

Brown-Barge Middle School

6th Grade Orchestra Supply List

Orchestra students must have ALL of their supplies by the second week of school!

Please consider giving a \$20 optional donation for the cost of music and classroom supplies.

Required supplies for every Orchestra student:

- One 3-ring, 2-inch binder for sheet music and classwork
- 20 sheet protectors
- 3-prong pencil bag/pouch for binder
- 5 pencils
- 2 highlighters (two light colors of your choice, purple and blue not recommended)
- tuner (a cell phone will NOT be acceptable) violin/viola cello
- bass
- polish cloth or microfiber cloth
- rosin
- folding or fixed music stand
- Practice Mute (Rubber or plastic) scan →



Most of the supplies below can be found at a local music store. Bring this form with you to the store and an associate will help you. Schmidt's Music offers FREE DELIVERY to our school if you cannot shop in person; their telephone number is (850) 434-0317. Ye Ole Fiddle Shop is another local store I recommend. If you are shopping at a store not listed above (Guitar Center, Blues Angel Music, etc.) please make sure you use the checklist on the back. You may also try Shar Music at www.sharmusic.com, but it isn't local (see the Orchestra Handbook for more store options).

Specific supplies for each instrument:

Violin This instrument should be rented/purchased from a local music store and transported to and from school every day.

Supplies: one extra SET of strings and a shoulder rest/sponge.

Book: Provided by Ms. Naffe

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: Rock Stop *with strap*, ONE extra D string, and ONE extra A string.

Book: Provided by Ms. Naffe

Bass This instrument is available for your child to use while at school. **You must rent/purchase one for home use and transport it to concerts.**

Supplies: German style bow (please do not get a French style bow)

Book: Provided by Ms. Naffe

Your child will not be happy or sound good on a poor-quality instrument... please remember this while you are shopping for an instrument. Think about how much your child will struggle every day on an instrument with parts that do not work properly or are not made correctly. **I play the violin professionally**, so I know what will make your child succeed easily! I am more experienced and knowledgeable than any retail personnel you will speak to, so make sure the instrument follows the standards below, which is the **bare minimum** for student-level quality. These may be different than what your 5th Grade Strings teacher accepted. All instruments from Schmidt's Music and Ye Ol' Fiddle Shoppe already meet or exceed these guidelines.

Quality Instrument Checklist: Check off each item as you inspect the instrument the associate is attempting to sell to you.

- BRING YOUR CHILD WITH YOU** - the student should be part of the instrument selection process.
- Instrument is a wood tone/color (not painted)
- Instrument comes with a **bow** and a **case**
- If getting a used instrument, the bow ***stick is straight*** after hair is tightened by the end screw. To check follow these steps:
 - Tighten the screw until hair is $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch away from the middle of the stick.
 - Set the bow on a flat surface, hair down on top of a table/counter.
 - 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 MANIPULATE INSTRUMENT PEGS BY YOURSELF. **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 can be a difficult thing to check for. Your child will know what fine tuners/tuning gears are. There is one for each string. The screws/gears should not be stripped - that will make tuning IMPOSSIBLE. Cellos not purchased from Schmidt's usually have problems with the A and D string fine tuners. They are often stripped and 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 does not work properly.**
- A **label** with the manufacturer/maker name is inside the instrument. An instrument without a label cannot be fixed at local stores – which is standard protocol. To check for a label, look inside of the instrument through the cut-outs on the face of the instrument. 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 email 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 the best start to a successful year in Orchestra. ☐

If you are struggling or need help, I will meet with you and help you pick one out. My cell is (850)490-3259.