

Chandler Traditional Academy Liberty Orchestra Information



Dear Orchestra Students, Parents, and Guardians,

Welcome to the Chandler School District Orchestra Program! Learning to play a musical instrument is an exciting academic discipline that can provide lifelong enjoyment. To maximize the quality of your experience, please become familiar with the following information.

Orchestra is a unique commitment that involves a sense of community. The success of the entire group depends on individual commitment and participation. I recommend that you encourage your student in their musical journey. Parent involvement creates a more valuable education for students. Participating in orchestra is an experience that the students will remember for the rest of their lives.

This handbook describes an outline of policies, procedures, goals, and expectations necessary in order to be successful and have an enjoyable experience in orchestra. It is very important that every parent and student read this entire guide. After reading and reviewing the entire syllabus with your child, please fill out the last page and return to me by the next class meeting.

To help the orchestra program have a great start, students will need to bring instruments, books, and materials to class as soon as possible.

I am looking forward to teaching orchestra and working with you this year!

"It is our job, as parents, educators, and friends, to see that our young people have the opportunity to attain the thorough education that will prepare them for the future. Much of that education takes place in the classroom. We must encourage our youngsters in such pursuits as music education. In addition to learning the valuable lesson that it takes hard work to achieve success, no matter what the arena, music education can provide students with a strong sense of determination, improved communication skills, and a host of other qualities essential for successful living."

-Edward H Rensi

Sincerely,

Sarah Lawlor
lawlor.sarah@cusd80.com

When Does Orchestra Start?

Orchestra class will begin during the second week of school starting on July 30th. Orchestra is a before school commitment and starts at 7:00am.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Instruments

Each orchestra student is required to bring their own instrument to class. Instruments can be purchased or rented. It is very important that you rent or purchase a quality instrument from a reputable instrument dealer. It is a risk to purchase an instrument online or at a warehouse store. When purchasing or renting a violin, viola, or cello, please request an instrument with fine tuners already installed. Fine tuners will help your student to tune their strings more easily. Students will be required to purchase all necessary materials listed below to keep their instruments in good condition. If you would like a recommendation for a reputable instrument dealer, please send Miss Lawlor an e-mail.

The Chandler School District has a limited number of instruments some students may use. Students using school or district instruments are asked to pay a one-time **maintenance fee of \$40** for yearlong use of the instrument. The application for district instrument rental will be passed out to the students during the first week of school. Applications will be due on **Thursday July 26th**. Late applications will not be accepted. All students are to bring their instruments daily as soon as possible.

Equipment

- Violin, Viola, Cello, or Bass Instrument
- Cleaning Cloth or Rag
- Shoulder Rest or Sponge (violins and violas only)
- Rosin

Optional Materials

- Music stand
- Metronome
- Tuner
- Spare set of strings
- Rock stop or strap for cello and bass

Note: These optional items are for practice use at home.

PERFORMANCES

Participating in an orchestra concert is an exciting opportunity for students. Orchestra is a teamwork driven class and we perform best when If a conflict arises, please inform Miss Lawlor before the concert performance if possible. All students are required to arrive on time wearing their concert attire.

Performance Dates

The exact dates for the performances are to be announced as soon as possible once they are determined and scheduled with administration.

Concert Attire

Orchestra concerts are an important event. I would like for the students to look nice regardless of the location of the concerts. Students have more success when they dress up for concerts. It positively impacts their playing when they look nice. Attire should always follow school dress code guidelines.

Practice

Students are expected to practice a minimum of 4 to 6 days a week, for 10-25 minutes per day, as appropriate for their level. Insufficient practice impedes student progress and affects the capabilities of the orchestra ensemble as a whole.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. Be on time and be prepared
2. Respect yourself and those around you
3. Respect your equipment and the equipment around you
4. Students will demonstrate a positive attitude and a cooperative nature in the classroom environment.
Musical progress comes only from hard work.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Private lessons are highly encouraged at every level of musicianship. Private lessons give the student the opportunity to study once a week with a professional musician one on one. Lessons range from approximately \$15 to \$20 per half hour lesson and are worth far more than that to your child's musical growth! Ask your local music store for a list of teachers or e-mail Miss Lawlor.



Elementary Orchestra Membership Agreement Form

Students and Parents:

Please sign, date, and return this page to Miss Lawlor during the next orchestra class. By signing this contract, you acknowledge that you understand all of the orchestra responsibilities and performance requirements.

School: _____

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Emergency Contact Phone Number: _____

Parent E-mail Address: _____

Student Instrument: _____

Years of Experience: _____

Private Lessons: Yes No

My signature below indicates that I have read and understand the orchestra responsibilities and I will abide by all policies and procedures set forth within this document. I understand that in order to have a successful orchestra program, it is going to take the effort of everyone involved and I promise to do my part to achieve our goals this year.

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____

I have reviewed the orchestra information with my child and understand the commitment involved.

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____