

Frequently Asked Questions:

How does the Instrumental Lesson Scheduling Work?

Instrument lessons happen during the school day as "pull-out lessons." Students are placed in groups of like instruments and will receive a 30-minute group lesson once a week. Their lesson will be on the same day each week, but the schedule rotates throughout the day to prevent your child from missing the same class in consecutive weeks. Lesson Schedules are distributed to each homeroom to be posted, and each student will receive a schedule for their specific lesson day. Lessons will start on **September 20th**.

What are the requirements and expectations?

Learning a musical instrument can be a life rewarding experience for your child. However, we all know that nothing worthwhile in life comes without commitment.

- In order to be a successful musician your child must be willing to practice daily for at least 15 minutes each day. Although this is not a great deal of time, when a good daily practice routine is established muscles form and the brain develops pathways for success.
- Music teaches students to be responsible, and independent. Students need to remember to bring their instrument and required materials on their scheduled lesson day. Students are expected to check their lesson schedule and come to their lessons prepared and on time each week. Mrs. Quackenbush will teach the students how to read the schedules but it will be their responsibility to check it each week and come to lessons at the correct time. Calling the classrooms for students to come to lessons is disruptive and cannot be a regular occurrence.
- Students are expected to participate in all scheduled concerts. We recognize that our students participate in many after school activities, so please put the concert dates on your calendars now to avoid conflicts!

Will there be Concerts next year?

Normally, students participate in a Beginner Recital in February, and a Spring Concert in their school in May. Concerts are **tentatively scheduled** for the school calendar next year, and are listed below. Please put them on your calendar now to avoid any potential conflicts. If dates change, or are added to our calendar, Mrs. Quackenbush will e-mail ASAP and specific information for each concert will be sent via e-mail as the date approaches.

Beginner Recitals (Students will be assigned to one night TBD closer to the recitals) -

- February 9th and February 10th at 7pm.

Russell Spring Concert (Evening of the Arts) -

- May 19th at 7pm

Worrall Spring Concert (Evening of the Arts) -

- May 18th 7pm

Frequently Asked Questions:

Where should I rent my instrument?

Students will need to secure their instrument, lesson book, and accessories before the start of lessons. *(Please see the Helpful Information page for more information if you are going to get an instrument anywhere other than through Zeswitz Music.)* The MN elementary music department works closely with Zeswitz Music. Through Zeswitz, you can rent an instrument and have all of the required accessories and lesson book ordered and delivered right to your child's school. When renting through Zeswitz you can take advantage of their rent- to- own program, receive free instrument repairs, and outstanding customer service. Of course, you may choose to rent your instrument elsewhere; however, Zeswitz provides us with weekly in-school deliveries and services that make the process easier.

What if I cannot afford an instrument?

We believe that all children should have the experience of playing a musical instrument. Please let me know if you are unable to rent an instrument due to financial reasons, and we will work to find an instrument for you!

What Covid-19 Precautions are being taken?

****As of right now we are taking the following precautions. As the guidance from the CDC and the Chester County Health Dept. continue to evolve, so will our precautions.****

Band:

- Students are wearing special instrument masks with an overlapping slit in them
- Students are using protective bell covers
- Instrument lessons will occur in smaller class sizes (no more than 4 students in each lesson group)
- Students will remain 6-9 feet away from each other at all times
- Students are expected to hand sanitize upon entering and leaving the classroom
- Music stands and chairs will be wiped down before and after each lesson

Orchestra:

- Students are expected to wear their masks for their lesson
- Instrument lessons will occur in smaller class sizes (no more than 4 students in each lesson group)
- Students will remain at least 3 feet away from each other
- Students are expected to hand sanitize upon entering and leaving the classroom
- Music stands and chairs will be wiped down before and after each lesson