Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the Instrumental Music Program for the 2020-2021 school year! Lessons will begin next week! When the schedule is complete, I will notify you and your child’s classroom teacher of the starting date and time. Your child will need the following, available from local music stores:

1. Instrument that your child signed up for (Violin, Viola or Cello)
   - Please rent the instrument from a music store rather than purchase from any source at this stage. Instrument size will be determined at the store. (Please see reverse side for recommended local music stores.)
   - **Buyer Beware!** Cheaper, no name instruments often cannot be repaired or serviced at local music stores. This will ultimately lead to more headaches than the instrument is worth.
   - Shoulder Rest for violin and viola only
   - Endpin Anchor for cellos only – the straps work best (Xeros brand)
   - Rosin that will be used with the bow

2. Music Stand with carrying bag
   - Purchase price is approximately $15.00.
   - I recommend two-piece models that open and close with levers or clips. Avoid one-piece models that are assembled by turning knobs. These are very difficult to set-up and pack-up.

3. Lesson Book: Sound Innovations for String Orchestra: Book 1
   - *Please check to make sure you get the book for your instrument (violin, viola, cello)*

Please make sure that everything is labeled with your child’s name! Instrument, Instrument Case, Bow, Shoulder Rest, Rosin, Music Stand and Carrying Bag, Lesson Book (Many students mark their cases and stand bags with a unique ribbon or duct tape as well as their name.)

Thank you for supporting your child in pursuing their musical endeavors! I look forward to another exciting and musical school year!

Musically,

Ms. Lambros
String Instructor
clambros@htsdnj.org

*Take this list with you to the music store to make sure you get the right*
REASONS TO RENT RATHER THAN PURCHASE AN INSTRUMENT

If you rent an instrument from a music store:

- As your child grows into a larger size instrument, you can simply exchange a rented one for the new size.
- Most music stores allow you to apply rental payments toward an eventual purchase with a “Rent to Own” plan.
- If the child later discontinues playing, you are not “stuck” with an instrument that will go unused.
- If something is wrong with a rented instrument, the store can easily repair it.

If you buy an instrument from a source other than a music store: The quality of the instrument is often so poor that it needs repair work in order to be usable; sometimes repair is impossible. In such cases, exchanging the instrument for replacement does no good.

These are some local, reputable music stores:

Feel free to rent from one of them or from any other dealer with which you are familiar.

**Music & Arts Center**
www.musicarts.com
Mercer Mall, 3375 US Hwy.
1 Lawrenceville, NJ
609-987-9595

**The Music Box**
www.themusicboxnj.com
100 Youngs Rd.
Trenton, NJ 08619
609-587-4696

**JC Strings**
4110 Quakerbridge Rd.
Lawrenceville, NJ
08648 609-936-9038

**Russo Music Center**
www.russomusic.com
1989 Arena Dr.
Hamilton Twp., NJ 609-888-0620

**Princeton Violins**
www.princetonviolins.com
240 Nassau St.
Princeton, NJ