

 September 2018

Dear 4th Grade Orchestra Parents/Guardians and Students,

Welcome back to another great year at Tamarac! I cannot wait to work with our children and help them start their journey into instrumental music. 4th grade students are eligible to rent an instrument through the district free of charge. I will fit students properly with their instrument during their first group lesson and send them home with a rental contract. As soon as I receive the signed rental contract, your child may bring their instrument home. Violins and Violas will receive one instrument to carry to and from school. Basses and Cellos will receive an instrument to stay at home and one in school.

Student will begin their instruction in a small group setting. Students will have a group lesson once a week, and will be on a rotating schedule to ensure that they will not miss a specific subject area frequently. Please make sure to have a music folder, rosin, and Essential Elements book 1 for their instrument by the 1st lesson. ***4th Grade lessons begin the week of 9/24.***

4th Grade Orchestra students do not begin early morning rehearsals until February. You will receive more information regarding this later in the year.

Please check out the orchestra website for all documents and lesson schedules: tamaracorchestra.weebly.com. All of the required forms will be there if you need a second copy. There is also information on NYSSMA Major festival and NYSSMA Solo festival.

* Insurance form **Sign & Return**
* Extended Day Program (starting in February) **Sign & Return**
* Permission Slip Form **Sign & Return**
* Tamarac Instrumental Music Program Participation Contract **Sign & Return**
* Remind App Instructions
* Rental Contract Information
* Supplies List
* Area Music Stores List

Feel free to check the orchestra website often for any updates.

If you have any further questions that were not answered on the website, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am greatly looking forward to teaching your child all music has to offer them!

Sincerely,

Mr. McGlone

Bmcglone@sachem.edu

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**Shopping List**

FOR BEGINNER STUDENTS

**BY THE 1ST LESSON ALL 4TH GRADE STRING MEMBERS MUST GET:**

* ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS FOR STRINGS BOOK 1
* A pocket folder
* A pencil
* Rosin (this is used to make the bow produce a sound on the instrument)
* **For cello or Bass:** a rock stop OR end pin anchor. (this holds the instrument in place and will prevent it from slipping or damaging floors)

**For violin or viola: Please purchase a** SHOULDER REST within 2 weeks of receiving your instrument. This item is fitted to size of the instrument. It will be easier to purchase when you have an instrument.

\*\*\*OPTIONAL\*\*\* a folding music stand for home