



Ridgely Elementary School Orchestra Program

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our students have an exciting new opportunity during the 2016-2017 school year! The Ridgely Elementary School Orchestra Program offers students the opportunity to learn how to play the violin, viola, cello, or bass. Students who are in the fifth grade may participate. While participating in this program, your child will be given the opportunity to:

- ♪ Learn and develop excellent technique and beautiful tone
- ♪ Read music
- ♪ Develop a repertoire of folk and classical music
- ♪ Perform in an ensemble
- ♪ Value and appreciate music in his or her life
- ♪ Build new friendships
- ♪ Develop positive self esteem through successful performance

You are invited to attend Rental Night at a time and date to be announced. At this time, you will be able to get your child's instrument and book of choice. The school has a limited number of cellos and basses that may be borrowed. You will need to have some funds available and/or a debit/credit card or checkbook for a deposit and other optional costs including a music stand. **If you are not able to attend instrument rental night you may make arrangements with B&B Music to get your instrument.**

I look forward to meeting with you and to sharing our music with you!

Musically yours,

Julie Hawley
Elementary Music Specialist, Chorus, Band, and Orchestra Director
Ridgely Elementary School
(410) 634-2105
Hawley.Julie@ccpsstaff.org



Ridgely Elementary School Orchestra Program

ORCHESTRA POLICIES

REHEARSALS

Rehearsals take place once a week after school 3:45pm until 4:30pm. Instrument instruction and rehearsal time will be divided into smaller groups.

Rehearsals will take place in the music classroom, located in the second portable classroom outside of the gymnasium. **Please pick up your child promptly at 4:30pm.**

Tuesday: Violin and Viola

Wednesday: Cello and Bass

After 3 unexcused absences, a student's name will be removed from the orchestra list and they will not be considered a member of orchestra.

Examples of unexcused absences include:

- ♪ Forgetting
- ♪ Not following the Ridgely Elementary School Code of Conduct during rehearsal

Examples of excused absences include:

- ♪ Absent from school (sickness, coming in late, etc.)
- ♪ Making up work, tests, etc. from classroom teacher (with documentation from the teacher)

BOOKS AND MUSIC STANDS

You must purchase the book *Essential Elements 2000*. I highly recommend the purchase of a music stand for home practice. It is essential for correct playing position.

PRACTICE

To experience success in musical performance, musicians must practice consistently! I recommend a *minimum* of four days of practice each week. Students are given a practice chart to record their daily practice. It is the student's responsibility to fill in the chart each day. Parents sign the chart at the end of each practice week. *Parents must be prepared to enforce regular practice habits!*

PERFORMANCE

Concert performance gives students the opportunity to share their music with family, friends and fellow musicians. Our winter and spring concerts are wonderful celebrations of each student's achievements! All orchestra members are required to attend two evening performances (one performance each semester). Please check your calendars carefully! Sporting events, dance rehearsals, etc. are not excused absences from the performance.

Dress Rehearsal: December 13th, 2016

Concert: December 14th, 2016 at NCHS Auditorium at 6:30pm

Please keep this page for your records ☺



Ridgely Elementary School Orchestra Program

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This is the registration form for the Ridgely Elementary School Orchestra Program. Participation is an option for all 5th grade students. It is imperative that this form be returned to Mrs. Hawley by September 16th. Please contact Mrs. Hawley if you have any questions. I hope that you and your child will become a part of this very special program!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Julie Hawley
Hawley.Julie@ccpsstaff.org
(410) 634- 2105

Complete this form and return it to Mrs. Hawley by Friday, September 16th, 2016.

_____ My child will participate in the Ridgely Elementary Orchestra Program.

We have chosen the:

_____ Violin

_____ Viola

_____ Cello

_____ Bass

_____ I will be renting an instrument from B&B Music.

_____ I will acquire an instrument from another source.**

** Please contact Mrs. Hawley before making any instrument purchases for recommendations and advice.

Student's Name (please print)

Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Phone Number

Email Address