

**Wappingers Central School District
James S. Evans Elementary School**

5th Grade String Orchestra Guidelines

Ms. García
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*Music is all around us.
Music is in all of us.
Music is universal.*

Music is one of the best ways for a person of any age to communicate with others, to express emotions and feelings. Musical instruments are an extension of our bodies: they help us create musical sounds of different kinds. Music ensembles allow an individual to become part of a team, with the purpose of creating music together. Each ensemble member has a unique talent or responsibility to bring to the team, and it takes a variety of members to make the team succeed. **Welcome to the Evans Elementary String Orchestra program! I am glad you are on the team!**

How do lessons work?

Each student will be assigned to a lesson group. Each lesson group meets for forty minutes once in a six-day schedule. In addition, all string players meet together once in a six-day schedule for String Orchestra rehearsal.

Day 1	2:25 – 3:05	5 th Grade Orchestra Rehearsal
Day 2	12:25 – 1:05	Violin Lesson Group
Day 5	12:25 – 1:05	Viola Lesson Group
Day 6	9:30 – 10:10	Cello/Bass Lesson Group

What should you bring to lessons and rehearsals?

Students are expected to come prepared for a lesson. The following materials are required at every lesson:

Instrument and bow

Shoulder Pad – It helps a player maintain good posture.

Rosin – It is essential for the bow.

Extra Set of Strings – Strings will break with normal wear and it is impossible to play without all the strings!

Lesson book: *Essential Elements for Strings*, Book 1

Practice record sheet, signed weekly by a parent

What is a practice record sheet?

Each student is expected to practice the instrument at home for at least twenty minutes a day, six times between lessons. A practice record sheet is used to make sure that each student is practicing. It must be signed by a parent each week and is part of the lesson grade. Students will receive practice sheets during lessons or rehearsals.

Lesson and Rehearsal Expectations

Each student is expected to follow these rules during lessons and rehearsals:

Be responsible! Be respectful! Be safe!

1. Come to lessons and rehearsals with all your materials.
2. Play your instrument only when the teacher says it is your turn.
3. Listen quietly when someone else is speaking.
4. Raise your hand, and wait to be called by the teacher, if you have a question or comment.
5. Positive comments and compliments are encouraged; “put-downs” will not be tolerated.

Concerts

There will be two performances during the school year, starting at 7:00 p.m.

- Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at Evans Elementary Cafeteria
(Snow date: Tuesday, January 28, 2020)
- Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at Wappingers Junior High School

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the 5th Grade String Orchestra program, please contact me by phone 298-5240 or by e-mail at Carmen.Garcia@wcsdny.org. I look forward to working with you and making the Evans Strings Orchestra a great team of musicians!

Sincerely,

Carmen S. García,
Orchestra teacher

Homerroom: _____ Student name: _____

Evans Elementary 5th Grade Orchestra

Return this page to Ms. García by Friday, September 13, 2019 (Day 1).

I have read the String Orchestra Guidelines and understand the rules and expectations required to participate in the Evans Elementary String Orchestra.

Student signature

Parent/Guardian signature

Phone #

Date