

Welcome to Orchestra!

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cockrillorchestra.com

[Facebook.com/cockrillorchestra](https://www.facebook.com/cockrillorchestra)

HANDBOOK & FORMS

- The handbook is going to be emailed through Charms as a PDF, and it is available on the website.
- Form packet went home with students on Monday. Forms and fees are due Friday 8/31. Fees may be paid tonight if you choose.
- No forms need to be completed online, including Rank One forms!
- Need a hard copy of the handbook? Please ask!

CALENDAR

- Your child got a calendar in class in their binder – will be replaced with an updated version once dates are approved.
- The calendar is also available on our website, we update it as soon as anything is added/changed.
- Please be sure to refer to it frequently.
- As soon as you know of any conflicts, please contact us as soon as possible so we can help resolve it.

Remind

- Receive text reminders for important events.
- App is not necessary, but helpful
- Text your code to **81010**:
 - **@cmso6th** (BEGINNER Orchestra members & parents)
 - **@cmsophil** (PHILHARMONIC Orchestra members & parents)
 - **@cmsosinf** (SINFONIETTA Orchestra members & parents)
 - **@cmsohonors** (HONORS Orchestra members & parents)

Events

- Performances are required.
- In case of schedule conflicts, speak with us ASAP so we can work something out.
- Uniforms (examples later)
- Off-campus social events are not included in \$75 Orchestra Fee. (Six Flags, Amazing Jake's, etc.)
- Social events are not required, NRH2O competition is required

Grading

- Performances, rehearsals, and playing tests are summative grades
- Daily participation and preparation are formative grades
- Communication is key – contact us as soon as schedule conflicts arise to avoid unexcused absences
- Playing tests can be taken as many times as needed to reach an “A”

Classroom Management

- We move fast! Kids need to be focused, prepared, and ready to learn
- Being prepared = instrument, binder, pencil, book, supplies
- We don't allow food/drink/GUM in the orchestra room
- Repeated issues with following rules will get detention
- Detention – 30 minutes in the orchestra room after school
 - NOT reported to administration. We deal with discipline ourselves
- Major infractions do result in office referrals

FEES

- Actual per student cost is between \$150-\$190 per year.
- Your \$75 fee helps to defray that cost; our MISD budget only covers a fraction of our yearly operations.
- Fees may be paid in installments. We are flexible!
- Fees may be paid via cash, check, or money order. PayPal is an option via cockrillorchestra.com
- In case of extreme financial hardship, please speak with us privately. The McKinney Orchestra Booster Club offers financial aid for families in need, and we will send you an application upon request.
- Fee payment prior to social events

School-Owned Instruments

- \$50 usage fee per year
- Covers basic wear-and-tear maintenance
- Cellos & Basses: will take home their “home instrument” (rented from the store) and begin using school-assigned instrument during class very soon!
- Limited number of school owned violins and violas available.
- May include instrument use fee with Orchestra fee; may split into smaller payments if needed.

Examples of Concert Black dress clothes...



Looking sharp!



PARENT HELP NEEDED!

- Register as a volunteer for MISD
- Join us on trips and other events
- Our library needs organizational help!
- Get involved in the McKinney Orchestra Booster Club (4 meetings per year, lots of ongoing projects to pick from!)
- Donate food items for parties
- Volunteer your skills (paperwork, photography, handyman, usher at concerts, chaperone, etc.)
- Will need parents to help on 8/31 with form turn-in
- Find corporate sponsors (ads in concert programs, scholarship fund)

CHARMS

- Communication, finances, inventory, library, documents, etc.
- Please keep it updated
- Login instructions are always on the CHARMS tab on cockrillorchestra.com
- www.charmsoffice.com
- click “parents/students/members”
- Schoolcode = CockrillMSOrch
- Your child’s MISD ID# is the initial password, but you will have to change it. Please change it to the same password as their school computer login. We can reset if needed!

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