

5th grade Beginning Strings Program

Ralph M. Williams, Jr. Elementary School

2016-2017 School Year

July, 2016

Dear Parents and Students,

We offer beginning instruction in *violin, viola, cello, and bass* for fifth grade students. Students will attend two classes a week. This year, 5th grade students will have a Friday "Orbit" activity (morning) that changes each 9 weeks. **Students must opt out of the Orbit schedule and choose to be in the "Beginning Strings Program" on their Friday "Orbit" day for the entire school year. In order to participate in the beginning strings program, they will also be required to attend Wednesday classes after school from 1:15-2:10 beginning Sept. 7, 2016.** These rehearsals are (basically 3 Wednesdays a month) held on Early Dismissal days – Except for 1 Wednesday a month (Those dates will be provided later) due to teacher meetings. Students are expected to attend both scheduled strings classes weekly. The Beginning Strings classes will meet:

Wednesdays (beginning Sept. 7, 2016) 1:15 – 2:10 And Fridays mornings (activity time)

This is a yearlong commitment.

If your child participates, please make a plan for students to either walk, bike, or be picked up at the car ramp at 2:10 p.m. on Wednesdays. **Wednesday after-school rehearsals begin September 7, 2016.**

Although the classes are free, students will need an instrument for class. If you don't own an instrument, we have a limited number of instruments available for rental at the cost of **\$50 per year (\$25 per semester)**. Checks should be made payable to Williams Elementary. **The fee is due by Sept. 2, 2016**, but since there is a limited supply of instruments, it would be best to send in the fee as soon as possible. Students will be assigned an instrument. Although student/parent preference is valuable, some assignments may be influenced by body type and available instruments. It may not be your 1st choice. If you turn in the fee and no more school instruments are available to rent, the fee will be returned to you. At that time I can give you information on renting or purchasing an instrument from a local music store or online source. The purchase of a practice book at a local or online store is also required and information regarding the book will be sent home at a later date.

Instruction on an instrument is a wonderful opportunity and I am pleased we can offer it at this level. We will have a string specialist assist with some classes. We look forward to working with fifth grade students who want to learn how to play a stringed instrument. We will have a great time together!

Sincerely,

Mr. Kurowski

Music Teacher

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Student Name (print) _____ Date _____ (for 2016-17 school year)

Classroom Teacher _____ Parent Email- _____

Preferred Instrument _____ **Mark X for Instrument:** **I will RENT it,** OR **I Own it.**
My child has permission to participate in the Beginning Strings class. I understand there is a rental fee of \$50 per year (\$25 per semester) for school instruments each semester and that this is a yearlong commitment. I also understand that my child will be expected to attend all rehearsals and concerts unless absent from school.

Beginning Sept. 7th- on Wednesdays 2:10 dismissal (circle): SACC Walker Biker Car rider

Parent Name –print _____ Phone _____

Parent Signature _____ Alternate Phone _____

6th grade Intermediate Strings classes

**only for students that have successfully completed the beginning strings program

Ralph M. Williams, Jr. Elementary School

2016-2017 School Year

July, 2016

Dear Parents and Students,

I hope you are interested in staying in the strings program. Students will come to two classes per week. This year, 6th grade students will be offered "Orbit" activity on Friday during their regular activity time. Orbit activity will change each nine weeks between Media, Art/Science, and Physical Education. **Students may opt out of the Orbit schedule and choose to be in the "Intermediate Strings Program" on their Friday "Orbit" day for the entire school year. In order to participate in the intermediate strings program, they will also be required to attend Tuesday classes (Starting Sept. 6th) after school from 2:30-3:20.** Students are expected to attend both scheduled strings classes weekly.

The Intermediate String classes will meet:

Tuesday (Starting Sept. 6th) 2:30 – 3:20 And Fridays (activity time)

This is a yearlong commitment.

(Tuesday classes will start September 6, 2016)

As in previous years, the string program is free. You do need an instrument and the same string lesson book as last year. If it is missing, you will need to purchase another one. Students are not allowed to change instruments. They must play the same type (Violin, Viola, Cello, or bass) as last year.

String rental fees will be **\$50 per year (\$25 per semester)**. Intermediate Strings students are given the first opportunity to rent instruments from the school. The rental fee is due by **Sept. 2, 2016**. (Checks should be made payable to Williams Elementary). After that date the instruments will be offered to Beginning Strings students for rental. No fee is due if the student will be using a personally owned instrument.

If you have any questions or need my help, please call the school (617-7700 x3251). We will have a String Specialist assist with some classes. We are both excited about working with this class!

Sincerely,

Mr. Kurowski

Music Teacher

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Student Name (print) _____ Parent Email - _____

Classroom Teacher _____ Mark X for Instrument: I will RENT it, OR I Own it.

My child has permission to participate in the Intermediate Strings classes. I understand there is a rental fee of \$50 per year (\$25 per semester) for school instruments and that this is a yearlong commitment. I also understand that my child will be expected to attend all rehearsals and concerts unless absent from school.

(2016-17) Starting Sept. 6th- on Tuesday 3:20 dismissal (circle): SACC Walker Biker Car rider

Parent Name - print _____ Phone _____

Parent Signature _____ Alternate Phone _____