

Dear Instrumental Music Students and Parents:

This letter is being sent home to make you aware of my expectations for students who participate in band and strings. My goal is to maintain a committed group of responsible young musicians, and to build the finest quality band and orchestra possible at our school. If your child wishes to participate in the band or strings program, as well as perform in the winter and spring concerts this year, the policies listed below **must** be followed:

1) All class work missed during instrumental music lessons **must be made up**. It is suggested that each child find a band /string buddy who will inform them of any work missed while they were gone. Every effort is made on my part, so that students do not miss the same class more than once a month.

2) **Home practice habits must be consistent** so students will be prepared for class. This includes filling out and returning the signed monthly practice log!

3) **All lesson/rehearsal sessions must be attended** - should a situation arise that prevents your child from attending instrumental music class (i.e., illness, test), please have him/her make an effort to notify me **prior** to lessons (if that is reasonable) so that I can mark the absence excused.

4) Your child must have **no more than 3 unexcused absences** in one quarter to participate in the next concert.

5) **Behavior must be appropriate**, within the Ilchester Elementary School standards, allowing others to learn.

6) Your child must remember to bring his/her instrument and accessories necessary to play that instrument (ie. Reeds, bow, etc.) and/or music to school. Your child must not **come to class unprepared more than 3 times** in one quarter to participate in the next concert.

I am confident that you understand the importance and fairness of these expectations. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at laura_baker@hcpss.org or (410) 313-2524 Please sign the form below and have your child return it to me by or a their first lesson. It **must** be signed if your child wishes to participate. Please keep the upper portion at home for your reference. Thank you for your continued support of music in our schools.

Sincerely,

Laura Baker
Band and Orchestra Director

Approved:

-I have read this letter and fully understand what is expected of me/my child to be a member of the band or orchestra.

Student Signature

Homeroom teacher

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

To the parents of _____,

As you know, playing an instrument requires quite a bit of responsibility, including remembering to bring your instrument to school for lessons on the appropriate

day. However, each student is provided a schedule which clearly indicates what day lessons will be held. The schedule is also posted in each homeroom, as well as on the door to my classroom.

This letter is being sent home to inform you that _____ has forgotten his/her instrument _____ times this quarter. I have spoken personally to _____ about it, and in some cases have sent notices home, or called home, with hopes that improvement would be shown in this area. Unfortunately, this has not happened.

If these habits do not change **immediately**, I will have no choice but to ask _____ not to participate in the upcoming concert. I am confident you realize the fairness of this request as it has an impact on the other students in the band program.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me here at school. I appreciate your cooperation and understanding in this matter. Please sign, and have _____ sign the form below and return it to me **tomorrow**. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karen Carter
Band/Strings Teacher

**I have read this letter and fully understand what is expected of me
to be a member of the band.**

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature