

Bryan Station Middle School Orchestra

2018-2019

Sarah Payne

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Orchestra Website:

www.stationstrings.com

- ❖ **Instruments:** Students rent or buy their instruments. Cellos and basses are available at school for students' use allowing cello and bass students to leave rented or owned instruments at home for practice. A few school-owned violins and violas are available as needed. Students that are renting a school-owned instrument will need to pay a yearly rental fee of \$25. Violin and viola players will need to purchase a quality shoulder rest.
- ❖ **Supplies:** There is a \$25 for all orchestra students. This fee will provide the students with their instruction book, sheet music, orchestra concert shirt, as well as supplies for the classroom such as emergency rosin and strings.
- ❖ **Repairs:** Students are responsible for maintaining their instrument. Students renting a school owned instrument should notify the director immediately if a repair is needed. If the instrument was damaged due to negligence, the student will be responsible for the cost of the repair. Minor repairs (i.e. new strings, fallen bridge, etc.) can be fixed by the director. Major repairs must be taken to a local music store.
- ❖ **Make up Policy:** Students are responsible to ask the teacher what material was covered during the absence, what material needs to be turned in, and the amount of time allowed.
- ❖ **Concert Uniform Policy:** Students need the following:
 - Plain, black dress pants (no black jeans, tights, jeggings, or skirts)
 - Black dress shoes (black socks if wearing them)
 - Orchestra shirt – provided to you
- ❖ **Grading Policy:**
 - **Formative Assessment – 60%**
 - Class Participation/Preparation – 20%
 - This includes having instrument, pencils, paperwork, being musically prepared, having correct nail length and staying on task.
 - Playing Quizzes – 20%
 - Will be based on material covered in the method book or sheet music.
 - Playing quizzes will be at least once a week every Monday
 - Practice Points – 20%
 - Students need 100 points each quarter. Students may earn practice points by:

- ◆ 50 points each: CKYO Member, FIM Member, Private Lessons, Distinguished Rating at Solo & Ensemble, Honors Orchestra Member, 50-Minute before school practice session
- ◆ 25 points each: Proficient Rating at Solo & Ensemble, Honors Orchestra Audition, Practice Log, 25-Minute Before School Practice Session
- ◆ Practice Logs are picked up and turned in on the back wall of the classroom; they are checked every Friday
- ◆ Every Monday and Wednesday from 8-8:50am students may come and practice for 25 or 50 minutes in the orchestra room.
- Music Theory and Rhythms – 10%
 - Music Theory is the “nuts and bolts” of reading and writing music. Students will be given appropriate assessments of their music literacy knowledge in the form of worksheets, quizzes and other activities.
- **Summative Assessment – 40%**
 - Attendance at performances – 30%
 - It is imperative that all students of the orchestra be present for all performances. If the student is ill, or there is a family emergency, Mrs. Payne must be notified ASAP.
 - ◆ Excused absences: Illness, Family Emergency
 - Students will be required to be in attendance for the entire performance; any scheduling conflicts must be arranged with Mrs. Payne in advance.
 - Music Theory Tests – 10%
 - Following each unit, students will have a summative test on their Music Theory and Rhythms.

❖ **Performance Dates:**

October TBA	Fall Concert	@BSMS	6:30pm, report 6pm
December TBA	Chamber Concert	@BSMS	6:30pm, report 6pm
March TBA	Festival Concert	@BSHS	6:30pm, report 6pm
May TBA	Disney in Concert	@BSMS	6:30pm, report 6pm

*Immediately following the concert will be an award ceremony and reception for all orchestra students and their families.

Please be aware that Mrs. Payne has A LOT to do prior to concerts. Therefore, it is requested that you only stay after-school the day of the concert if you have transportation problems. **A guardian MUST contact Mrs. Payne 24 hours in advance if you need to stay after-school.** If contact is not received the day before (unless it is an emergency) students will have to stay with an administrator. Thank you for being respectful of this request.

❖ **Classroom Rules/Expectations**

- Be in the room when the bell rings.
 - You will be marked “Tardy” if you are not in the room when the bell rings.
- Be seated with all materials (instrument, music, pencil) when the timer (2 minutes after the bell) sounds.
 - You will lose points from your participation grade if you are not in your seat.
- Remain quiet during tuning.
- Participate in all class activities.
- Respect yourself, others and the instruments.
- Mark corrections in your music and follow your part while other sections rehearse.
- No gum, food, or drinks are allowed in the orchestra room.
- Fingernails should be kept the appropriate length for playing your instrument. To determine if a student's fingernails are too long, do the following: With a straight finger, firmly press the fingertip down on to the top of a table so that the finger is perpendicular to the table. If the fingertip can firmly press to the table without getting in the way, the nail is short enough. If the nail gets in the way, it is too long to play a stringed instrument properly. Wearing salon nails to orchestra is akin to wearing high heels to PE- don't do it. This will negatively affect your daily grade and could cause injuries to your fingers.

❖ **Consequences:**

- 1st offense – verbal warning, parent contact
- 2nd offense – lose daily grade points, parent contact
- 3rd offense – lose daily grade points, parent contact, office referral

❖ **Extra Help**

- * All students are encouraged to arrange a time before or after school with Mrs. Payne for individual help. This time counts as practice time for the day.
- * Private Lessons: Private lessons are the best way to advance more quickly on an instrument. If you are interested in more information about private instruction, please call or e-mail Mrs. Payne.
- * BSMS hosts the CKYO (Central Kentucky Youth Orchestras) Friends in Music program. Students who participate stay after-school every Wednesday and receive extra help and instruction on their instrument. Please contact Mrs. Payne for more information.

Bryan Station Middle Orchestra Participation Contract 2018-2019

Please fill out and return for a grade Due August 20th.

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

Instrument: _____

Agreement

As a member of the Bryan Station Middle Orchestra, I agree to abide by all of the rules as stated in the orchestra handbook and have marked the performance dates on my calendar.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

As a parent, I have read and discussed the rules and policies as stated in the orchestra handbook and have marked the performance dates on our calendar.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

With this form, please submit your \$25 orchestra fee; this fee is for all students, new or returning. Checks should be made out to BSMS Orchestra.

_____ Cash

_____ Check #

_____ FCPS Fee Waiver

Orchestra Concert Shirt Size:

_____ I am ordering a new shirt _____ I am trading for another size. My old size is _____

Circle your size:

_____ Youth L XL

_____ Adult XS S M L XL