

Brown-Barge Middle School

Orchestra Supply List

Orchestra students must have ALL of their supplies by Friday, September 7th.

Some students who sign up for orchestra are undecided about which instrument they want to play. That's okay! During the first week of school we will explore each orchestra instrument, and I will make sure that each student is on the instrument that is best suited for him/her. I encourage students that have played the violin in 5th grade to explore the viola, cello, or double bass this year. Every instrument in the orchestra is wonderful and a lot of fun to learn! By the above date, each student will need their instrument and supplies.

(Please wait to purchase/rent an instrument until the second week of school. **Your child must be sized before you choose an instrument!** Students will get frustrated on instruments that are too big or too small for them.)

The student must bring a pencil, class binder/folder, method book, and instrument with required accessories to class every day (except cello and bass). Failure to do so will reflect poorly on their grade.

All supplies can be found at Schmidt's Music in downtown Pensacola. Bring this form with you to the store and an associate will help you. They offer FREE DELIVERY to the school if you cannot shop in person. Call the store at (850) 434-0317. You may also try Shar Music at www.sharmusic.com, but it isn't local (see handbook).

Violin This instrument must be rented/purchased from a local music store. Supplies: Rosin, microfiber cloth or polish cloth, extra set of strings, and Orchestra Expressions Violin Book 1 (6th Grade - Orchestra 1), OR Orchestra Expressions Violin Book 2 (7th Grade – Orchestra 2), OR Expressive Techniques for Orchestra Violin Book (8th Grade – Orchestra 3). ***\$20 optional donation for the cost of music and supplies for the year.***

Viola This instrument must be rented/purchased from a local music store. Supplies: Rosin, microfiber cloth or polish cloth, extra set of strings, and Orchestra Expressions Viola Book 1 (6th Grade - Orchestra 1), OR Orchestra Expressions Viola Book 2 (7th Grade – Orchestra 2), OR Expressive Techniques for Orchestra Viola Book (8th Grade – Orchestra 3). ***\$20 optional donation for the cost of music and supplies for the year.***

Cello This instrument is available for your child to use while at school. **You must rent/purchase one for home use and transport to concerts.** Supplies: Rosin, Rock Stop *with strap*, microfiber cloth or polish cloth, and Orchestra Expressions Cello Book 1 (6th Grade - Orchestra 1), OR Orchestra Expressions Cello Book 2 (7th Grade – Orchestra 2), OR Expressive Techniques for Orchestra Cello Book (8th Grade – Orchestra 3). ***\$20 optional donation for the cost of music and supplies for the year.***

Bass This instrument is available for your child to use while at school. **You must rent/purchase one for home use and transport to concerts.** Supplies: German style Bass bow, rosin, microfiber cloth or polish cloth, and Orchestra Expressions Bass Book 1 (6th Grade - Orchestra 1), OR Orchestra Expressions Bass Book 2 (7th Grade – Orchestra 2), OR Expressive Techniques for Orchestra Bass Book (8th Grade – Orchestra 3). ***\$20 optional donation for the cost of music and supplies for the year.***

Additional Supplies (highly recommended, not required): tuner and metronome (one each, or a 2-in-1)

By signing this form, you acknowledge that you have read and provided the above materials and Orchestra dues for your child to participate successfully in Orchestra. DUE BY FRIDAY, September 7.

Parent/Guardian Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Quality Instrument Checklist:

- Wood tone/color
- Comes with a **bow** and **case** for instrument
- Bow **stick is straight** after hair is tightened by the end screw. To check follow these steps:
 - Tighten the screw until hair is ½ inch away from the stick.
 - Set the bow on a flat surface, hair down.
 - When you look down the length of the stick, it should not twist or have a bend (warp) in the middle.
 - Loosen the screw until there is no tension on the hair and put it away.
- Comes with a clean, unused cake of **rosin**.
- Case is in working order with **no damage** to zippers, closures, clasps, or handle.
- Pegs** are made of ebony, a black wood. Basses do not have pegs, so skip this step if your child is getting a bass. To check, **have the store associate** loosen and slightly remove the peg from the peg box located at the top of the instrument. At inspection, the wood of the peg should be smooth and not painted with black paint. The associate will put the peg back into the peg box. **PLEASE DO NOT HANDLE INSTRUMENT PEGS. If you are shopping online**, check the description box. If it doesn't say ebony, it isn't ebony.
- Instrument **fingerboard** is ebony, not just painted black. If you can't tell, ask the store associate. If the store associate doesn't know text me ASAP (850) 490-3259. I will call you back and talk you through the process. **If you are shopping online**, check the description box. If it doesn't say ebony, it isn't ebony.
- Fine tuners** (tuning gears for Bass) are in working order. This is a difficult thing to check for, so please make sure your store associate is knowledgeable. Your child will know what fine tuners/tuning gears are. There is one for each string. The screws/gears should not be stripped as that will make tuning IMPOSSIBLE. Blues Angel Music cellos are the main ones to check for – the A and D string fine tuners are stripped and usually inoperable. **If you are shopping online**, call or message an associate about instrument repair and insurance options. It is not right for you to pay for an instrument that may not work properly.
- A **label** with the manufacturer/maker is inside of the instrument. An instrument without a label cannot be fixed at repair stores – which is standard protocol. To check for a label, look inside of the instrument through the left cut out on the face of the instrument. There are two of them, known as f holes. You may need a light if the room lighting is poor. **If you are shopping online**, make sure a brand is listed. If you are unsure, call or message the company.

If you checked all of the above boxes, **you did it!** You have acquired a good quality instrument for your child to have a successful experience in Orchestra. 😊