**Beginning Orchestra**

**Join Us for Orchestra Back-to-School Night**

**Monday, September 18 at 6:30PM**

**in the Media Center**

Hammond Elementary School

Mr. Reinhardt and Mr. Kroll - Directors

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to Orchestra! Learning a new instrument is an exciting and rewarding experience for a child, and I am looking forward to an excellent year with all of the new and returning orchestra students. Included in this packet is all of the necessary and useful information for beginning orchestra students. Please look through it carefully, as it will help you find the right rental plan, the needed supplies, and plenty of tips to get students off to a great start. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me at school (410) 880-5890 or email me at [tim\_reinhardt@hcpss.org](mailto:timothy_reinhardt@hcpss.org). Also, please familiarize yourself with our orchestra website, [www.hesorchestra.weebly.com](http://www.hesorchestra.weebly.com).

All beginning students will be using **Essential Elements Bk. 1** as their method book.

It would be helpful to bring this paper to the rental store. Also, please check out the Chopin-Liszt (shopping list) further down.

LESSON SCHEDULES

* Students are scheduled for one 30 minute lesson and one 30 minute rehearsal per week. A lesson is a small group of like instruments. A rehearsal is the entire 3rd grade orchestra.
* **The first lesson will be on Tuesday, September 19**. It is okay if students do not have their instrument for this lesson They will receive their lesson schedules at this rehearsal.
* **The first rehearsal will be on September 29**.
* Lesson times will rotate throughout the day on **Tuesdays**, so that students do not always miss the same class.
* Students will be responsible for work missed during lessons. A study buddy is recommended – someone from the same class who can help a student catch up when they return to class.
* A schedule will be provided for home. Help your child be prepared on the correct day. 3rd Grade students will need their instruments on **Tuesdays and Fridays**.

BUYING or RENTING AN INSTRUMENT

It is important to note that not all stores or rental programs are created equal. The following is a list of questions to ask or consider when choosing a rental plan.

1. How long is the rental plan? Is there a cheaper trial period?
2. What is the repair/maintenance policy?
3. Do they have a repair shop on hand, or do they send instruments somewhere else?
4. Do you have to pay to switch to the next size instrument?
5. Can you put your rental money towards a different instrument? (If switching)

*Don’t be afraid to ask questions*.

**Beware of the INTERNET**

and certain department stores. They have started selling instruments, but of very, very poor quality. It is common to see instruments on E-bay for $69 dollars. **STEER CLEAR!!** The instruments are machine made with cheap parts and nobody in the area will repair them, because the repairs will not last. Also, instruments that have no label on the inside OR instruments that come in bright colors should be avoided because of poor quality. If it feels like it’s too good to be true, it probably is! When in doubt, feel free to email me.

LOCAL MUSIC STORES

**Gailes’ Violin Shop Inc.**

301-474-4300

800-245-3167

10013 Rhode Island Ave.

College Park, MD 20740

[www.gailesviolin.com](http://www.gailesviolin.com)

**Potter Violin Company**

800-317-9452

301-652-7070

4706 Highland Ave.

Bethesda, MD 20814

[www.pottersviolins.com](http://www.pottersviolins.com)

Wood Bridge Music Shop

410-203-9663

9251 Baltimore National Pike

Ellicott City, MD 21042

[www.woodbridgemusic.com](http://www.woodbridgemusic.com)

**Bob’s House of Basses**

12301 Shafer Ln.

Bowie, MD 20720

301-805-9407

**Perrin and Associates Fine Violins** Roger Perrin 1 East Lexington St. Suite 401 Baltimore, MD 21202 410‐539‐0043

Mike’s Music

410-465-0700

4872 Montgomery Rd.

Ellicott City, MD 21043

[www.mikesmusicmd.com](http://www.mikesmusicmd.com)

Music & Arts Center

Cherry Tree

240-568-0600

11200 Scaggsville Rd., Unit 111

Laurel, MD  20723

[www.musicarts.com](http://www.musicarts.com)

Stu’s Music Shop

410-876-7585

723 Baltimore Boulevard

Westminster, MD  21157

[www.stusmusic.com](http://www.stusmusic.com)

WHEN YOU BRING THE INSTRUMENT HOME

* Be Careful. I have seen students break instruments before their first lesson. There are certain parts of a string instrument that need to be handled very carefully or not at all. Please try to wait until our first lesson.
* Make a record of the make, model, and serial number for insurance purposes. (Found inside the F hole in the belly of the instrument)
* **Mark the case with your child’s name** and his/her homeroom teacher’s name.
* Find an area of the house where your child will practice. It should be quiet and free of distractions.

**TOP TIPS FOR SUCCESS**

**\*\* Practice is the key to success.** The #1 cause for a student struggling to learn an instrument is poor practice habits. Children will not always want to practice and will need your encouragement to do what needs to be done (like brushing teeth or eating vegetables). Your child is signing up for this class and practicing is the assigned homework. Please do not treat practicing as if it is extra work that can be done “if there is time”. Follow these guidelines and your child will be successful.

**\*\* Private lessons are always a good idea.** It is the best investment one can make to become a great musician. I have attached a list of private teachers for your reference.

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

* Discuss with your child the commitment to practice at home and to complete classroom make up work.
* Help your child set a practicing routine. He/she should be practicing 15 to 20 minutes 5 times a week. This time may be a little less for the first month, while they are learning the basics.
* Be sure your child is not leaving his/her instrument in school.
* Continue to support and encourage your child, especially if he/she is struggling with a particular skill. Don’t use practice as a punishment.
* Do not make fun of strange sounds that may occur as your child learns a new instrument.
* Plan to attend school concerts as they are the end goals of months of preparation.
* A special music report card will be sent home quarterly to inform you of your child’s progress.
* Take your child to other performances to see better musicians. (Professional, Community, Youth Orchestras, High School, etc.)
* ***If your child is having trouble with a certain subject or seems disinterested, please call me, so that I can try to help the situation before it is too late*.** I cannot always make my schedule flexible, but I will always do whatever I can to make your child successful.
* **Common Sense:** If you never hear your child practicing, chances are they are not! And chances are they’re not doing well in lessons.

Chopin Liszt

Below is a shopping list for you and your child containing things that you will need to purchase/rent **and** things you will notneed to purchase.

***Things You Need:***

* Instrument (violin, viola, cello, or bass)

All should come with a case and a bow.

Bass: Check the provided list of stores for prices.

* Essential Elements Book 1

This is our method book for the year. *Be sure you get the book for the correct instrument.*

* Shoulder Rest – Only for Violins and Violas
  + Music stores will have various options such as purple sponges (cheaper) all the way up to very nice shoulder rests (more expensive). All are okay for a beginner, but make sure they have one of these. ***Please do not use the brown corduroy pad with elastic straps.***
* Rockstop – Only for Cellos and Basses. This protects any floor surfaces from the endpin.
* Rosin – Most instruments will come with rosin. Everybody will need one cake of rosin. Basses should receive a round rosin that is special for basses.
* Soft Cloth – for wiping off the instrument. Any soft cloth will do; you do not need to buy a special one.
* Wire Music Stand

***Things You DO NOT Need:***

These items may be offered or even strongly encouraged by a salesman.

* Polishing Kit
* Peg Dope
* Extra cloths or extra rosin

**PRIVATE TEACHERS: STRING INSTRUMENTS**

**VIOLIN**

Sheng-Tsung Wang 443-801-8811

Trish De Orio 410-599-8120

James Woomert

james\_woomert@hcpss.org

Irina Zamoroko 410-418-8973

Sarah York 410-456-1741

Ning Ma [maning@verizon.net](mailto:maning@verizon.net)

Kiersten Lortz – [klortz@hotmail.com](mailto:klortz@hotmail.com)

Joan Bob 410-484-5648 Mia Choi 410-313-8115

Ronald Mutchnik410-461-0618

Rebecca Henry [rhenry@peabody.jhu.edu](mailto:rhenry@peabody.jhu.edu)

Jeff Howard 617-680-0866

Jay Kim 410-772-9471 Emil Chudnovsky410-746-5995 Mark Singer 410-772-4871

Karin Brown 410-601-0274

Kela Spiro 301-776-8849

Sarah Castrillon 571-243-0324

Chris Fyhr 410-465-5676

Stephanie Mathias  [240-803-9644](tel:240-803-9644)

**VIOLA**

Alice Young 410-532-3649

Trish De Orio 410-599-8120

James Woomert

james\_woomert@hcpss.org

Joan Bob 410-484-5648

Jennifer Rende 410-455-0491

Karin Brown 410-601-0274

Julius Wirth 443-742-8585

Katie Kimble 443-799-0386

Jared Weissbrot 443-326-6745

Amanda McKay 443-546-4731

Sarah Castrillon 571-243-0324

Chris Fyhr 410-465-5676

Robin Massie-Pighee[410-446-9799](tel:410.446.9799)

Lisa Simoncelli (917) 733-1963

[violacelli@gmail.com](mailto:violacelli@gmail.com)

**CELLO**

Bill Rose 410-300-8844

Bo Li 410-715-1844

Hyun Jin Ro 443-812-4808

Chang Woo Lee 443-266.7223

[cwlbso@hotmail.com](mailto:cwlbso@hotmail.com)

David Shumway 410-532-3649

Dori Misumi 410-465-4623

Cindy Rosenberg 410-552-3411

Ben Myers 410-715-3506

Pei Lu 410-772-4871

**BASS**

Marta Bradley 301-725-6986

Matthew Boggs 443-340-2973

Colin O’Bryan 410-499-1776

James Hall 443-326-5463

Wesley Thompson 703-980-1009

Yoshi Horiguchi 443-529-3118

Other Organizations which provide private lessons:

Howard County Community College Musical Arts Center

410-772-4871

Woodbridge Music Shop

443-535-9677

Music & Arts Center 240-568-0600

For more teachers, check out the HCPSS music <http://sites.google.com/site/hcparents4schoolmusic>

This list does not represent an endorsement by Mr. Reinhardt or Howard County Public Schools.