rehearsals we have planned all year. This is subject to change, but we will do our best to keep after school rehearsals to a minimum.

Date	Time	Location
Tuesday, January 10, 2023	4:00-5:30 PM	RHS Band Hall
Tuesday, January 17, 2023	4:00-5:30 PM	RHS Band Hall
Monday, January 23, 2023	4:00-5:30 PM	RHS Band Hall
Tuesday, January 31, 2023	4:30-6:00 PM	RHS PAC (@Utley)
Tuesday, February 14, 2023	4:30-6:00 PM	RHS PAC (@Utley)
Tuesday, February 21, 2023	4:30-6:30 PM (clinician)	RHS PAC (@Utley)
Monday, February 27, 2023	4:30-6:00 PM	RHS PAC (@Utley)

Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from all rehearsals. We have many upperclassmen who can drive and families who are willing to carpool. We are a team, and we need to work together to help everyone out! If you have concerns about transportation, please contact an orchestra director or your student’s section coordinator, so that we can brainstorm potential solutions.

All before and after school rehearsals are required and will be graded. Students who arrive to 1st Period later than 8:00 AM will be counted tardy. Any conflicts must be communicated with the orchestra directors in advance, and absences will generally need to be made up. We understand that there will occasionally be before school events and tutoring sessions that students need to take part in, and we are happy to work with you! However, excessive absences will not be tolerated, and communication is key. **No absences will be excused if the student does not communicate ahead of time!**

Please sign and return the attached page indicating your understanding and agreement to the required commitments associated with the Rockwall HS Varsity Orchestra outside of the school day. You may retain this page for your records.

Please sign and return this page, indicating your agreement to the information outlined in the Rockwall High School Varsity Orchestra Contract. Signature pages are due by Friday, August 19, 2022.

I _____ understand the additional rehearsal rehearsal requirements associated with being in the RHS
(student name)
Varsity Orchestra. I have put the after school rehearsal dates on my calendar, and I have a plan in place so that I can get to RHS on time for morning rehearsals. I will communicate any conflicts with Mrs. Smith in advance, and I understand that absences will negatively affect my grade and/or attendance.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

I _____ understand the additional rehearsal rehearsal requirements associated with my student being
(parent/guardian name)
in the RHS Varsity Orchestra. I have put the after school rehearsal dates on my calendar, and I will help my student arrange transportation, so that he/she can arrive to morning rehearsals on time. I will communicate any conflicts with Mrs. Smith in advance, and I understand that absences will negatively affect my student's grade and/or attendance.

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____