Welcome to orchestra!

Welcome to string orchestra!

Your child has successfully signed up for orchestra classes for this coming school year. Congratulations!

Here are some useful pages on our class website:

- Orchestra FAQ https://www.string-samurai.com/orchestra-faq
- Supply list https://www.string-samurai.com/supply-list
  **check the pictures at bottom of this email for which versions of the EE book are okay*
- List of music stores https://www.string-samurai.com/localmusicstores

We'll start using instruments the second day of school, July 24th. Some students will still be signing up for class that first week, and if you're not sure yet what instrument you'd like to play, you can come to those first two classes to help decide. Just get an instrument as soon as you're able 😊.

If I currently have your instrument, then I'm working through them, getting them adjusted and applying fingertapes. I'll let you know when yours is available for pickup, or I'll have it ready to take home at our first classes.

If you've requested a school instrument, I'll let you know when they are available for checkout. I predict it'll be around July 30th.

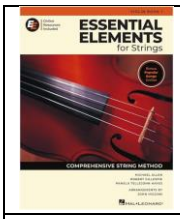
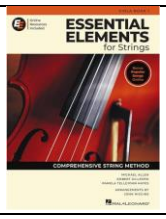
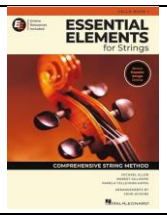
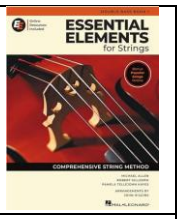
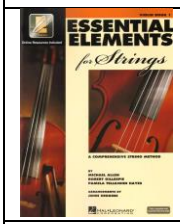
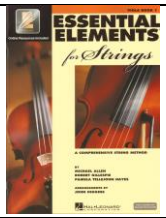
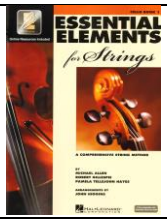
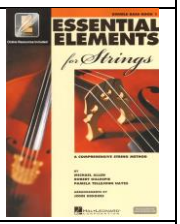
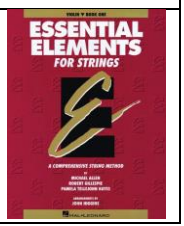
I'm eager to start classes! Our first class will be Thursday, July 23rd.

***ISO alert ("Instrument Shaped Object")***

Please do not buy an instrument online. Websites neglect to mention this, but string instruments do not come from the original luthier ready-to-play; rather, various components must be fitted after the wood acclimates to the local climate. Online purchases generally require several hundred dollars of additional work at a local luthier before they're ready. What's more, they often lack quality control, so even after having the instrument adjusted, it may retain an unpleasant tone. Many kids who receive such an instrument quit out of frustration in their first year. It is very much worthwhile to rent from a music store, where you can be assured of a quality instrument. Please, if you're in financial need and are contemplating an online instrument, consider requesting a district instrument instead. You'll be much happier for it!

*Last year, **Essential Elements** released a redesigned cover. All editions with a brown-yellow cover from 2000 or later are compatible, but avoid ye olde red-cover edition from the 1900s! Each instrument also has its own version of the book, so make sure to check the instrument listed in the top right corner. Amazon links are in blue.*

| **any of these covers are okay** |
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| new violin | new viola | new cello | new bass |
|  |  |  |  |
| old violin | old viola | old cello | old bass |
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| | | | ***too old!*** |
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Yours in partnership,