



## EDISON CENTRAL-SIX MIDDLE SCHOOL

---

75 William Street · West Orange, NJ · 07052-2829  
Ms. Liu, Orchestra · email: ALiu@westorangeschools.org

### 2018 - 2019 Orchestra Syllabus

**Description:** The goal of this class is to prepare our students for the rigors and standards of middle school and high school orchestral performance.

#### **Class Expectations and Procedures:**

- 1.) Be prepared for class by practicing daily at home.
- 2.) Follow posted class rules.
- 3.) Respect yourself, classmates, instruments and equipment.
- 4.) Students will speak about themselves and others in a positive language and have fun making beautiful music!

**Performances:** Participation in both the winter and spring concerts is a requirement of this course. These concerts represent the culminating activities of all progress made throughout the school year; therefore, performing at the concert is a part of the 2nd and 4th marking period grade and counts as the equivalent of two test grades. Failure to attend the winter or spring concert for any reason will result in the requirement for a written make-up assignment in order to make-up the missed concert grade.

**-----CONCERT DATES: 12/11/2018 and 5/15/2019-----**

#### **Grading process:**

Tests – Performance and Written - 50%

Performance and written assessments are best performed when home-practice and study takes place consistently.

Homework & anything requiring a signature – 10%

Written homework and any form requiring a parent/guardian signature must be handed in on time to receive full credit.

Participation/Class Preparedness – 40%

Orchestra is a team-effort. When students participate with a positive attitude and make a genuine effort in orchestra class, the entire team (orchestra) benefits.

#### **Make up work/tests/assignments:**

After an absence, students have one week from the day back to school to make up any missed work, tests or assignments.

# Orchestra Frequently Asked Questions:

## **What materials do I need for Orchestra class?**

- Always bring: agenda, pencil, instrument/accessories, ½ inch 3-ring binder, **Textbook-Essential Elements 2000, Book II** (Note: Please make sure the book is for YOUR specific instrument.)

## **Do I need to buy an instrument?**

- Students may rent an instrument from local music vendors like:
- [www.kandsmusic.com](http://www.kandsmusic.com) (School Code: WO) 908-790-0400
- [www.themusicshop.com](http://www.themusicshop.com) 973-334-8484
- If you would like to buy an instrument, please email Ms. Liu for more information.

## **Should instruments be brought home?**

- Yes, students are given daily homework assignments that require physically practicing on instrument.
- Cello and bass students may keep the instrument at home. An instrument will be provided to play in class.

## **What attire is required for concert performance?**

- Students must wear plain black pants, dark shoes, and white shirts.
- Girls may wear black skirts, but they must be longer than knee length, as the stage is elevated above the audience.

## **Are there tests in orchestra class?**

- Yes, orchestra is a full year class and in-class performance and written tests are given periodically which help determine marking period grades.

## **What if the instrument is not playing properly?**

- If an instrument is not playing properly, please show the instrument to Ms. Liu immediately so that a diagnosis can be provided. Student will be notified if his/her instrument needs professional repair. If the instrument is student-owned, parents/guardians are responsible for getting the instrument repaired immediately.

***In the event a student-owned instrument is getting repaired, a note from home must be sent to Ms. Liu indicating when the instrument will be repaired.***