

# Welcome to the Arroyo/Central Schools Orchestra Program!

Thank you for choosing the orchestra as your 5<sup>th</sup> grade elective!  
You've chosen to do something truly amazing!

On this sheet we will cover what to expect for next year, places to find an instrument, private instruction and contact info for Mr. Fischer

## 1. So, what happens now?

Within two weeks, you will receive via e-mail a packet confirming your instrument choice, class (A or B) and the orchestra handbook, which should answer any further questions you may have. If you would like, you can go and get a head start learning your instrument ONCE your selection has been confirmed. There are several places in the area to rent instruments and some very fine local private string instructors that can get you started. I do not suggest trying to learn on your own, as tempting as that may be. Playing a string instrument is all about developing muscle memories. We want our muscles to learn how to move the right way from the very beginning.

## 2. Where do we go to get an instrument?

I would like to preface this question with a comment. I highly suggest you rent first. Our string instruments come in many different sizes. For example, most of our incoming 5<sup>th</sup> grader violinists will start playing on a half size violin. But, as they grow, so will the instrument. So, renting the smaller sizes makes more sense. Most music shops will provide a rent –to – own program so that a portion of the money spent on rental will go to a full size instrument when the string student has grown into one. Call ahead to the music store to see if they have instruments available before you make the trip!

### Bronstein Music

363 Grand Ave.  
S. San Francisco, CA 94080  
(650) 588-2502  
bronsteinmusic.com

### Heaney Violins

1350 Grant Rd. #13  
Mountain View, CA 94040  
(650) 564-9013  
heaney-violins.com

### Ifshin Violins

6420 Fairmount Ave.  
El Cerrito, CA 94530  
(510) 843-5466  
ifshinviolins.com

### Kamimoto Strings

609 N 4<sup>th</sup> St.  
San Jose, CA 95112  
(408) 298-8168  
kamimotostrings.com

## 3. How do we get a hold of Mr. Fischer?

You can contact me at: [cfischer@scsdk8.org](mailto:cfischer@scsdk8.org). I will do my best to get back to you within 24 hours. Remember, after school, Mr. Fischer puts on his musician cape, flies out the door and tries to make this world a little more awesome with his violin!

Thank you all again for choosing Orchestra! You're going to do amazing things!

Mr. Fischer