Orchestra

Contact Information: Ms. Michelle Huster 970-613-7236  michelle.huster@tsd.org

Course Description: **6th GRADE ORCHESTRA (Spring 2022 semester)**
Beginning class instruction in violin, viola, cello, and bass. Students progress through the sequence of first year string technique via a skill-based curriculum. Opportunities exist for large and small group performance and numerous supplemental activities. Emphasis is placed on proper instrument setup, tone production, music literacy, and basic ensemble skills. Students will perform music at a Grade 1 level. Participation in one group concert per quarter is required for a grade.

*Sound Innovations Book 1, fees will cover the cost of your book.*

**7th GRADE ORCHESTRA**
Continuing class instruction in violin, viola, cello, and bass. Students continue to progress through the sequence of string technique. While stress is placed on orchestral performing skills, opportunities exist for solo and small ensemble performance. Students will perform music at a Grade 1.5-3 music. Participation in district-sponsored clinics and festivals as well as performing in one group concert per quarter is required.

Class books: *Essential Elements for Strings Book 2 AND All For Strings Theory Book 1.*

**8th GRADE ORCHESTRA**
Further class instruction in violin, viola, cello, and bass. Students continue to progress through the sequence of string technique. While stress is placed on orchestral performing skills, opportunities exist for solo and small ensemble performance. Students will perform music at a Grade 3-Grade 4 level. Participation in district-sponsored contests, 8th Grade festival with Erwin MS, and recruitment tours, as well as performing in one group concert per quarter is required.
Class books: *Essential Technique for Strings Book 3* *(Books are covered with the 10$ orchestra fee)*

**Honor Orchestra**
This group is made up of select students from all three grade levels. Students will perform advanced middle school level music and some high school level music, as well as perform with every orchestra concert and some LISA events. Admission to this group is at the discretion of Ms. Huster based on work habits and willingness to practice. Please contact her for more information as we are getting approval after the pandemic year.

*Music will be provided.*

Class Expectations:- RESPECT, yourself, others and your instrument..
- BE PREPARED with your instrument, music, and in your seat immediately upon arrival.
- Please use the restroom and get drinks **before** class to minimize disruptions. You will get a punch card with “oops” passes. Each student is responsible for keeping track of theirs. If more frequent restroom breaks are required, please have a private conversation with Ms. H at the beginning of the year.
- Cell Phones are not allowed to be visible at school, including in students hands. Violation of this will result in confiscation of cell phone, changed passwords, and a variety of bad selfies taken with other teachers. iPads must be stored under chairs and not on music stands. They become a violin crushing missile when this rule is not observed.
- Drinks, food and gum should be enjoyed outside of the classroom.
  - Gum is a choking hazard during instrumental music when students are breathing together and focused on music.

**Grading**

**Academic Grades (SBG):**
- Concerts Preparedness
- Playing tests
- Theory Assignments
- Performance

**Work Habits Grade:**
- Concert behavior
- Daily attitude and participation
- Preparedness: evidence of practicing, bringing instruments, and accessories

**Standards Based Grading Guidelines**

4. Students demonstrate proficiency on all standards with evidence of advanced work.
3. Students demonstrate proficiency on all standards.
2. Students demonstrate proficiency on some standards.
1. Students do not meet the standards—support and interventions are necessary.

**Homework Policy:**

How to get work when you are absent: Students will access work in Google Classroom. Music will be available to view digitally as well as additional assignments.