

Join the Orchestra!

Dear Hanaford and Eldredge Parents/Guardians,

The East Greenwich Public Schools' music department is pleased to offer beginning strings instruction to students in the Fourth Grade. Lessons are scheduled for one half hour each week. Instruction is offered on **violin, viola, cello or bass**. There are two evening concerts throughout the year, which are usually scheduled in February and June.

Families have the option of renting an instrument from a music store or using an instrument that is available through the district.

The benefits of renting are:

1. Receiving a high-quality instrument - having a high-quality instrument allows students to produce a good tone. Poor quality instruments do not and can lead to frustration during practice and rehearsal.
2. The rental program is set up as "rent-to-own." In other words, you will build equity into owning your own instrument.
3. Free repairs - if anything happens to your instrument while renting, Robert's Music can repair your instrument if you choose the additional R&R (Repair & Replacement) plan.
4. You may choose from the offered string instruments for instruction (violin, viola, cello, bass) and will not be limited to only the instruments available at Hanaford or Eldredge.

(If you require an instrument for your student, please contact Sue Curzio at scurzio@egsd.net. If the school is to provide your child with an instrument, we cannot guarantee the student will receive the instrument of their choice.)

When renting an instrument, we recommend **Robert's Musical Instruments** (401-823-5459, www.robertsmusicri.com). Robert's Music is a full-service, family-friendly music store right on Quaker Lane (Rt 2) on the East Greenwich/West Warwick line. They are committed to providing musicians of all skill levels with quality, brand-name merchandise at fair prices with great service. Please visit their website to read more about the benefits of their "rent-to-own" program.

Students will be provided a copy of the Essential Elements for Strings student book 1. This book will be used for the entire school year and is critical to their ability to participate in group lessons and practice at home. You may consider purchasing your child a music stand for practicing at home. A music stand is not required but is helpful in promoting proper posture when practicing at home. **String lessons will start the week of September 14th and students will be assigned a lesson day/time once slips are in and schedules are determined. Instruments will be required starting the week of September 21st.**

String instrument instruction will continue to be available to your child throughout high school. Learning to play an instrument and belonging to the school orchestra opens up a whole new world of friendship and fun. The opportunities for playing a string instrument after high school are abundant, with many universities offering scholarships for orchestra participation, and community orchestras for adults. Orchestra provides a great foundation for your child in all aspects of life. Like all the arts, music has a profound effect on the academic success of students as well.

The East Greenwich Public School District prides itself on providing quality education and engaging enrichment opportunities for our students, and we sincerely hope that your child chooses to participate in our beginning string program. **If you wish to enroll your child, please complete and return the form below.**

Feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns: Sue Curzio: scurzio@egsd.net

Please keep the top of this form for your information and return the bottom portion to school by Friday, September 11th 2026

My child, _____, **is excited to participate in 4th grade strings!**

Please Circle Instrument Choice: Violin

Viola

Cello

Bass

Please mark one:

- ☐ We will be renting an instrument.
- ☐ We already own an instrument.
- ☐ We are requesting a school instrument and I will email Ms. Curzio at scurzio@egsd.net with my student's first and second choice instrument requests.

Classroom Teacher: _____

Parent Name: _____

*Email: _____

**Your email address will be used strictly for sharing important instrument, class, and concert information. You are welcome to provide additional email addresses to receive this information.*