

# River Trail Middle School

## Welcome to Orchestra!

### Cello and Bass

I would like to welcome the families of students to the River Trail MS Orchestra program! This information sheet is a list of daily class items students will need, and information about renting/purchasing instruments. Cello and Bass students will be measured for the correct instrument size during class and will have a form they will fill out to take home with their instrument size written down. **All Cello and Bass students will have a school instrument they will use during class.**

*\*Due Dates listed below are for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students will need to have all materials by the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of school*

#### Classroom Materials (Due in class August 12)

- 1-inch, 3-ring "hardcover" binder (any color)
- Several sheets of Notebook paper
- Mechanical Pencil

#### Instrument Materials (Due in class, August 26)

- Rockstop
- Soft Cleaning Cloth-any piece of soft cloth about 8x10inches or larger (old T-shirt material)
- Rosin
  - Cello Players: Any dark rosin
  - Bass Players: "Pops" Brand Rosin (red plastic container)

#### Instruments

All Cello and Bass students will be assigned a school instrument to use during class. Students and parents must sign the instrument usage form/agreement before using the classroom instruments. **Parents may also request a cello/bass to rent for home use on the bottom of the same form.**

### Music Stores

Parents may find the names and locations of violin makers and music stores in the North Atlanta area on the RTMS Orchestra website at:

<http://rtmsorchestra.com/musicstores/>

*\*some materials may be purchased online through vendors like Amazon, however please be aware of Shipping and Arrival dates, and shipping upcharges (even if Prime)*

### Instrument

When getting instrument, all instrument "outfits" comes with the following items

- Instrument with chinrest, four strings, and four fine tuners
- Bow
- Case

### Orchestra Materials

The items below are often purchased separately from the instrument. These items are essential for the student to play on their instrument.

#### • Rosin

Rosin is used on the bow to provide friction between the bow hairs and string for the instrument to make a sound. This is an item students will use daily in class. A basic, block type rosin (rosin encased in a block of wood, usually \$4-8) is sufficient for student model instrument. Higher quality rosin, usually \$15 or more, will make no difference in the sound on a student model instrument.

#### • Cleaning Cloth

Cleaning Cloth is used for students to wipe down the instrument and bow after use in class every day. This is needed for wiping down rosin dust and oils from student hands off the wood.

#### • Rockstop/SlipStop

This piece of equipment is essential as it prevents the endpin of the cello/bass from slipping on the ground.

#### • Pencil pouch for 3-ring binders (optional)

Students may use the pencil pouch designed to be in a 3-ring binder to keep their rockstop, rosin, and cloth with their orchestra music.

### General Orchestra Instrument Procedures

#### • Assigned Classroom Instruments

During the first few weeks of school, all cello and bass students will be assigned to a specific cello/bass instrument they will use during class. Students may not use other instruments unless given permission from Mr. Liu.

#### • Classroom Instrument Usage Agreement

All Cello and Bass students will need to have the Cello/Bass Instrument Usage Agreement form signed by their parents to use the classroom instruments. Classroom instruments are shared across all orchestra classes, and it is the responsibility of students to take proper care to ensure an instrument's longevity.

#### • Cello/Bass Instrument Checkout for Home

Cello and Bass students may request on the "Cello/Bass Instrument Usage Agreement" for a Cello/Bass instrument to be checked out for home use. Mr. Liu will contact parents through the email on the form to arrange pickup of the cello/bass instrument from River Trail MS. Please note that we have a limited number of cello instruments available for checkout for home use. Cello and Bass students have the option to come and practice in the morning between 8:15AM to 8:40AM.