



Patchogue-Medford School District

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Nathan Brinkman
Director of Art, Music, and Cultural Arts
181 Buffalo Avenue
Medford, NY, 11763

October 2024

Dear 3rd Grade Parent/Guardian:

Now that you and your child have been informed of the instrument they will be playing in fourth grade, below is some information on instruments and supplies they will need for school in the fall.

All first-year instrumental students will need an instrument to begin the school year. Patchogue-Medford maintains its own inventory of instruments but is unfortunately unable to provide an instrument for every student. Students will be chosen by random lottery to rent from the school. The school will also provide instruments for students who play those that are unavailable for rental and beyond reasonable expectation to purchase, including: oboe, baritone, tuba, and bass.

Instrument Rental – When renting an instrument, we recommend finding the highest quality instrument possible from a reputable music store. Many stores offer “rent to own” plans, which can defray eventual purchase costs. We do not recommend the purchase of any instrument for first year players. If this is something you would like to do, you must reach out to your child’s instrumental teacher so we can recommend a suitable brand that will allow your child to be successful.

Lesson Books – Each first year student will be provided with a lesson book when they begin lessons in the fall. Below are the books we use at the elementary level in Patchogue-Medford.

Band: *Sound Innovations for Concert Band Book 1* – Alfred
Orchestra: - *New Directions for Strings Book 1* – FJH

General Supplies – All instrumental students will need some basic supplies. Below is a list, which you can find at your local music store.

Music Stand for home practice

Violin/Viola – Shoulder Rest, Rosin

Cello – Peg Stand, Rosin

Bass – Rosin

Flute – Cleaning Swab

Oboe – Leshner Medium Reeds (at least 5), Cork Grease, Cleaning Swab

Clarinet – Rico 2 ½ Reeds, Cork Grease, Cleaning Swab

Saxophone – Rico 2 ½ - 3 Reeds, Cork Grease

Trumpet – Valve Oil, Slide Grease

French Horn – Slide Grease

Trombone – Slide Cream, Trombone Slide Spray Bottle

Baritone – Valve Oil, Slide Grease

Tuba – Valve Oil, Slide Grease

Percussion – Bell Kit, Vic Firth 5A Drum Sticks, Practice Pad and Stand

Instruments should be rented from a reputable music dealer (please avoid warehouse, discount stores, or Amazon). We have found the following dealers to be especially reliable:

<p>Music and Arts 499 Sunrise Highway Suite 51 Patchogue, NY 11772 631-289-3805</p>	<p>On Pitch Music 102 Maple Street Medford, NY 11763 516-818-2133</p>
<p>The Long Island Violin Shop 23 W. Main Street Smithtown, NY 11787 631-982-1566</p>	<p>Advantage Music 429 Hawkins Avenue Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779 631-285-6914</p>

Again, I look forward to having your child be a part of the Fourth Grade Instrumental Music Program in Patchogue-Medford School District. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office or your child's music teacher.

Sincerely,

Nathan Brinkman
Director of Art, Music, and Cultural Arts