

Trumbull Public Schools Elementary Strings Instruction, 2020-21

All grades 3-5 TPS learners, both virtual and in-school, are eligible to learn to play a stringed instrument, regardless of previous experience. (Please note that students may choose strings or band, but not both.)

Strings instruction is \$125 per student per year; it may be paid in two installments of \$62.50. (The Superintendent of Schools may grant a waiver of the fee which will be based on need. Please contact the Superintendent's Office at 203-452-4301 or dfaiella@trumbullps.org for additional information.)

To enroll your child, please [fill out the online registration form by clicking here](#). Registrations should be completed no later than Tues., Oct. 13. If you register your child, you will receive an invoice by the end of October; the fee will be paid online.

Prior to the first lesson:

- Purchase the method book *Essential Elements for Strings – EEi (Essential Elements Interactive, Book 1)* published by Hal Leonard. Write your child's name on the title page. For some students, this will be a different method book from what they used last year.
- Get an instrument. You can contact music vendors and ask what options they have for in-person or remote sizing and purchase. See below for a list of instrument dealers who sell and rent instruments and accessories. Be sure your child's name is on the instrument case.
- Get a metronome or metronome app, and a music stand. These will be for your child's use at home.
- Ask the music store to apply a First Frets Beginner Fingering Decal to the instrument.
- Buy a shoulder rest (for violin or viola) or an endpin rest, a.k.a. rockstop (for cello or bass).
- Be sure rosin is included in your instrument case. (It is also good to have a set of spare strings.)

On the first lesson day (week of Oct. 19):

- Strings classes take place during the school day, so please send your child to school with the instrument and all other items listed above (except for the metronome, metronome app, and music stand, which can remain at home). Remote learners will attend strings instruction via the link at the band teacher's Google Classroom. Strings teachers will send parents a schedule and a link.
- Keep doing the above every lesson day.

Obtaining instruments:

Instruments can be obtained at the following music stores:

- [The Creative Music Center](#), 701 Main Street, Monroe, CT. 203-261-7301.
- [Bethel Music Center](#), 103 Greenwood Avenue, Bethel, CT. 800-276-7974.
- [Music and Arts Center](#), 1863 Post Road, Fairfield, CT. 203-255-2881.
- [Atelier Constantin Popescu](#), 25 Davenport Avenue, Westport, CT. 203-227-9577.

If you choose a different vendor, it is important to consider what ongoing support they will give you should your instrument need repair.

If you have any questions, please email your school's orchestra director:

[Mike McGrath, Orchestra Director](#)
for Daniels Farm & Tashua

[Yulia Fedorov, Orchestra Director](#)
for Booth Hill & Middlebrook

[Marie Tavella, Orchestra Director](#)
for Frenchtown & Jane Ryan