



2016-2017

**CHARLES M. RUSSELL HIGH
SCHOOL**

www.cmrbands.net

**Band program information for Students and Parents
2016-2017 CMR BAND ACTIVITIES CALENDAR**

(please post at home)

Basketball pep band dates and Jazz dates will be listed separately

Listed below are the dates that involve the majority of band students and for which attendance is mandatory. Pep band schedules are not listed and will be provided to pep band members. **Marching band involves every student who does not have a waiver for that event**, volunteer means that enrichment points are awarded for participation. Events in **Bold** involve all students.

AUGUST

23	Tue.	Voyagers	Pep Band	Centene Stadium	6:00 PM
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SEPTEMBER

2	Fri.	FB	Pep Band (stands)	Memorial Stadium	6:30 PM
16	Fri..	FB	Pep Band (stands)	Memorial Stadium	6:30PM
17	Sat.	Super Saturday	Required Rehearsal	CMR Band Room	9 AM to 4pm
27	Tue..	Powder Puff	Pep Band	Memorial Stadium	6 pm
28	Wed.	Marching	Marching Rehearsal	CMR	per. 4-7
30	Fri.	Homecoming Parade	Marching Band	Downtown	Noon
30	Fri.	FB	Marching Band	Memorial Stadium	6:30 PM

OCTOBER

3		All Northwest Audition	interested students	deadline for upload	
13	Thur.	Fall Band Concert	All Bands	Bill Williamson Hall	7:30 PM
14	Fri.	FB	Pep Band (stands)	Memorial Stadium	6:30 PM
19-21	TH-F	All State	Selected Students	Great Falls	ALL Day
21	Fri.	FB	Pep Band (stands)	Memorial Stadium	6:30 PM
26	Wed.	Fruit sale begins	All students	CMR	Class
27	Thur.	XTown Marching	Marching Band	Memorial Stadium	Periods 1-4
28	Fri	XTown Marching	Marching Band	Memorial Stadium	6:30 pm

NOVEMBER

11-13	Fri/Sat.	U of M Invitational	Interested/selected students	Missoula	All Day
4,11,18	Fri.	Possible Football playoffs and championship. We will play for home playoffs and the championship game if the team makes it that far.			
28	Mon	Fruit Orders Due	All Students	CMR	

DECEMBER

9	Fri.	Fruit delivery	All Students	Fair grounds	3-7 PM
12	Mon.	Holiday Concert 1	Symphonic Band	Civic Center	7:30 PM
13	Tue.	Holiday Concerts 2&3	Freshman (6), Rustler (8)	Bill Williamson Hall	6 PM, 8 pm

JANUARY

5,6	Thu-Fri	Jazz Workshop	Russtones	Bill Williamson Hall	7:00 PM
24	Tue.	Fine Arts Assembly	Symphonic Band	North Middle School	8 AM

FEBRUARY

16-19		All Northwest	Selected students seattle		All day
21	Tue.	Winter Band	Fresh, Rustler	Bill Will Hall	6pm, 8pm

MARCH

5-7		AA Band Festival	Symphonic Band	Bozeman	All Day
14	Tue.	MIOSM	Symphonic Band	Civic Center	7:00 PM
14	Mon	Winter Concerts	Freshman, Rustler	Bill Williamson Hall	6 & 8

APRIL

6	Thu.	District Large group	All Bands	GFHS Auditorium	TBA
7	Fri.	District solo and ensemble	interested students	CMR	TBA

MAY

5	Thur.	Performing Arts	Symphonic, Tones	Bill Williamson Hall	7am
15	Mon.	AWARDS CONCERT	Symphonic, Tones	Bill Williamson Hall	7:00 PM
22	Mon.	SPRING CONCERT	Freshman/Rustler	Bill Williamson Hall	7 PM

Welcome to the band program at CMR. Over nearly 4 decades this band has developed an enviable tradition of excellence. Your attitude and commitment to individual excellence will determine the quality of your experience as a member of the ensembles at CM Russell High School. Please use this handbook as a reference to help answer questions you may have about the band.

SUCCESS: In music can be defined in many different ways. For some it may be the feeling you get from doing your best at a performance. For others it may be membership in All-State or All-Northwest honor groups. Whatever your criteria, a successful and rewarding experience for each student is the goal of the band program at CMR. The essential elements for a rewarding experience are:

PARTICIPATION: Participating fully in the band program is key to a good experience. Get involved with the pep band, play a solo or in an ensemble for district music festival, audition for All State or All Northwest band and set individual goals for you own performance.

HOME PRACTICE: Practicing is your homework for band. Consistent daily practice is the only way to develop the tone quality, technique, and musical expression required for performance at this level. Each performer in an ensemble must master their part for the band to excel. The school has practice rooms available for students whose instrument makes it difficult to transport. Practice is most effective if it is done on a daily basis, in a quiet environment, and with a goal in mind. It is important to keep working until the goal has been met.

PRIVATE LESSONS: Private lessons are not required but learning to play an instrument is very difficult and every musician will need to get some help. Each instrument requires a very different set of skills and the best way to master these is help from a private instructor. The Public Schools, Great Falls Symphony, and local music teachers have compiled a master list of private instructors is available through the directors. Many of these teachers are willing to work around the hectic schedule of high school students. Scholarships are available for students who are unable to afford these lessons and are listed later in the handbook.

COMMUNICATION: Students or their parents should feel free to contact any director at the band office during the hours listed below to discuss any aspect of involvement in the band program. Free periods are 3rd and 4th or before and after school. In the event of an emergency, parents and/ or students may phone Mr. Kellogg at home in the evenings.

CMR Band Office: 268-6121 (7:30-8:00 a.m.; 3:30-5:00 p.m.)

Mr. Kellogg's home phone: 771-1759 (6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.)

Newsletter: I publish “notes” on a weekly basis to remind students and parents of upcoming events. The notes are available on the band website, www.cmrbands.net and will be posted in the band room. You will receive notice by email that the notes have been updated so be sure to give and email address that you check!

BANDS AND PERFORMING OPPORTUNITIES

MAVERICK This band is made up of Freshman students.

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE All non-symphonic or Rustler band percussionists

RUSTLER BAND Students in this group are primarily in the sophomore and junior classes who did not make or audition for Symphonic band.

SYMPHONIC BAND The Symphonic band is a select group made up of students in all grades by audition. Auditions are in the spring.

RUSSTONES Russtones is the school jazz ensemble. Students in this group must be members of another large ensemble at the school and are selected by audition in the spring.

MARCHING BAND: The marching band is made up of students from all of the other bands who do not have a direct conflict with a varsity sport. This band rehearses during class time with the exception of Thursday afternoon preceding performances, and one Saturday morning. Marching Band is part of the required curriculum so grades are assigned and attendance required for all rehearsals and performances. After school sectionals may be required and will be announced as needed. Non-marching members are expected to participate by playing, learning marching fundamentals, filling in for missing people, and helping with equipment and other logistics. Waivers are available for students who have a direct conflict with specific performances because of involvement in fall sports, cheerleading and drill or flag team.

Any student seeking a waiver of participation for marching band must fill out and return a waiver request form by Friday, September 7th.

PEP BAND: All students enrolled in a band at CMR are eligible for participation in the Pep Band. A pep band will perform at selected home Football and basketball games during the school year. The band will travel to the tournaments when the teams qualify. Pep band membership is an important element in qualifying for a Band Letter. Students who make the commitment to play in the pep band are expected to participate throughout the season and attend all performances.

OTHER PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES: Taking part in musical opportunities outside of the school band is another key element in the development of your musical abilities. Here is a partial list of musical events in our community.

- All-Northwest Honor Band, Auditions due the end of September
- All-State Honor Band (Auditions in the spring)
- National Honor Ensemble, Auditions in February
- Great Falls Youth Orchestra (Auditions both in the fall and the spring)
- District Music Festival solos and ensembles (in April)
- Solo or ensemble performances in the community
- GF municipal band (summer)
- Music camps
- UGF community band (Thursday evenings at the University)
- Small ensembles at school

Scholarships and Awards

Private Lesson Scholarships:

-Band- The band offers \$150 scholarships to help defray the cost of private lessons. One scholarship per year per student.

-Conner- The Michael Patrick “Cosmo” Conner foundation offers 3 scholarships worth \$300 apiece for private lessons.

-Tolmei – Several scholarships will be given through the Tolmei foundations in the fall. The number and amount of the scholarships will change each year.

General Scholarships:

Both the **Band** and the **Conner Foundation** offer scholarships for students who would like to attend a music camp during the summer. Applications may be picked up from Mr. Kellogg after the Spring Concert.

-Bill and Helen Cane Scholarships:

Three \$100 scholarships from the Bill and Helen Cain Foundation awarded each spring to the undergraduate flute, clarinet, and saxophone player who show the most improvement and initiative during the year.

-Senior Merit Award:

\$100 to the senior student who has helped the band the most during the school year.

-Louis Armstrong Award:

This award is given to the outstanding senior in the Russtones jazz ensemble each spring. It comes with a Trophy, Plaque, and \$100

-John Phillip Sousa Award:

This award is given to the outstanding senior member of the Symphonic Band and is voted on by the students in the band.

-Dwight Welter Memorial Scholarship:

This scholarship is also available to students who wish to continue the study of music in college. The amount varies with the success of the stock market and can be applied for in the spring.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. Be on time. A second unexcused tardy will result in a loss of participation points,
2. No food or drink in the band room. This includes gum.
3. Respect other students and the equipment. Do not touch anything which does not belong to you unless asked to by the director.
4. Practice good rehearsal discipline at all times.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Students are responsible for reeds, valve oil, slide cream, mutes, sticks, lyres and cleaning supplies. Some of these items may be purchased from the band.
2. Students should have a pencil for each rehearsal.
3. Meeting deadlines.

4. Each instrument should be have a case tag.

UNIFORMS

Marching Band: Uniforms will be distributed to all marching band members prior to the first performance. Each member is responsible for supplying his or her own white socks and white shoes. Athletic shoes are fine if they are white and not high tops. Stripes will need to be covered. A fee of \$128 will be charged for lost or damaged uniforms.

Symphonic Band: Girls will wear uniform dresses provided by the band and their own black, flat soled shoes. Boys will wear uniform tuxedos and supply their own black socks and black dress shoes. A replacement fee of 10 dollars will be assessed for these items. A sweatshirt or T-shirt will be selected by the band council at a cost not to exceed 25 dollars to be worn as the bands informal attire for AA band festival and for tour.

Rustler and Maverick Bands: All Band members will purchase shirt which will function as the concert uniform along with black slacks, black socks, and black shoes to be provided by the student. The shirts will cost no more than 15 dollars.

FUND RAISING:

Fund raising is an essential part of providing a quality experience for the band students at CMR. The money raised allows the band to take trips, and is used to supplement money provided by the district to update equipment and supplies. The band has two major fund raising activities.

-Fruit Sale: The annual fruit sale provides over 60% of the operating money and is the only student generated fund raiser. The sale this year begins on Wednesday, November 1st. The fruit will be delivered on Friday, December 7th. Details will be provided later.

-Concession Stand: Each year about 40% of the funds used for student band activities are raised through concession stand sales at home football games. This is one of the best opportunities for parents to help the band program.

Lettering in Band

You will earn points in extra and co-curricular activities to get a Band Letter. The lettering requirements are as follows:

Band Letter 600 points (or pin if first letter is in another activity)

Band Bar (second year letter) 800 points

Second Bar (third year letter) 1000 points

Points are earned in the following categories:

Ensemble member at District Festival	50 points
4th of July Parade Participant	50 points
Solo at District Festival	100 points
Youth Orchestra member	100 points
Pep Band season	100 points (two excused allowed)
All State Band Member	150 points
All NW Band Member	200 points

The Band Director may award points to individuals in special circumstances

****Students fill out an application to letter in the spring and turn it in.** Letter Applications will be due **April 1st**. It is the students responsibility to keep track of points.

Grading Policy for CMR Bands

The ultimate goal of the program is for the student to become the best player he or she can be and be able to function as an individual musician as well as a member of an ensemble. The band relies on every member of the group to be there and be prepared when it comes time to perform! Performances are the largest part of your grade--they are our "Unit Tests". Failure to attend a performance (either marching band or a concert) will result in a loss of points for the event. Along with your participation in performances, you will have other things to accomplish in the band class. Performances, quizzes, and other written work are your Classroom Points. There will be one large quarter long project each quarter that will be called the project.

Classroom Points (worth 85% of total grade)

Daily Participation 5 point/day (deduct 5 points for no instrument/missing equipment/tardy/misbehaviors)
Performances 100 points
Playing Tests (points vary)
Written tests/quizzes (points will vary)

Project Points (worth 15% of total grade)

Quarterly project – Quarter 1 – Chromatic Scales, Quarter 2 – Major Scales, Quarter 3 - sight reading,
Quarter 4 – Minor scales

The question always comes up "Do I have to practice for a grade?" The answer is "No" (unless you want to earn some enrichment points), but you do have to practice. You must be prepared to play your part for class—not to learn your part in class. Rehearsal is about learning how your part fits in with the other instruments in class, not about figuring out notes and rhythms. Some people will have to practice more than others, depending upon the difficulty of the part or the talent of the player. Practice until you can play the part and feel comfortable doing it without the band supporting you.

For students involved in extra-curricular activities that conflict with performances, I will either waive the performance from your grade or give you a make-up assignment, depending upon each activity. You must contact me at least two weeks in advance of the conflict.

Family and Medical emergencies will be dealt with on an individual basis. Advance notice of conflicts is much appreciated—even a phone call or email the night of the event lets me know that you are OK and I am not worried about your absence. We can deal with the grade later when you return.

Work conflicts are not excused absences. You have a Band Events calendar and you are expected to get performance dates off from work. Your first job needs to be School, and performances are part of your school commitment.

The classroom schedule for the school year will allow students time in class to be introduced to and review tested items, but students will need to refine the skills taught and reviewed in class at home in their own daily practice schedule.

A rough break down of the school year is as follows:

QTR 1: Playing test on chromatic scales and rhythm charts, chair test, review major scales, marching band performances, Fall Concert

QTR 2: Playing test on major scales and rhythm charts, chair test, review chromatic scales, music history, Holiday Concert, Semester Test

QTR 3: Playing Test on District Festival music, test on sight reading, review minor scales, Winter Concert, District Festival performance, Small Ensembles/Solos

QTR 4: Playing test on minor scales and rhythm charts, chair test, review finger patterns in major, minor, chromatic scales, Spring Concert

Playing Tests for Benchmark Curriculum Standards are as follows:

Chromatic Scales

9th Grade: 2 Octave F Major (with chromatic fingerings where appropriate)

10th Grade: 2 Octave F Major (with chromatic fingerings where appropriate), Memorized

11th Grade: Full Range Chromatic for your instrument

12th Grade: Memorized Full Range Chromatic

Major Scales

9th Grade: Scales in Concert C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb

10th Grade: All 12 Major Scales

11th Grade: All 12 Major Scales Memorized

12th Grade: All 12 Major Scales Memorized, played in less than 60 seconds

Minor Scales

9th Grade: Natural Minor scales in Concert a, d, g, c, bflat, eflat

10th Grade: All 12 Natural Minor scales

11th Grade: All 12 Harmonic Scales

12th Grade: All 12 Melodic Scales

Students will keep track of their enrichment points earned in class with the provided grade tracking sheet in their data folder. It is the student's responsibility to document enrichment by filling out the proper forms and handing them at grade check points. Forms are available on the website (www.cmrbands.net) or in the classroom.

PARENTAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

My signature indicates that _____ brought home the band calendar for

(Student Name/Names)

the 2016-2017 school year. **I have read the information** and understand that there are performances and occasional rehearsals outside the regular school day for which attendance is required to fulfill class requirements. I also understand that I am responsible for the rest of the information in the band handbook which is available on the band website, www.cmrbands.net. **If you would prefer a hardcopy of the band handbook indicate that on the form below and I will send one home with your son or daughter.**

____ I will read the handbook on the website.

____ I would like a hardcopy of the handbook.

(Parent or guardian signature) (date)

STUDENT NAME _____ BAND _____ GRADE _____

(Print please)

Sign up for Remind!

If you would like to receive text message reminders sign up for the parent remind and you will receive texts reminding you of upcoming events involving the band. To sign up send a text to **81010** and put **@mrkellogg5** as the message.