

SJMS Orchestra Disclosure 2020-2021

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Classroom: Portable 6

NEW THIS YEAR!

COVID-19 SAFETY PRACTICES

The district has designated all performance classes as “High Risk”. Therefore we are mandated to take extra precautions to help mitigate transfer of the virus.

Our Safety Practices Summarized include:

- 6 foot distancing when possible and increased distance between students’ chairs
- Temperatures checks when entering the room
- No sharing of music stands, music folders, and pencils
- Sanitation of shared Cellos and Basses
- Maximised airflow

To see the our safety precautions in detail, click [ORCHESTRA COVID-19 SAFETY PRACTICES](#)

FRIDAYS ARE NOT A DAY OFF

- Teachers will assign Friday coursework @ approx. 30 min. per class.
- **Fridays are reserved for in-person, individual help sessions.** My students will make appointments online via Canvas. If a student shows up without an appointment, I will *attempt* to make that happen.
- **Friday Session Times and Afternoon Teacher duties:**
Session 1 (10:20-10:45), 2 (10:50-11:15), 3 (11:20-11:45), and 4 (11:50-12:15) - Lunch from 12:15-12:45. 12:45-3:20 is reserved for Virtual teacher-student intervention/teacher collaboration, online preparation, and professional development.

ORCHESTRA MEETS CANVAS!

- **We will use CANVAS a lot!** I completed the *Beginning Canvas for Instructors* class this summer. I will teach you the skills you need for this class. No worries!
- **Example:** You will make videos in Canvas of your playing. It’s super easy, and you’ll like being able to redo your videos and decide which one you want to send to me.

ORCHESTRA TUTORING

I will set a regular day and time for weekly Orchestra Tutoring. Students will sign up to attend tutoring online in Canvas.

CONCERTS/PERFORMANCES

- **Video Performances:** Our Winter Concert will consist of videos which you can share with others. **IMPORTANT: I need techy parent volunteers to video our concert pieces performances. Interested parents PLEASE contact me via email.**
- **Cancelled Performances:** District Assessments, Honors Orchestra, and the Beehive Homes Tours.

- An in-person Spring Concert *might* happen if the COVID pandemic is over.

NUTS AND BOLTS

1. Citizenship Grade will strictly adhere to the school wide disclosure. (See: **School Wide Disclosure**).
2. Academic Grade
 - a. **Schoolwide Grading Categories: 80% Assessment and 20% Practice** (This is new!)
 - b. Etiquette is an ongoing assignment based on specific behaviors. It is graded and is reflected quarterly in academic grades. Etiquette basically refers to rehearsal preparedness and behavior. Students are graded on how well they meet the requirements of their roles in the ensemble. All students must also demonstrate professional behaviors. (See: Orchestras: Expectations of Students).
 - c. **Skill Tests:** Use the Record Media button in CANVAS - *it's easy!*
 - d. **Practicing:** Minimum practice time is 2.5 hours per week. Ideally, students need 7 hours per week, and weekly Private Lessons from professional teachers.
 - e. **Performances:** Our Winter Concert videos will be published online. Honors Orchestra, Beehive Homes, and District Assessments are cancelled. A Spring Concert might happen if conditions are safe.
3. Instruments
 - a. Violinists and Violists usually typically use their own instruments, though I do have a few Violins and Violas on our school orchestra instrument inventory available for rent.
 - b. Cellists and Bassists typically own one for home use and rent one of ours to use at school, so they do not have to transport them back and forth to and from school daily.
 - c. SJMS Instrument Rental Fees: \$80.00 (school year)/\$40.00 (summer). Students must present receipts before their school-owned instruments are issued.
 - d. Receipts: Students can either print receipts from Family Access or have the office print a receipt when they pay.
4. **Shoulder Rests:** All Violinists/Violists are required to have and to use shoulder rests. I do not allow the use of Foam/Sponge shoulder rests, except in rare instances. Common brands of Shoulder Rests I like include: Christino (Bevels back and forth to conform to shoulder angle.); Everest (Non-notation, feet do not collapse, most comfortable cushion.). I no longer recommend Kun shoulder rests (Full rotation with collapsible feet.) because the feet break easily.
5. Rosin: All students supply their own rosin.
6. **Strings on privately owned instruments:** Students who use their own instruments provide their own strings. All Violin, Viola, and Cello players need an extra set of strings for emergency breakages.
7. **Strings on School-owned rented instruments:** I will replace supply strings of those instruments.
8. **Books:**
 - a. Orchestra I students purchase two books: "Sound Innovations for String Orchestra", books 1 & 2 (Approximately \$9.00 per book). Publisher: Alfred
 - b. Orchestra II students purchase one book: "Sound Innovations for String Orchestra", book 2 only (Cost \$9.00 per book). Publisher: Alfred
9. **Performance Attire:**
 - a. Orchestra III: Concert Black performance attire for formal performances (e.g. Winter Concert and District Festival):
 - i. Ladies: Black dress and shoes. Cellists may wear black slacks.
 - ii. Gentleman: A black suit, white collared shirt, and tie. Shined black shoes.

- b. Orchestras I and II wear “ best dress”, but not formal. A variety of colors are fine.
 - i. Ladies: Dresses, dressy tops, skirts or dress slacks. Nice shoes, preferably polished. No athleisure, logos, rips, sneakers, etc.
 - ii. Gentlemen: Collared button-down shirt, tie, dress slacks, dress shoes. No athleisure, logos, rips, sneakers, etc.

10. Fines

- a. **School Property, namely Instruments and Equipment:** Students are fined for negligent damages and loss of school-owned property, such as: instruments, sheet music, instrument racks, etc. Fine amounts for *non-sheet music* items are set at current replacement costs.
- b. **Sheet Music and Books:** Severely damaged and lost Orchestra music rates are set at: \$5.00 per piece and \$12.00 per book.

Anyway, that’s enough for now. I’m tired and you are probably reeeeeee-ally bored from reading this stuff. More information will come late. For now, please provide your Student and Parent Electronic Signatures (See below the line.)

ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES: Please click the link below to electronically sign this document, verifying that you have read it in its entirety and is understood. THANKS YOU!

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