

Mrs. Kimberly Pfeiffer

Director of Strings

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Craig Ryan, Principal

5th Grade Strings—Tuesday, Thursday and scheduled Fridays

6th Grade Strings—Monday, Wednesday and scheduled Fridays



**Challenger
Orchestra
Handbook
2018-2019**

INSTRUMENTS

Each student must have an appropriate sized instrument (violin, viola, cello or bass) and purchase the required music textbooks and supplies in order to participate in the 5th and 6th grade orchestra program. The school district owns a few violas, cellos, basses. These instruments are loaned free of charge, with priority given to students who used the instrument in prior years and continue commitment to the program, then to new students on a first sign up basis. Students may not always get their first choice of instruments when requesting a school owned instrument. In addition, school owned instruments must be maintained by the student, including all repair costs, i.e. replacing broken strings, bridges, bows and damaged cases beyond normal wear and tear, etc.

INSTRUMENT DISPLAY NIGHT

Fifth grade beginning orchestra students and parents should plan on attending the instrumental music display night:

Tuesday, August 21, 2018

4:00-7:00 PM

(Come and Go)

I will be available during this time to answer additional questions about the orchestra program.

We will also have several instrument vendors on site to provide instrument rental/purchase along with all the other required materials. Returning students are encouraged to come and purchase books and supplies for the current year as well.

Please use extreme caution if buying an instrument secondhand, from a discount store or off the internet.

These instruments may not be the right size for your child, could be made of substandard materials, or may have other problems such lack of ability to tune or stay in tune or poor quality of sound. Inferior instruments are very difficult to play and could prove to be very frustrating for a beginning student.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

INSTRUMENT

Violin: 1/2, 3/4 or 4/4

Viola: 13", 14" or 15"

Cello: 1/2, 3/4 or 4/4

Bass: School owned 1/4, 1/2 or 3/4

Correct size to be determined by the instructor or music store personnel.

SUPPLIES

1" 3-Ring Notebook

Pencil with Eraser

Rosin

Shoulder Rest for violin/viola

Rock Stop for cello/bass

Replacement Strings

- E & A for Violin
- A & D for Viola

Music Stand for Home Practice and Concerts

BOOKS

5th Grade—

String Basics Book 1 and

Basic Music Theory and History for Strings

6th Grade—

String Basics Book 1

String Basics Book 2 (New)

CONCERT ATTIRE

Boys: White long-sleeve, button up shirt, black dress pants (no jeans), black socks, black dress shoes (no sandals or tennis shoes)

Girls: White blouse (appropriate under-garments -white cami, tank top or undershirt), black dress pants (no skirts, capris or jeans)

There will also be a instrumental music t-shirt available for purchase as part of the informal concerts attire. They are optional but encouraged.

GRADING

Grading System:

- 100-Weekly Rehearsal Grades,
(Prompt, Prepared with Instrument and Supplies, Productive)
- 100-Performances/Informances
- *As Assigned-Worksheets, Theory Workbook, Homework, Written Work, Practice and Playing Tests

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. Come in the room quietly and quickly-2 min to get instruments out and be seated.
2. Go directly to get out instrument and binder, do not bother others, be aware of personal space. Keep cases latched and in the assigned storage area.
3. Get to your assigned seat and prepare for class
NO PLAYING PLEASE (*rosin bows*)
4. Have pencil on stand and warm-up book open, complete board work
5. Classroom Behaviors
 - Follow the social contract created and signed by all members of the group
 - Remain quiet during tuning, students are refining their ears and learning to memorize pitch
 - Raise your hand to speak, listen when others are speaking
 - Play only when instructed
 - Use a pencil to make suggested marks in your music
 - Be respectful to all learners
 - Participate in all activities, give 110% effort
7. At the end of each rehearsal, properly store equipment, music, chairs and stands, then move quietly back to the classroom

Consequences

1. Warning
2. Student/Teacher Conference
3. Parent Phone Call
4. Office Referral

NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the Challenger School String Orchestra Program. I am very excited to begin another year with these amazing students and families.

This syllabus contains policies, procedures, and other important information regarding the Challenger String Orchestra Program. Please take the time to read all of the material, so that we may work toward common goals and the success of all students.

Feel free to contact me throughout the year if you have any questions. I appreciate your support and look forward to a fun, productive year!

Please mark your calendars with the concert dates for the year. All students are required to attend the concerts and informances. Only extreme illness, family death, etc. will be excused. Missing a performance will greatly affect a student's grade. The students in orchestra work very hard during the year and we love to show off our new skills to our parents, families and friends.

Please be sure to sign the orchestra agreement on the back page and return it to Mrs. Pfeiffer by Friday, September 24, 2018.

Sincerely,

Kim Pfeiffer

Challenger, GMS, GHS Director of Strings

CHALLENGER CALENDAR 2018-2019

5th Grade Strings—Tuesday, Thursday and Assigned Fridays

6th Grade Strings—Monday, Wednesday and Assigned Fridays

Concert performances are an important part of the instrumental music learning process and are required as part of the grade for orchestra class. Please make arrangements for students to be at performances, on time and in proper attire. They will be super excited to show off their newly learned skills.

<u>Dates to Remember</u>			<u>Concert Dates</u>
August 21—Instrument Display Night, 4-7 PM			October 4—5th Grade Informances (Time TBA)
Aug 22—6th Grade Bring Instruments			Dec 8-Wichita Symphony Concert “Wizard of Oz” *optional and will cost \$\$
Sept 7—All students must have ALL required supplies			December 13—6th Grade 7:00 PM @ GMS (6:00 report time)
Sept 24—All student info. sheets due/student CHARMS updated			December 14—Holiday Tour 6th Grade (by audition)
<u>Friday Schedule</u>	<u>5th</u>	<u>6th</u>	Dec Date/Time TBA-5th Grade Holiday Showcase
August	17, 31	24	April 30—Mass Strings Concert @ GHS 7:00 PM (6:00 report)
September	14, 28	7, 21	
October	12	5, 26	
November	9, 30	2, 16	
December		7, 21	
January	18	11, 25	
February	1, 15	8	
March	8	1, 22	
April	12	5, 26	
May	3	10	

*All Dates Subject to Change

WELCOME FROM THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC BOOSTERS!

Any parent of students in band or orchestra at Challenger, GMS, or GHS is a member of the Goddard Instrumental Music Boosters or GIMB. We welcome your attendance and participation and would like you to take part in your student’s instrumental music experience.

The Boosters help the instrumental music directors with fundraising, apparel, uniforms, food and drink, band camp, orchestra camp, color guard, football games, marching competitions, and chaperoning trips, to mention just a few. We always need extra help and Committee Chairpersons. Our goal is to build and maintain a team of parents, students and staff who will enthusiastically promote the activities of the Goddard Music Department. These groups include band and orchestras at Challenger, Goddard Middle School and Goddard High School. We believe music is something anyone can pursue and it should be fun, educational and memorable.

Please feel free to contact GIMB Presidents **Terri Costin and Jill Fleming at gimb.president@gmail.com** if you would like to help or we can answer any questions. Our weekly e-newsletter is a great way to stay informed of upcoming events. If you are not currently receiving a copy of the newsletter, please email **gimb.newsletter@gmail.com** to get signed up.

***Meeting Dates: Aug. 28, Sept. 25, Oct. 30, Nov. 27, Jan. 29, Feb. 26, Mar. 26, Apr. 23
6:30 P.M., GHS INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC ROOM***

***Scheduled Fundraisers: Nov 8-Quartermania, Nov-Holiday Wreaths,
Mar 3-Mattress Fundraiser, Apr-Spring Plants
Check the GIMB Facebook page for more fundraising opportunities***

STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET/ORCHESTRA AGREEMENT FORM 2018-2019

Please Print:

Student Last Name	Student First Name	Grade Level
Instrument:	Instrument Size:	Instrument Brand/Model:
Instrument Serial Number:	School Owned Instrument: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	If no, purchased or rented from which music store: <input type="checkbox"/> Damm Music Center <input type="checkbox"/> Senseney Music <input type="checkbox"/> Wichita Band And Strings <input type="checkbox"/> McHugh Violins Other _____

CHARMS DIRECTIONS:

- Log on to www.charmsoffice.com, and click “ENTER / LOG IN” in the upper right corner.
- Locate the “PARENT/STUDENT/MEMBERS LOGIN” section of the web page.
Login to your student’s program account using the following School Code:

goddardmusic (no capital)

- This will bring up the main “Public” page. This will allow you to look at the “public” calendar for your organization, event list, and handouts and other “publicly shared” files, as well as a few other options.
- The first time you go here, enter your child’s ID NUMBER (provided by your Director) into the **Student Area Password** field. You will be directed to the Change Password screen, to set a personal password different from the ID, for future use. You may also be directed to create both a unique Username and Password for the student. There are also mechanisms to recover/reset a lost Username/Password – when you create your new password, create a “hint” as well.
- Whenever you enter using this Username/password, another more detailed screen appears, with various button options for you to access areas in the Charms account. What appears here is partially up to the Account Administrator or Head Director.
- Two areas in which you can help the director/administrator maintain his/her records:
 - **Update Personal Information** – if the director has allowed it, you may help make changes to your and your child’s student information page (such as updating phone numbers / cell carriers and email addresses if they change) to help them communicate with you more effectively. You may also be able to indicate which parent volunteer/resource groups you would like to participate in, if this feature is activated. Click **Update Info** to save changes.
 - The **Calendar** may list events, rehearsals, and volunteer/RSVP opportunities.

You can also download the Charms App to your smartphone – search your App Store for “Charms Parent/Student Portal” (or “Charms Blue”). It’s the way to stay in touch on the go!

Please Sign and Date this page and return to class by **September 24, 2018**, verifying that you have received and read a copy of the orchestra handbook/syllabus and further that you acknowledge the expectations of this class and will help your child abide by them. Orchestra is a graded class and will be reported on the student’s grade card. For school owned instruments, you are agreeing to purchase the necessary supplies (rosin, rock-stop, books, shoulder rest, etc.) and keep the instrument in working condition (bridge, strings, bow, etc.). Finally, you are acknowledging that you have logged into your CHARMS account and updated all emails, phone numbers, addresses and other important information. (5th Grade Charms will not be available until all students are enrolled in orchestra, around August 31st, thanks for your patience!)

Parent Signature _____

Date _____