

PARENT A GLANCE

Find out what your child is **learning** and how to **help**.

Subject	Level I Orchestra	Level II Orchestra	Level III Orchestra	Level IV Orchestra	
Ideas students are learning	Sounding point; Appropriate Etiquette; Listening Skills; Intonation; Technique; Tone Production; Sight-reading	Sounding point; Appropriate Etiquette; Listening Skills; Intonation; Technique; Tone Production; Sight-reading	Sounding point; Appropriate Etiquette; Listening Skills; Intonation; Technique; Tone Production; Sight-reading	Sounding point; Appropriate Etiquette; Listening Skills; Intonation; Technique; Tone Production; Sight-reading	
Skills	Will use the proper combination of bow weight, bow speed, and placement on the string to create a full, resonant tone	Will find the proper sounding point for all parts of the bow; focus on the skill of legato, staccato & spiccato playing	Will accurately count rhythms, watch / follow the director's conducting, play w/accurate intonation & a quality tone	Appropriate etiquette including dress for concert settings, other performance venues, and auditions	
Work and assignments to look for	Students will practice bowing exercises, which include slurs, string crossings, long tones, etc.	Scales - patterns / interval studies; articulation exercises; identify & demo various musical symbols, signs and terms	Develop practice skills w/finger pattern exercises, bowing/articulation exercises, Region major scales/etudes	Students will change tone quality and dynamic levels by varying bow speed, weight, and placement	
Questions Parents Can Ask	What affect does your bow speed, pressure, and sound point have on your sound production?	What should an orchestra look and sound like during a performance and how do each affect your enjoyment?	What are the essential ingredients to being a literate musician?	How does proper balance and blend change the ensemble tone?	
Special Notes	Students should brainstorm where / under what circumstances they hear music & what purpose it serves	Build practice habits assignments & due dates to play off region/concert music, & scales should be assigned	Students should discuss uses of music in society and culture	Consistent, quality practice of technical studies at slow tempos & until played accurately prior to playing faster.	