Dear band students and families,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year. My name is Ms. McCarty, and I am the proud band director here at Robins K-8! This will be my second year here at Robins, overall I am in the middle of my third year of teaching. I will be teaching the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade bands. A little bit about my musical background, I started band as a 5<sup>th</sup> grader in California in 2006. My primary instrument is percussion. I hold a bachelor's degree in Music Education from Arizona State University, and I will be completing my master's degree in Wind Conducting from the University of Texas at El Paso.

This year will be filled with creating art through sound! After a successful year with this band program last year, I am very excited for what is in store this upcoming school year. We will spend the first full week of school getting back into the swing of things for the students returning, as well as incorporating the new students into the routines and procedures for this class. Several students from last year will be returning to band this year and will have lots of opportunities to help their peers!

Our concert dates are still being decided, but the first concert will be the week going into Fall Break for our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Once I have approval for our concert dates, I will send emails out about a month in advance! Throughout the school year, I will be communicating with all parents weekly about what the students are learning in class, upcoming assignments, performances, etc.

I am looking forward to working with each and every one of your students to create beautiful music! My email is <a href="mailto:dana.mccarty@tusd1.org">dana.mccarty@tusd1.org</a>.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ms. McCarty