



# WELCOME BACK, ORCHESTRA!

Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to Creekside music! Please read through the following information, as it contains important dates and details for the school year. Please also make sure you add the performance dates to your home calendar. If you have any questions regarding the information contained here, feel free to contact us!

Sincerely,

Matt Deloria  
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## Performance Dates

- 6th Grade All Music Concert – Tuesday, December 10, 7:00pm in the CPA at Dexter HS
  - o Students should arrive at 6:30pm dressed in their concert attire
- 5th Grade Music Assembly – Thursday, December 12, 1:30pm in the Creekside gym
  - o Students *do not* need to wear their concert attire to this at-school assembly – and parents are welcome to attend!
- All Orchestra Concert – Tuesday, March 17, 7:00pm in the CPA at Dexter HS
  - o Students should arrive at 6:30pm dressed in their concert attire
- Creekside Spring Concert – Tuesday, May 12, 7:00pm in the CPA at Dexter HS
  - o Students should arrive at 6:20pm dressed in their concert attire

## Concert Attire

Black on bottom, white on top.

**As performances are a formal occasion, we ask that students do their best to refrain from wearing jeans or flip-flops. Also, please no spaghetti-strap tank tops, and skirts/dresses must be at least knee-length when seated. If it would not be appropriate to wear during the school day, it would not be appropriate to wear at a concert.**

*If you have difficulty obtaining these garments, please notify Mr. Deloria or Mrs. Campbell for assistance.*



### **5th Grade Orchestra Book**

In 5th grade orchestra, we will be using Essential Elements 2000 For Strings, Book 1. If you are renting from Marshall Music or Shar, this should be part of your rental cost. You can also purchase this book on your own (from places like Music Go Round, Amazon, etc.), or you can purchase one from us for \$10. Checks payable to Dexter Schools with the student name in the memo line, please.

### **6th Grade Orchestra Book**

In continuing with our progression from last year, we will be using Essential Elements 2000 For Strings, Book 2 in orchestra this year. You can purchase this book on your own (from places like Shar, Marshall Music, or even Amazon), or you can purchase one from us for \$10. Checks payable to Dexter schools with the student name in the memo line, please.

### **School Equipment**

The school supplies our orchestras with instruments that students will have access to that are only to be used during class unless otherwise directed by Mr. Deloria or Mrs. Campbell. At the beginning of the year, cello and bass students may be assigned to a specific instrument to be used in class in order to better keep track of the instruments. Careless handling of school equipment will not be tolerated, and repairs or replacement costs for damaged equipment will be charged to the offending student(s) if purposeful damage has been done. *Treat classroom instruments with the same respect you show your own instruments.*

### **At Home Practice**

All students are expected to practice their instrument approximately 20-30 minutes 4-5 days a week as a minimum. The more you practice, the more your technique will improve and the more you will be able to accomplish on your instrument. Practicing orchestra music at home also allows our ensemble to accomplish more in class. Practice logs will be used throughout the year to document student practice time and content, asking the student to reflect on their practice habits. Parents, please encourage your student to practice at home – you are their best cheerleader 😊

### **Dexter Music Boosters**

Parent involvement is integral to the success of our program, and the support is greatly appreciated. The Dexter Orchestra Booster meetings take place at 6:00 p.m. in the high school library on the first Tuesday of every month. Please contact Mrs. Campbell or Mr. Deloria if you are interested in joining us, we'd love to have you on board!

### **Private Lessons**

All students are strongly encouraged to take private lessons on their instrument(s) outside of orchestra class. Private lessons are the perfect way to improve your technique, build on skills learned in class, and gain more experience in solo playing. Please refer to the online Dexter Orchestra site ([dexterorchestras.org](http://dexterorchestras.org)) for a list of private lesson teachers, or talk to Mrs. Campbell or Mr. Deloria for further assistance.

Here's to another great year in orchestra!