



The Bulldog Band welcomes you to:

Vail Ranch Middle School

Information Packet and Band Application

Join the Bulldog Band and be a part of BULLDOG PRIDE

You can be part of an award-winning tradition!

- Vail Ranch Middle School has 5 different ensembles: Beginning Band, 7th/8th Grade Band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, and Drumline.
- The band spans over 5 periods with over 180 students involved. Band is one of the LARGEST groups at VRMS.
- Bulldog Bands get to perform at school, with the Spirit of Great Oak Band, and in the community. Bands attend the Disneyland Performing Arts Workshops. In the past the bands have traveled to San Francisco, San Diego, and Hollywood!
- Bulldog Bands consistently receive the highest ratings at Festivals and Competitions. We even bring in composers for special classes. We will be working with composer Randall Standridge this coming year.
- Classes meet every day with optional outside sectional rehearsals.
- This is a great opportunity to try something new and exciting!

Do I have to know how to read music or play an instrument to join band?

As a beginning band student, you do not have to know anything about music or know how to play a musical instrument. You will be taught how to read music and play an instrument!

You will have the opportunity to choose from flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, or percussion. We have an instrument tryout and rental night for parents and students to attend at the beginning of the year. You do not have to decide now, we will take care of that at the beginning of next year!

Why is music important?

Playing a musical instrument fosters creative thinking, teaches self-discipline, helps improve in other academic subjects, and is an activity you can enjoy your whole life!

We want you to JOIN the BULLDOG BANDS!

If you are interested in joining the Bulldog Band as a 6th grader (and we hope that you are!), please fill out the attached band application and return it to your 5th grade teacher by May 31st. Mr. Underwood, the band director, will pick them up for you. Parents can also return the band application to Vail Ranch Middle School or email it to Mr. Underwood at aunderwood@tvusd.k12.ca.us.

About Mr. Underwood (Band Director)

Mr. Underwood has been directing the band program at Vail Ranch since 2016. He came over from Chaparral High School last year. He is married and has two dogs. He, with his wife, also help instruct the Spirit of Great Oak marching band. He is excited to continue the tradition of excellence with YOU next year!

Vail Ranch Middle School Music Department

Alan Underwood, Music Director

aunderwood@tvusd.k12.ca.us

BAND APPLICATION

Thank you for choosing to sign up for Bulldog Band at Vail Ranch Middle school! We have a very active band program here at VRMS, and would love for you to be a part of it. Our program has a lot of concerts and at the end of the year we have a celebration trip. In the past those have included Mulligans and Disneyland.

EVERYONE IS ELIGIBLE! You do not have to have any musical experience or know how to play an instrument to join band. If you do play an instrument, please tell us about it below.

Please fill in the information completely and return it to VRMS no later than May 31st. You can turn it in to your 5th grade teacher, and Mr. Underwood will pick them up by that date. You can email a scanned copy and send it directly to me!).

Parents, if you have any questions about the band program, please feel free to contact me through email. I will be happy to help out!

Student Name: _____

Elementary School: _____

Do you have any prior musical experience? If so, what do you play, how long have you been playing, and do you currently take lessons?

Parent(s) Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

eMail address: _____