

ORCHESTRA HANDBOOK

Shadow Ridge Middle School Orchestra 2020-2021



SRMS Orchestra Fall 2020

This is a truncated version of the full handbook. When we go back to school in-person, students will receive the full handbook

When you have read through the entire document please follow this form link to fill out the Handbook Acknowledgment Form:

<https://forms.gle/MwhCqzmAbjwR4Lm27>

DESCRIPTION OF ORCHESTRAS

Prelude: This class is for 6th grade beginner students with no previous experience playing a string instrument. Instruments offered are Violin, Viola, Cello, and Bass. These classes combine to perform on concerts together.

Camerata: This class is for students with a minimum of 1 year of previous playing experience and/or have completed their beginner year at SRMS. All four instruments are grouped together in this class and perform at UIL and concerts together.

Philharmonic + Chamber: These classes will be combined for the 2020-2021 school year. These students have a minimum of 2 years of previous playing experience and/or have completed two years of orchestra classes at SRMS.

ALL-STUDENT SUPPLY LISTS

ALL Students will need:

- 1 inch black binder
- Highlighter (any color)
- Pencil
- Tuner (must be clip on)
- Rosin
- INS Tuner App downloaded onto their school iPads



INSTRUMENT SPECIFIC SUPPLY LISTS:

Violin

- Snark Clip-on Tuner
 - [Snark Tuner](#)
- Shoulder Rest (Fiddlerman, Everest, Kun)
 - Example shoulder rests:
 - [4/4 Size KUN Shoulder Rest](#)
 - [3/4 Size FIDDLERMAN Shoulder Rest](#)
 - [1/2 Size EVEREST Shoulder Rest](#)

These are sized for your instrument, if you play a 3/4 violin, you will need a 3/4 size shoulder rest! If you play a 1/2 size violin, you need a 1/2 size shoulder rest!

Viola

- Snark Clip-on Tuner
 - [Snark Tuner](#)
- Shoulder Rest (Fiddlerman, Everest, Kun)
 - Example shoulder rests:
 - [15 in to 16.5 in EVEREST Shoulder Rest](#)
 - [14 in D'Luca Shoulder Rest](#)

If you play a 13 or 14 in viola then you need a 14 in viola shoulder rest OR a 4/4 violin shoulder rest. If you play a 15 in or larger viola, you will need a viola-specific shoulder rest like the one linked above.

Cello

- Snark Clip-on Tuner
 - [Snark Tuner](#)
- Strap rock stop or round rock stop
 - [Strap Rock Stop](#)
 - [Round Rock Stop](#)

Bass

- Strap Rock Stop
 - [Strap Rock Stop](#)
- Hidersine Bass rosin
 - [Hidersine Bass Rosin](#)

WEBEX/VIRTUAL LEARNING POLICIES

BE PREPARED

- BE IN A QUIET PLACE
- NO DISTRACTIONS (NO CELL PHONES, GAMES, TV, ETC)
- COMPUTER IS CHARGED!
- KEEP A WATER BOTTLE NEARBY

BE PUNCTUAL

- WAKE UP EARLY
- LOG ON A FEW MINUTES BEFORE CLASS
- EAT BEFORE (NOT DURING)

CHAT RESPONSIBLY

- ASK QUESTIONS IN THE CHAT BOX
- RAISE YOUR HAND TO SPEAK/PLAY

BE PRESENTABLE

- WEAR APPROPRIATE CLOTHING
- BE IN CAMERA VIEW

MUTE YOURSELF

- MUTE YOURSELF WHEN THE TEACHER OR ANOTHER STUDENT IS TALKING OR PLAYING THEIR INSTRUMENT

PARTICIPATE

- PAY ATTENTION!
- STAY FOCUSED!
- BE AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT (ASK QUESTIONS, BE ENGAGED!)

ELIGIBILITY POLICY

From the Student Handbook: A student who receives, at the end of a grading period, a grade below 70 in any academic class—other than a Pre-AP Calculus, Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate course; or an honors or dual credit course in English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, or language other than English—may not participate in extracurricular activities for at least three school weeks. This includes the following activities: School musical, events associated with the All-State Orchestra Process (i.e. Region, Area, or State), UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest, UIL Concert & SightReading Contest, etc

CONCERT DRESS POLICY

Students will wear their **orchestra t-shirt** and **jeans (no holes)** for all school performances this school year.

A UIL specific dress policy will be issued once in-person learning begins.

CANVAS & VOLY

Canvas:

LISD uses Canvas for parents and students to access school communications, assignments and calendars. We will communicate with students through their orchestra specific classes on Canvas, via Announcements, or the Canvas messaging system.

We highly recommend that you acquire a parent login in order to have access to your child's Canvas account. You will need a pairing code to link your child's account to yours. Please refer to the [following video](#) or [written instructions](#) for further assistance. The code generated can be used for one email account for up to 24 hours from when it is generated. Once you are paired you will not need the code anymore and you are paired from now on. If another parent wants to pair with your child, have the child generate a second code using the same steps.

Voly:

Parents who are interested in volunteering with the orchestra at field trips, competitions, parties or concerts must be registered with the district's volunteer website, Voly, before the date of the event. After registering through Voly and passing a required background check, our Booster Club president will get in touch with you. Events that we need volunteers for will be posted on Voly. To access Voly, please click [this link](#) and create an account.

ORCHESTRA BOOSTER CLUB + ACTIVITY FEE

Orchestra activity fees generally cover your t-shirt, monthly social events, Secret Santa, field trips, transportation, Solo & Ensemble/UIIL/Region/Festival fees, and any class parties. 2019 - 2020 SRMS students were issued a partial refund of their orchestra dues (\$70).

Due to the nature of this fall semester, we will be collecting fees a bit differently. There will be no in-person gatherings for the fall semester and UIL/Spring Festivals are hanging in the balance currently. Fees will be done by class this year and collected online each semester:

Fall Semester - Due by Friday, September 25th

6th Grade Beginner: \$25

Camerata: \$25

Philharmonic: \$25 (Additional \$10 fee for All-Region Auditions is optional)

Chamber: \$35 (includes All-Region entry fee)

Spring Semester

***If we are fully in-person by the Spring, a second dues collection of \$60 will be added to support: UIL, Solo & Ensemble, Spring NRH2O (or an alternative Performance Festival), and End of the Year Altitude Party

The activity fees are mandatory for each student, but the orchestra booster club has several scholarships available. Please let a board member or Ms. Riddle know privately if you need assistance paying the orchestra fees.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Private lessons will still be offered this year but will be offered virtually initially. They are not required but are strongly recommended, especially this fall as many students will be virtual and it is impossible to replicate the classroom exactly via virtual platforms.

If you are interested in private lessons, please fill out the following Google Form. By signing up on the form, it *does not* mean you are committing to lessons. It just means you are interested. Finalizing lessons will happen directly with your assigned lessons teacher! These private teachers have all undergone the LISD background check and fingerprinting process, but are considered “private contractors” for school district purposes. Communication is done directly between parent and private teacher via **email**. If you have questions or concerns about the schedule or private lesson you may contact Ms. Riddle at riddlem@lisd.net. You are also welcome to take lessons outside of school with your own private teacher!

- Degreed teacher rate for a 30 minutes lesson is **\$22/lesson**
- Degreed teacher rate for a 20 minute lesson is **\$18/lesson**

Please do not give checks for private lessons to Ms. Riddle, they need to go directly to their private teacher.

Please register for lessons at this Google Form link:

<https://forms.gle/NQSgV1J9QBpn6vs16>