



SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

Ensuring Student Success



2024-25

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC HANDBOOK





Instrumental Music Handbook

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Our Philosophy

A decorative graphic consisting of multiple thin, overlapping wavy lines that flow across the top of the page, creating a sense of movement and rhythm.

“Music has a power of forming the character, and should therefore be introduced into the education of the young.”

-Aristotle

Music serves an essential role in civilization, and the study of music is a vital part of a comprehensive education.

- As a universal form of expression that transcends language, background, and geography, music provides a unique perspective on one’s own culture as well as the diverse cultures of the world.
- Research has shown that music students score higher in reading, math, and critical thinking skills.
- Participation in instrumental music engages the whole person and, in addition to developing fundamental musical knowledge and skills, also develops skills in listening, discipline, creativity, cooperation, and aesthetics.

All students in District 54 have the opportunity to participate in instrumental music. Instruction is given by highly qualified educators who follow a comprehensive and sequential curriculum based on state and national standards. As a result of their experiences in the District 54 instrumental music program, students will be able to understand, create, and appreciate music for a lifetime.



4th Grade Instrumental Music Enrollment

Students enroll in the District 54 Instrumental Music Program in the Spring of fourth grade. Instruments (flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, violin, viola, & cello) are demonstrated to students at each elementary school and information is distributed with further details about the program. Parents and students are invited to attend an evening meeting, which includes another instrument demonstration as well as information from the instrument vendors that service District 54. Once the Enrollment Form is submitted, the student is enrolled in the program and begins instruction in the fall. Students continue their instrumental music study in sixth grade. There is no need to re-enroll.

In junior high, band or orchestra is an elective that students may choose if they have participated in fifth and sixth grade instrumental music in District 54 or a comparable program in another district.



Instrument Enrollment Website

5th & 6th Grade Instrumental Music Program

Lessons

Weekly 30 minute group lessons take place at the elementary school during the school day. These lessons are with like instruments, on the same day, but the times rotate.

After-School Rehearsals

Weekly after school rehearsals begin mid October and end in March. 5th grade meets on Tuesdays and 6th grade meets on Thursdays. Students attend after school rehearsals at the junior high they will eventually attend. Parents must provide transportation to and from these rehearsals.

Percussion

In the spring of 5th grade, band students are given an opportunity to audition for percussion.

Practice

Daily at-home practice reinforces the cognitive and motor skills learned in school and builds confidence in the individual musician. Every member of a band or orchestra depends on each other to learn their parts so that the entire ensemble can move forward. While lessons and rehearsals are important and essential, the most important factor in determining a student's success on an instrument is establishing and maintaining a regular practice routine.

Attendance

Attendance at all rehearsals, small group lessons, concerts and other scheduled events is expected of all students in the instrumental music program. Any conflicts should be brought to the director's attention well in advance.

Commitment

Students in elementary level instrumental music are expected to commit to a full year of participation. It is important to realize that playing an instrument is a discipline that is both rewarding and challenging. Persistent practice from the students and gentle but firm encouragement from the parents will usually help students through the challenging times. Parents are welcome to contact the instructor for assistance and suggestions at any point.

Grading

A progress report for fifth and sixth grade band/orchestra students is included on the regular classroom report card every trimester.

7th & 8th Grade Instrumental Music Program

Students who have participated in the elementary program have the opportunity to continue instrumental music in junior high. In junior high, instrumental music students rehearse daily as part of a large ensemble within the school day and participate in a variety of performance opportunities. In addition, weekly lessons are scheduled for each student. Students are pulled from other classes on a rotating basis to attend these small group sessions.

Students in junior high are offered the opportunity to try several instruments not available at the elementary level (i.e. string bass, saxophone, tuba, etc.). Specific procedures for switching to these instruments are determined by each junior high instrumental music teacher, and decisions are made in collaboration with the parent/guardian and student.

In junior high, band and orchestra are academic classes. Students will receive a grade on the report card.



Additional Instrumental Music Programs

Early Instrumental Music

The Early Instrumental Music (EIM) program gives kindergarten and first grade students the opportunity to begin violin lessons. Violin instruction continues throughout sixth grade at Dooley elementary school. Weekly violin lessons are held at Dooley during the school day. Parent attendance at these lessons is required through at least third grade. Additionally, children receive a group violin class once a week after school. The students perform in two large concerts per year, as well as a solo recital and at a variety of special school and community events. To participate in the Early Instrumental Music program, students must be enrolled full-time at Dooley. Children enrolled in EIM take all academic classes at Dooley.

Jazz Ensemble

The District 54 Jazz Ensemble is a select group of eighth grade students chosen by audition from throughout the district. Students must be currently enrolled in the District 54 instrumental music program to be eligible to audition for the Jazz Ensemble. Auditions take place in the spring of the seventh grade year. Students selected for the Jazz Ensemble begin rehearsals during the summer school program and continue with rehearsals on Thursday nights during the school year (5:00-6:30 pm). Students perform at several venues throughout the district and the wider Chicago area.

Summer Music

District 54 students who have completed fifth grade and have participated in at least one year of instrumental music are encouraged to enroll in the optional summer music program, traditionally held for three weeks in July (Monday-Thursday mornings). This program gives students the opportunity to rehearse in a large ensemble, culminating in a final concert. Registration information is distributed in the spring.

APPENDIX A - Staff Directory

Last	First	Email	Phone
Antosz	Dana	danaantosz@sd54.org	847-357-2009
Boekenhauer*	Mark	markboekenhauer@sd54.org	847-357-2189
Boyle	Koryana	koryanaboyle@sd54.org	847-357-5910
Caliendo	Eric	ericcaliendo@sd54.org	847-357-5861
Ceballos	Christina	christinaceballos@sd54.org	847-357-2120
Cho	Annie	anniecho@sd54.org	847-357-2177
Fledderman	Abigail	abigailfledderman@sd54.org	847-357-2135
Gear	Dave	davidgear@sd54.org	847-357-6531
Gomberg	Kathy	kathygomberg@sd54.org	847-357-6532
Green	Jennifer	jennifergreen@sd54.org	847-357-6027
Hamada	Mark	markhamada@sd54.org	847-357-6778
Hamada	Sydney	sydneyhamada@sd54.org	847-357-5982
Kosiek	Katy	katykosiek@sd54.org	847-357-2139
Kostopulos	Holly	hollykostopulos@sd54.org	847-357-6036
Lawton	Michael	michaellawton@sd54.org	847-357-6777
Martin	Amanda	amandamartin@sd54.org	847-357-2186
Maslanka	Luke	lukemaslanka@sd54.org	847-357-2196
Melinyshyn	Stephanie	stephaniemelinyshyn@sd54.org	847-357-2192
Munoz	Taylor	taylormunoz@sd54.org	847-357-2166
Rodriguez	Ashley	ashleyrodriguez@sd54.org	847-357-5834
Ross	Chrissy	christineross@sd54.org	847-357-2183
Rutherford	Matthew	matthewrutherford@sd54.org	847-357-6244
Sroka	Sean	seansroka@sd54.org	847-357-2193
Stanich	Kelly	kellystanich@sd54.org	847-357-2108

***FIELD LEADER FOR INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

APPENDIX B - Required Material

	Acceptable Brands	Book	Stand	Supplies
Flute	Armstrong, Artley, Bundy, Emerson, Gemeinhardt, Jupiter, Yamaha	Essential Elements for Band Book 1 - Flute	Hamilton KB400N (carrying bag recommended)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning Rod • Cleaning Swab
Clarinet	Artley, Buffet, Bundy, Selmer, Signet, Vito, Yamaha	Essential Elements for Band Book 1 - Bb Clarinet	Hamilton KB400N (carrying bag recommended)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rico Reeds, Bb Clarinet, Strength 2.5 • Cleaning Swab • Cork Grease
Trumpet	Bach, Blessing, Bundy, Conn, Getzen, Jupiter, King, Olds, Yamaha	Essential Elements for Band Book 1 - Bb Trumpet	Hamilton KB400N (carrying bag recommended)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valve Oil • Slide Grease • Mouthpiece Brush
Trombone	Bach, Blessing, Bundy, Conn, Getzen, Jupiter, King, Olds, Yamaha	Essential Elements for Band Book 1 - Trombone	Hamilton KB400N (carrying bag recommended)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valve Oil • Slide Grease • Mouthpiece Brush
Violin	Franz Hoffman, Knilling, Lamberti, Mueller, Schiller, Strobel	Essential Elements for Strings Book 1 - Violin	Hamilton KB400N (carrying bag recommended)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosin • Shoulder Rest
Viola	Franz Hoffman, Knilling, Lamberti, Mueller, Schiller, Strobel	Essential Elements for Strings Book 1 - Viola	Hamilton KB400N (carrying bag recommended)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosin • Shoulder Rest
Cello	Franz Hoffman, Knilling, Lamberti, Mueller, Schiller, Strobel	Essential Elements for Strings Book 1 - Cello	Hamilton KB400N (carrying bag recommended)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosin • Rock Stop

All instrument cases and supplies are to be marked with the student's full name and school.

APPENDIX C - Highly Qualified Music Stores

ORCHESTRA INSTRUMENTS

(violin, viola, cello)

Cassandra Strings

215 South Main St.
Algonquin, IL 60102
847-458-7386

www.cassandrastrings.com

Music and Arts Center, Inc.

907 West Irving Park Rd.
Itasca, IL 60143
630-285-1485

Music and Arts Center, Inc.

1476 E. Golf Rd.
Schaumburg, IL 60173
847-517-1143
www.musicarts.com

Quinlan & Fabish

59 W. Seegers Rd.
Arlington Heights, IL 60005
847-253-5592
www.qandf.com

The String Project

510 E. Northwest Highway
Palatine, IL 60074
847-934-7500
www.thestringproject.com

BAND INSTRUMENTS

(flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone)

Music and Arts Center, Inc.

907 West Irving Park Rd.
Itasca, IL 60143
630-285-1485

Music and Arts Center, Inc.

1476 E. Golf Rd.
Schaumburg, IL 60173
847-517-1143
www.musicarts.com

Quinlan & Fabish

59 W. Seegers Rd.
Arlington Heights, IL 60005
847-253-5592
www.qandf.com

Sweetwater

888-890-3365
www.sweetwater.com/instrument-rentals

These music stores include: instrument rental, supplies/books, full-service repair facilities, loaner instruments, & instrument protection plans.

They have been chosen based on quality of instruments and service. Rather than a comprehensive list, it is intended to be a resource for parents and students, if needed.

Parents are not obligated to use these stores for instrument rental or purchase; however, if an instrument is rented or purchased from a company not listed above, care should be taken to choose a reputable company that rents/sells and services high quality instruments.