

# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Beginning Strings Program

Ralph M. Williams, Jr. Elementary School  
2023 - 2024 School Year



August 18, 2023

Our school offers fifth grade students an optional Beginning Strings instruction program. This class is separate from the General Music class and teaches your student how to play a string instrument (violin, viola, cello, or bass). Beginning Strings will meet on **WEDNESDAYS after school from 2:30pm – 3:15pm** and **FRIDAYS during activity from 8:35am – 9:05am**. Our Orchestra Consultant, Mr. Jameson Tucker, and I will teach the classes.

**Beginning Strings runs from Wednesday, September 13, 2023, until Friday, May 24, 2024.**

If your student wants to participate in the Strings Program, please understand that we are asking for a commitment for your student's **entire 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade school years**. Your student's success, as well as the program's, is dependent on this commitment. Learning to play an instrument is not easy and will take time. However, with practice and determination **every** student can achieve success. Attendance through the school year is mandatory for class as well as performances. When a student repeatedly misses class, it puts them far behind the other students, resulting in frustration on everyone's part. If the student is at school, he/she is expected at rehearsal.

To participate, your student will need an instrument and the appropriate accessories. We have limited instruments that are owned by the school and may be rented for **\$50 per year** (\$25 per semester). Checks should be made payable to Williams Elementary. The rental fee does not include the required practice book and 1 in black binder (information for purchasing the practice book will be sent home during the first rehearsal). ***Please note that the cost of any repair or replacement of school-owned instruments and accessories due to abuse or neglect will be the parents' responsibility.*** Students who provide their own instruments are responsible for providing their own supplies and for keeping their instrument in good working order.

If you would like your student to participate in the Strings Program at Williams Elementary, please complete the permission form and return it as soon as possible. Forms and rental fees should be turned in to me **no later than September 1, 2023**. Students who have not turned in a permission form will not be allowed to participate. Applicants will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Students will be assigned an instrument. Although student/parent preference is valuable, some assignments may be influenced by body type and availability of instruments. It may not be your first choice. If you turn in the fee and no more school instruments are available to rent, the fee will be returned to you. At that time, I can give you information on renting or purchasing an instrument from a local music store or online source.

Students will be expected to dress in concert attire during performances. Students will need to wear a **WHITE** shirt/top, **BLACK** pants/skirt (no leggings), and **BLACK** shoes for performances.

Please plan for students to either walk, bike (must walk their bike home if carrying an instrument), attend SACC, or be picked up at the front loop at 3:15pm on Wednesday.

Instruction on an instrument is a wonderful opportunity and I am pleased we can offer it at this level. Mr. Tucker and I look forward to working with your fifth-grade students. We will have a great time together!

Sincerely,

Jana Doss

doss.jana@brevardschools.org  
(321) 617-7700 ex 53894

# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Beginning Strings Program

2023 – 2024 Application and Permission Form

Student Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Classroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (please include City and Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Parent Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument Choice (choose order of preference 1 - 4): **Violin**  or **Viola**  or **Cello**  or **Bass**

Instrument Rental (check one): I will **RENT** it from the school  or I will provide my **OWN**

I give permission for my student to participate in the String Program at Williams Elementary School. My student and I understand that we are signing up for a TWO-YEAR COMMITMENT. We acknowledge that our student will attend class on time, ready to practice. Also, we acknowledge that performances are a **MANDATORY** requirement. The dress code for all performances will be black pants, a white shirt/top, and black shoes. I understand that there is a rental fee of \$50 per year (\$25 per semester) for school instruments.

**Beginning Sept. 13th on Wednesdays from 2:30pm – 3:15pm**

**Please circle how your student will go home:**

SACC    East: Walker/Biker    West: Walker/Biker    Car Rider

We have read the attached information and understand the requirements of the program.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_