

# *WELCOME STRINGS STUDENTS!*



As the 2017-18 school year approaches, I am excited for the direction that our program is heading. Students will have many opportunities to expand their musical talents and knowledge throughout the school year. String students will have the chance to participate in our first ever, RHMS String Quartet. Students participate in the quartet will have the opportunity to perform in the community (nursing homes, South point Mall, etc.). All students will have the opportunity to participate in DPS Honors Strings Festival in March 2018. During the spring semester, 7<sup>th</sup>/ 8<sup>th</sup> grade and selected 6<sup>th</sup> grade string students will be able to participate in our yearly performance trip.

Everyone will be notified well in advance of all the events listed above as well as any changes or additions to our calendar. Make sure to visit the music department web-page at <http://strings.rogersherrmusic.com/> for more information.

Parents, you play a critical role in our program success. Please take the time to be active in your child's music journey, get active with our Music Booster Organization (MBO) and visit our classroom (*please remember to check in at our front office*) to check out all the wonderful things your child is learning. Feel free to call or email if you have any questions or concerns about the strings program.

Thank you in advance for making the Rogers-Herr Music Department a success!

Mr. Lonnie Bodiford  
Strings/Chorus Director  
Lonnie.bodiford-jr@dpsnc.net  
(919) 560-3970 ext.70459

# **Rogers-Herr Middle School Strings Policies**

## **I. Grading Policy**

- A. Class Participation = 50%  
(Weekly grade for having all materials and playing every day)
- B. Concert Performance = 30%  
(Students will be graded on their attendance and how well they performed their music at concerts)
- C. Playing Quizzes/Quizzes = 15%  
(Students will be graded on their progress in understanding new music concepts and playing. Information regarding playing quizzes will be explained at the bottom)
- D. Homework/Practice Logs = 5%  
(Weekly grade given for home practice. Please see **Practice Log** section for more details)

## **II. Strings Fee**

All students are **required** to pay a \$20 strings fee. This money pays for music, strings T-shirts, and supplies. This needs to be paid as soon as possible. Please contact me directly if you need to work something out.

## **III. Classroom Rules/Expectation**

- Be on time or have a tardy note
  - Students tardy to class without a written note from staff/teacher will sign a tardy notebook.
- Bring all supplies to class everyday (instrument, music, pencil, notebook paper and music folder)
- Participate daily
- Electronic devices (phones, tablets, etc.) Electronic devices may not be used in my class. Devices should be locked in locker and not seen by any teachers.  
If spotted:
  - Verbal warning to put it away
  - Phone retrieved and taken to the office. Phone will be returned at the end of the day.
  - Phone retrieved and taken to the office. Phone call home and phone released to the parent
  - Write up in Education Handbook
- No Fidget Spinners
- Eating or drinking (gum, chips, cookies, candy, or colored drinks) only exclusion is water in a clear, water container
- Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.

#### **IV. Strings Classroom Consequences**

- Students that refuse to follow classroom rules will result in the following actions taken:
  - I. Verbal Warning given (student and teacher will have a 1 on 1 conversation)
  - II. Contact Parent (phone call/email)
  - III. Parent/Teacher Conference
  - IV. Write up (Education Handbook)

#### **V. Strings Classroom Rewards**

- Positive feedback
- Student Conductors
- Elective celebrations
- Teacher assistants
- Treats (candy, etc.)

#### **VI. Daily Procedures**

- A. Students will line up and enter the strings room quietly through the designate entrance. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students must leave backpacks in hallway. Upon entering the strings room, students will get their instruments and other materials and sit in their assigned seat. You will not leave the classroom unless you have an emergency or you are called to the office.
- B. Students will be given individual period to tune their instrument.
- C. Students will be given a signal to let them know the tuning period is over. Students will be expected to stop playing and wait for instructions/announcements.
- D. Class will begin with a group warm-up and will continue with the lesson for the day. During rehearsal, if the teacher is not working with your section you are expected to sit quietly and look over your music.
- E. At the end of class, students will pack up their instrument, place instruments in appropriate area and head back to their assigned seat. Any last minute cleaning will also happen during this time. Students will wait to be dismissed from class by teacher.

#### **VII. Emergency Procedures**

- A. Fire Drills — Students will line up quietly in single file and exit towards the doorway between the chorus and the band room. Once outside, students will remain in line quietly and wait for instructions.
  
- B. Tornado Drills — Students will line up quietly in single file. Some students will take shelter in the instrument storage room, while others will go to the hallway outside the band room with Ms. Cammon's and Ms. Wright's classes. Once there, students will assume the "tornado position".



## **IX. Concerts**

Concert performances given by strings members will be counted as a performance grade. Students not attending will receive a zero as a grade. Students will only be excused in the case of illness or family emergencies as long as I am given a note signed by a parent or guardian before or the next day that I see you. Students will have the opportunity to replace their zero by performing their concert music in front of Mr. Bodiford for their grade.

Please understand that athletic events do not excuse you. We will try to have at least two or three major concerts during the year. It is necessary that each member be present. Please refer to the concert schedule and plan ahead.

## **X. Concert Attire**

Each performance, students are required to wear the following as performance attire:

- Rogers-Herr Middle School Chorus or Strings polo (shirt must be tucked in at all times),
- Solid black dress pants (NO skirts, NO jeans, NO capris, NO gauchos, NO leggings, NO jeggings, NO shorts and pant must NOT have holes in them).
- Solid black dress shoes with black socks or pantyhose.
- If students wear a belt, it must be black.

\*\*If you are not dressed correctly, it will be at Mr. Bodiford's discretion to allow you to perform. IF YOU LOSE YOUR STRINGS SHIRT DURING THE YEAR, IT WILL COST YOU \$15.00 TO REPLACE.

## **XI. Strings Performance Trips (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students/select 6<sup>th</sup> grade students)**

The Rogers-Herr Strings travels to different location the spring to perform to for out-of-state and international audiences. Students must meet the following eligibility requirements before they are cleared to travel with the strings.

1. Follow all instructions given in class
2. Participate daily
3. Earn an 85 or above on all playing tests
4. Earn an 85 or above each nine weeks in class.
5. Attend all scheduled concerts
6. Be able to attend afterschool rehearsals pertaining to our performance trips
7. Pay all fees and be in good financial standing with the Music Department and Music Boosters Organization (MBO)

## **XII. Instrument Supplies**

Strings students will need the following supplies for class daily:

1. Instrument  
\*\*First year string students (violin, viola and cello players) can obtain their instrument through the Music and Arts rental program. Our Music and Arts representative, Tina Rippe, will be provided information regarding their rental process and discuss the cost. All first year students are required to have the *Essential Elements for Strings* (Book 1) for class. Essential books can be obtained through Music & Arts.
2. Pencil – Pencil can be kept in music case
3. Music Folder and Music – I will be providing music folders and music. Students are to keep all music and worksheets from class in their folder.
4. Shoulder rest (Violin and Viola players)
5. Rosin and soft cloth

## **XIII. Cello/Double Bass Loan Agreement**

Students that play the cello or double bass that do not have access to the instrument will have the opportunity to be furnished with the instrument. We have limited amounts of cellos and bass that can be loan. Parents/Guardians and students will sign a loan agreement in order to be furnished with the instrument. Please see me for more details.

## **XIV. Instrument Repair**

Students that obtained their instrument from Music & Arts rental program can have their centers handle instrument repairs if damage to your instrument is too severe for me to fix. If you take your instrument to be repaired, please make sure that you bring a signed note from your parent so that you do not lose participation points because you do not have your instrument.

Loaner instruments from Music & Arts Centers will be available for student use as long as the instrument being repaired was leased or purchased from them.

If you did not get your instrument from Music & Arts Centers and your instrument needs repair, I will try my best to repair the damage or provide you with information on how to contact a reputable repair person in the local area.

## **XV. Awards (Optional)**

At the end of the year, string awards will be given to someone in each class in the category of String Student of the Year. The winners of this award must be contributing members of the Roger-Herr Middle School Strings and maintain an A average throughout the school year.

I am requesting that strings students review the previous information with their parents/guardians. Please sign and return this page as soon as possible stating that you have read and understand the Rogers-Herr Middle School Strings Policies for the 2017-2018 school year.

Yes, we have read and understand the Rogers-Herr Middle School Strings Policies for the 2017-2018 school year.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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**Permission to Appear in a Video/Photograph/Website**

I will allow my child to be videotaped or photographed during the 2017-2018 school year as long as it is for the strings archives or for educational purposes. I understand that my child's image may appear on the Rogers-Herr Music Department website located at **<http://strings.rogersherrmusic.com>**.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

Strings Information Sheet  
(Please return to me by July 21, 2017)

Student Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade/Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(If different from above)

Parent/Guardian Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(If different from above)

Emergency Contact Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_