

Daniell Middle School Orchestra 2020-2021 Student/Parent Handbook



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ORCHESTRA BLOG/SITE:
daniellorchestra.org

Grading for Orchestra

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| 35% | Rehearsal Skills (In class participation) |
| 25% | Performance Skills (playing technique, Smart Music tests, sight reading, in class playing tests) |
| 25% | Musical Understanding (written music theory, listening skills, vocab, musical critiques) |
| 15% | Concerts/Performances (attendance, performance and correct uniform) |

Supply Lists



What do I do if my instrument breaks?

It is a fact of life, instruments will need some maintenance and adjustments in order to play their best. You should plan to send your instrument at least once a year for routine adjustments and a new set of strings. However, sometimes something breaks or stops working properly and you need to get it fixed right away.



1. **NEVER TRY TO FIX IT YOURSELF.** You can often make the problem much worse.
2. Let your teacher know there is a problem with your instrument. If the director can fix it, they will. If not, it is **your** responsibility to get the instrument repaired as soon as possible.
3. Request a loaner instrument while it is being repaired from the shop you are renting from. Any reputable dealer is able to accommodate this request if you are renting from them if they have a repair shop in house. A broken instrument is **NOT** an excuse to sit in class without an instrument for an extended period of time and not participate. The same rules still apply to students with instruments in the shop.
4. *****If you play a school owned instrument and you caused the damage by dropping, stepping on or otherwise mistreating or neglecting the instrument, your parents will be asked to pay for the repair.**

Expectations

Students will learn music through string instruction. Students will learn to read, count and perform music on their respective instruments. Students will perform in a variety of performance settings throughout the year aligned with the Daniell Orchestra curriculum. Students will also learn music theory, music history, listening, vocab and composition skills.

Goals and Objectives in line with NAFME/GPS Standards

1. Improvise, compose, or arrange music within specified guidelines.
2. Perform a varied repertoire of music on instruments, alone and with others.
3. Read and Notate music.
4. Listen to, analyze and describe music.
5. Evaluate music and music performances.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationships between music, the other arts and disciplines outside of the arts.
7. Understand music in relation to history and culture.



Description of Orchestra Ensembles

The Daniell 6th Grade "String Orchestra" is a performance group comprised of 6th grade students split into two equal classes who enter Daniell Middle School with or without prior musical experience. All students maintain the understanding that there will be out-of-school performances and rehearsals required of all members during the school year. The course will cover the mechanics of string instruments: posture, note reading, rhythm, pitch discrimination, expression, writing, music history and music literacy at a beginning level. Private lessons are highly encouraged and teacher lists are available upon request.

The Daniell 7th Grade "Sinfonia Orchestra" is a performance group comprised of 7th grade students split into two equal classes who enter or return to Daniell Middle School with prior musical experience. All students maintain the understanding that there will be out-of-school performances and rehearsals required of all members during the school year. The course will cover intermediate mechanics of string instruments continuing from beginning orchestra: posture, vibrato, intro to shifting, note reading, rhythm, pitch discrimination, expression, writing, composition, improvisation, music history and music literacy at a higher level. Private lessons are highly encouraged and teacher lists are available upon request.

The Daniell 8th Grade "Philharmonic Orchestra" is a performance group comprised of 8th grade students split into two equal classes who enter or return to Daniell Middle School with prior musical experience. All students maintain the understanding that there will be out-of-school performances and rehearsals required of all members during the school year. The course will cover advanced mechanics of string

instruments: vibrato, shifting and position playing, complex rhythms, pitch discrimination, composition, improvisation, writing, music history and music literacy at an advanced level. Private lessons are highly encouraged and teacher lists are available upon request.

| Website | Login Info |
|---|---|
| Charmsoffice.com  | School Code: danielljackets Password: YOUR LUNCH NUMBER ONLY!* |

When it prompts you to change your password, DON'T! Keep your password as your lunch number only.

Please make sure that you take the time to correct any info that may be outdated. If you are new, Mrs. Newton will have created a profile for you and you must log in to enter your information. You can also email Mrs. Newton through Charms.

| Website | Login Info |
|---|---|
| Smartmusic.com  | Eighth Grade: A3KZ4-6XU7K Seventh Grade: QERWW-RQENU |

1. Be sure to have the latest version of Google Chrome, or the latest version of Safari if using SmartMusic on an iPad.
 2. Go to home.smartmusic.com and select "Join A Class."
 3. Enter a **valid** email address and class code.
4. Follow the prompts to create your account. Be sure to enter a backup email when prompted so that you can easily recover your password if necessary.

| Website | Login Info |
|---|--|
| Remind.com  | Send a text message to 81010 with this in the message: 8th Grade: @dms02025 7th grade: @dms02026 *Reply using only your real student first & last name!* |

Don't forget the @ symbol in your text message when joining the class!

This is how we communicate with all of our students when there is an announcement etc. please feel free to join as a parent as well, but all students must join on their device. There is also an email option if a cell phone is not an option.

Lastly,

Subscribe to the Daniell orchestra blog at **daniellorchestra.org** for all assignments and detailed information throughout the year! You must verify your email address before you will begin receiving blog posts via email.

