



Bay Orchestra Handbook 2023–24

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Welcome to a new year! We are excited to embark on this journey together. So we can stay in touch please take a moment to sign up or update your information for the following digital services.

After reviewing the handbook **please fill out the [2023-2024 Orchestra Handbook Agreement](#)**

Parents:

1. Check that **Powerschool** has your current, preferred email address.
<https://psbv.nccohio.org/public/home.html> I will be sending important parent updates to that email address.
2. Subscribe or update your **Bay Music Booster** profile to reflect the ensembles your child is currently enrolled in: <https://baymusicboosters.com/>

Students:

1. Sign up for **Google Classroom**. Go to www.classroom.google.com, sign in to your SCHOOL gmail account and click on the "+" sign to add a class.
 - a. 5th Grade Orchestra - enter class code **rgckq5a**
 - b. 6th Grade Orchestra - enter class code **w4fgo7t**
 - c. 7th Grade Orchestra - enter class code **754rxps**
 - d. 8th Grade Orchestra - enter class code **bi7duby**
 - e. Middle School Honors Orchestra (by audition) - enter class code **7op3o2f**
 - f. High School Rocket Orchestra (meets 3C) - enter class code **ncvznpt**
 - g. High School Chamber Strings (meets 3A) - enter class code **ahbdtzf**
 - h. High School Chamber Winds - enter class code **uupnugm**
2. High School Students will also be asked to join these Remind Messaging Groups:
 - a. Chamber Strings: <https://www.remind.com/join/chorchbhs>
 - b. Rocket Orchestra: <https://www.remind.com/join/rocketorch>
 - c. Chamber Winds: <https://www.remind.com/join/chwnds2324>

Mrs. Carrie Singler, Director
carrie.singler@bayschoolsohio.org

Dr. Ann Gilbert, Director
ann.gilbert@bayschoolsohio.org

Grades 5 & 6 Strings • BMS Honors Orchestra
Rocket Orchestra • Chamber Orchestra • Jazz • Flute

Grades 7 & 8 Orchestras • BMS Honors Orchestra

“Orchestra is a performance-based class, meaning all classroom learning culminates in a live performance for an audience.”

I. MISSION STATEMENT

The Bay Orchestras’ mission is to foster a lifelong relationship with music among listeners and participants by developing individual musical artistry, pursuing ensemble excellence through mutual respect and collaboration, and performing music for diverse audiences in and around our community.

II. STUDENT CONDUCT

A. Expectations

1. Be on Time
2. Have Your Instrument, Music and Accessories
3. Be Quiet and Attentive – NO CELL PHONE or other electronic device may be in use after the bell rings except when given specific permission by the teacher.
4. Show a Willingness to Try

B. Consequences

Well-disciplined and efficient rehearsals are crucial to our success. Inattentive behavior, disrespect to directors, and excessive talking during rehearsals contribute to negative results and wasted time. Therefore, these actions will result in a student-teacher conference and one or more of the following:

1. Musical Community Service. Failure to serve will result in a detention.
2. School Detention
3. Parent Conference

III. ATTENDANCE POLICIES (No People = No Music)

- A. Daily Attendance:** Be in the Music Wing by the bell. Be in your seat ready to begin one minute after the bell. If you arrive late, come in quietly, give your pass to the director, then take your seat and join the rehearsal. You **MUST** have permission before leaving the classroom.
- B. Reporting Illness:** Absences at rehearsals and performances affect the entire orchestra. With advance notice, directors can often adjust plans to accommodate an absence, minimizing the negative impact on the other students. If your child becomes ill the day of a performance, please let me know ASAP.
- C. Performances:** Orchestra is a performance-based class, meaning all classroom learning culminates in a live performance for an audience. SEE CALENDAR and add all concert dates to your personal calendars at this time. All orchestra members are required to attend performances, and **concert performances make up 25% of every student’s grade**. The only excuses for missing a required orchestra event are as follows:
1. **A court or legal case that cannot be changed.**
 2. **Personal illness severe enough that the student cannot attend school.**
 3. **Participation in another school event as determined by Administration.**
 4. **A death in the family.**

5. Other extenuating circumstances *may* be excused at the discretion of your director. Report any event conflicts to the director as soon as possible and no later than 30 days prior to any performance or required event.

IV. **GRADES**

- A. Grading is designed to give a multi-faceted picture of a student's mastery of musical knowledge, technical skills, ensemble rehearsal procedures and large group performance.
1. **Rehearsal Participation (50%):** Prepare for class by practicing your music, arriving on time and having your music and instrument ready at the start of class. Put forth your best effort in class and get involved with what we are doing. Have a positive attitude—it's contagious! Support your peers.
 2. **Performances (25%):** Those who come to performances ready to collaborate with his or her section, harness the expressive elements of the literature, and channel classroom learning for the purpose of creating meaningful group expression will receive high marks.
 3. **Summative Quizzes & Tests (25%):** Students will be tested to assess their growth as musicians on specific material studied in class and assigned for home practice.
 4. **Extra Help** is *always* available. See me to arrange a time.

V. **REQUIRED SUPPLIES**

- Black Binder with pockets
- 20 sheet protectors
- 2 Pencils with erasers for your case or folder
- Music stand for home practice
- Rosin
- Cleaning Cloth (or Handkerchief)
- Metronome or Metronome App
- Black Rubber Mute (for 7-12 grade violinists & violists)
- **for violinists and violists only:** Shoulder Rest/contoured foam Shoulder Sponge
- **for cellists and bassists only:** Rock Stop/End-Pin Stop
- 5th Grade - *Essential Elements Book 1* (original edition: reddish-pink in color)
- 6th Grade - *Artistry In Strings, Book 1*

VI. **UNIFORMS**

- A. **Middle School Orchestra Uniform (Grades 6-8):**
BLACK DRESS PANTS with a WHITE BUTTON-DOWN SHIRT or blouse. A long black skirt with black leggings may be substituted. Black shoes, black socks.
- B. **High School Uniform** Our uniforms are generously provided and maintained by the Bay Music Boosters. You will receive a:

Tux* A tuxedo dry-cleaning fee will be collected at the start of the school year (Checks should be made out to Bay Music Boosters, or you can pay using "Pay For It" on the Bay

Schools website). Tuxedos will be issued at uniform night and collected at the end of the year. In the interim, it is the student's responsibility to store and care for the garment.

Students supply their own white tuxedo shirts, black socks and black dress shoes.

Tuxedo Junction will make shirts available for purchase at uniform distribution.

- OR a -

Dress* Black Concert Dresses will be issued at uniform night. Once you have been assigned a dress you will keep it until graduation unless you need a different size. These concert dresses can be machine washed (carefully follow the instructions on the label). **Students supply their own hosiery and black dress shoes--no flip-flops.**

*Students preferring to wear a more gender-neutral performance garment may speak to Mrs. Singler in private. These students may wear formal all-black attire of their choosing (with director approval).

Orchestra Polo An orchestra polo will be assigned to each member to be used at outdoor and informal orchestra events throughout the year. Keep and care for your polo until graduation unless you need a different size.

VII. CARE OF EQUIPMENT

- A. **Instruments** You are responsible for securing and maintaining a musical instrument and the necessary accessories for it. **Your name must be on your case.**
- B. **School Instruments** A student using school-owned equipment outside of school must fill out an instrument loan contract and maintain the equipment properly. While the school district will absorb the cost to maintain the instrument, any negligent damage (dropping, unwarranted abuse, etc.) will be the responsibility of the student and parent.
- C. **Music Care** Music is very expensive and must be preserved for many years to come. Under no circumstance should it be bent, folded, rolled, or marked on with any form of ink. Music returned in poor condition or not returned at all must be paid for by the student.
- D. **Lockers** You will be assigned an instrument locker or shelf slot at the beginning of the school year. All instruments must be stored in their assigned spot. At the end of the year your lock must be returned and the locker must be as clean as when it was first assigned. You will be charged for missing locks.

VIII. MUSIC BOOSTERS

This organization provides financial and volunteer assistance to the music programs in the Bay Village Schools. We urge every parent to attend these meetings to learn about upcoming events and ways to support your student, our program and its directors. For more information, check our music booster website: **www.baymusicboosters.com**