



Welcome to the Rancho San Justo Middle School Band Webpage!

The program at Rancho offers many chances for students to learn and explore different aspects of music. Currently, there are 3 classes at RSJ. The classes offered are Beginning band, Intermediate band and Advanced band. There are also after school programs available for students of all ability levels. Multiple times throughout the year we combine with the band students at Marguerite Maze Middle School to perform. As this Rancho-Maze Band, we perform publicly throughout the year.

The Beginning band is designed for students who have already taken at least one year of music in Elementary school. The main focus of this ensemble is to extend the basic techniques learned previously, extend ranges and notes knows, and gain a basic mastery of all rhythmic combinations. Currently there are 23 students in beginning band

Students are placed in intermediate and advanced band based on skills obtained throughout beginning band. Placement in advanced band is decided through either an audition process at the end of 6th grade, or through the band director's discretion (ex: an excellent 6th grade student may skip beginning band if there is enough data supporting instrument mastery). There are a total of 35 students in both beginning and advanced band.

Rancho San Justo currently offers 2 after school ensembles. For students who did not have elementary school band, There is a beginning band. Also, for an added degree of difficulty for advanced/intermediate band. RSJ also offers a percussion ensemble.

There are plans to start multiple other ensembles for students to play in the future. Starting this month we will offer color guard. The color guard will march with the marching band, as well as separately in dance performances. The last ensemble being introduced this year is the jazz band. Starting it second semester, the jazz band will be rebooted. Member from both Rancho and Maze will be able to attend both of these new ensembles.

