

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Dixie School District
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IMPORTANT MUSIC INFORMATION FOR ORCHESTRA STUDENTS.

CLASS MEETING TIMES

DIXIE	Fifth Grade	Monday and Thursday	11:20-12:05
	Fourth Grade	Monday and Thursday	12:50-1:30
MES	Fourth Grade	Monday and Thursday	1:55-2:35
	Fifth Grade	Tuesday and Friday	1:50-2:35
VALLECITO	Fourth Grade	Tuesday and Friday	11:10-12:50
	Fifth Grade	Tuesday and Friday	12:35-1:20

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

VIOLIN AND VIOLA

Instrument
Shoulder rest
Rosin
Soft cleaning cloth
All For Strings Book 1 (AT HOME)

CELLO AND BASS

Instrument
Rock stop
Rosin
Soft cleaning cloth
All For Strings Book 1 (AT HOME)

Music stand is optional. If you purchase one, leave it at home.
Viola, cello, and bass are offered to fifth graders only.

LOCAL MUSIC STORES

Magic Flute (415) 479-3112
Marin Music Center in Novato (415) 897-4131
Bananas At Large (415) 457-7600
Best Music Company in Oakland 800-821-3557 (Best Co. will ship products)

WHAT TO BRING TO EVERY MUSIC CLASS

4th Grade

Music folder
Instrument
Rosin
Shoulder rest
LEAVE YOUR BOOK AT HOME.

5TH Grade

Music folder
Instrument
Rosin
Shoulder or rock stop (for cello or bass)
LEAVE YOUR BOOK AT HOME.

INSTRUMENT CARE

- Never leave your instrument where it can be affected by extreme temperatures (like in the car).
- ALWAYS clean your instrument with you soft cloth. Do not polish your instrument!
- Never put papers, books or other extra items in the case.

CONCERTS

- For concerts during the school day, students perform only at the elementary school that they attend.
- ALL ORCHESTRA STUDENTS in grades 4 and 5 perform at the Dixie School District Orchestra Festival at Miller Creek Middle School. **For that concert, your child will need a white shirt and black pants or long skirt. No T-shirts on shirts with logos. All students should wear black shoes. Do not wear flip-flops to your concert. Most importantly, the student should look neat.**
- Concert dates will be posted on your school's website, and you will also receive information in your child's Friday Folder.

PRACTICE

Learning to play an instrument requires regular practice. Please make sure that your child has a place to practice at home. Students should practice for 10-15 minutes five days a week. Please check my website (accessible through millercreekmiddleschool.org) for additional information.

GRADING

- Students in orchestra will receive a grade.
- Students will be responsible for "checking off" music. Each student will have a list of the music that is supposed to be played for the teacher. Students may try as many times as they would like to pass the line(s). Students will check-off music for Ms. Vakharia or her assistant.
- Students who are struggling may receive a progress report.
- Failure to practice, repeatedly forgetting materials, and classroom disruptions will have a negative affect on a student's grade.

DISCIPLINE

Any student who disrupts class or repeatedly forgets his/her instrument will be issued a yellow discipline slip. This slip will go to the classroom teacher, who will implement the classroom consequences for breaking rules. A phone call home may also be necessary.

VOLUNTEERING AND CHAPERONING

If you would like to volunteer in our music class please let me know. You do not have to have a music background. On the day of the District Orchestra Festival, all fourth and fifth grade orchestra students will be bussed to Miller Creek Middle School for a rehearsal. We will need chaperones to attend. Look for information in your child's Friday Folder when the date nears.

COMMUNICATION

Please check my website regularly. There will be practice guides and other valuable information for you. <http://teacherweb.com/CA/MillerCreekMiddleSchool/MsVakharia/t.aspx>. I also send emails periodically, so please make sure that your email is updated on your child's emergency card. Look in Friday Folders for additional reminders. Because I travel from school to school, it is best to contact me via email at svakharia@marin.k12.ca.us. Please do not stop by the Dixie District Music Office without speaking with me first. The office is not staffed, and I may be at another site.

I am looking forward to a very successful year making music.

Shahrazad Vakharia
District School District Instrumental Music Teacher