



# Riverside Bands

*The Pride of Riverside*

Robin Silveira  
Director of Bands  
Riverside Middle School  
179 Forbes Street  
Riverside, RI 02915

401.433.6240  
rmsbandz@cox.net

[www.riversidemiddleschool.com/band](http://www.riversidemiddleschool.com/band)

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The RMS Band will be using SmartMusic<sup>®</sup> to help students practice and perfect their music this year. Please read this letter to learn what SmartMusic is and why it is such an important tool for our music program and your child's musical development. Please visit [www.smartmusic.com](http://www.smartmusic.com) to view a four-minute video that explains SmartMusic<sup>®</sup> and how it motivates and engages students, builds student confidence, and enriches the student's total music experience.

**What is SmartMusic<sup>®</sup>?** SmartMusic<sup>®</sup> is a software-based computer program that helps students practice and submit their school music assignments. Students can practice exercises, solos, and beginning band and string methods, as well as the music that they are performing with their school band, orchestra, or choir. SmartMusic<sup>®</sup> records and even grades student progress from home or school practice room computers and includes a metronome, tuner, and digital recorder.

**How does SmartMusic<sup>®</sup> benefit your family?** Individual practice is often boring as the music has been taken out of its intended group context. SmartMusic<sup>®</sup> makes practicing fun. With SmartMusic<sup>®</sup>, students practice with professional accompaniment. This makes practice time more engaging and productive, and helps develop better listening skills and a more mature understanding of the music. Students also practice longer and more effectively as a result of the built-in assessment features. SmartMusic<sup>®</sup> enables students to record their assignments for self-evaluation and submit these recordings as part of their assignment. Most assignments offer assessment, where green and red notes indicate what students have performed correctly and where improvement is needed. A SmartMusic<sup>®</sup> subscription also provides your student immediate access to the world's largest accompaniment library, allowing them to explore areas of interest and set their own development objectives.

**What is needed to use SmartMusic<sup>®</sup>?** SmartMusic<sup>®</sup> works on your PC or Mac and requires an Internet connection to activate your subscription and receive and send assignments on-line. System requirements and support contacts are listed at [www.smartmusic.com/support](http://www.smartmusic.com/support).

**What does this cost?** You can purchase a full-year subscription through our school's account for only \$36 per year. (You will need to renew this subscription yearly.) Microphones cost \$19.95 Windows (\$29.95 for Mac) and are highly recommended as they are required for assignments, recordings and assessments. (This is a one-time purchase.)

**How do I get started?** It's easy to purchase and activate your SmartMusic subscription. While you must be on-line to activate, receive, or post assignments and to download updates, no web browser is required, and you can practice off-line at any time. If you run into any questions with purchasing, activating, or using SmartMusic<sup>®</sup>, it's nice to know that SmartMusic<sup>®</sup> tech support is free!

1. Visit [www.smartmusic.com](http://www.smartmusic.com) and follow the on-screen instructions to order SmartMusic<sup>®</sup>, a microphone, and a free installation disc. (You can also download the program right from the SmartMusic<sup>®</sup> website to avoid shipping costs of the installation disc.)
2. When you receive SmartMusic<sup>®</sup> at home, install SmartMusic<sup>®</sup> with the installation disc and launch the program.
3. You will be prompted to activate your subscription using the email address and password that you entered while ordering.

**If I have more than one music student at home, do I have to purchase more subscriptions?** No. After purchasing a subscription, you must activate that subscription on a single computer. Then everyone in your household can practice and perform with SmartMusic<sup>®</sup> on this computer. Additional subscriptions would be necessary only if your family would like to practice on more than one computer within your home.

Sincerely,  
Robin Silveira  
Director of Bands



The East Providence School Department, in partnership with families and the community, is committed to provide a comprehensive, inclusive program of academic excellence in a safe, nurturing environment preparing all students to become responsible, life-long learners able to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Telephone 401.433.6222 ~ Fax 401.433.6256 ~ E-mail: [mcirillo@epschoolsri.com](mailto:mcirillo@epschoolsri.com) ~ TTY 800.745.5555 ~ Voice 800.745.6575

The East Providence School Department does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, sexual orientation, race, religion, national origin, color or handicap in accordance with applicable laws and regulations