

Welcome to the Norwalk District Elementary Orchestra Program!

Larissa Brown Sah (Ms. Sah): Orchestra Teacher at Wolfpit, Jefferson, Naramake

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### **New Student Information**

Your child has selected a string instrument to learn and is excited to begin! Every child will receive their instrument lessons during the school day. An individual schedule will be made with your child's classroom teacher and me. During a one-week period, your child will receive 1 or 2 lessons with me. Due to the precautions that all Norwalk Schools are taking this year to mitigate covid risks, I will be in residence at each school that I am assigned to for 1 week at a time. (I will be rotating between Wolfpit, Naramake, and Jefferson. This means that there will be 2 weeks at a time that I will not be able to meet with your student. (during non-pandemic times, there would not be such a long gap between lessons. I am keeping to a strict one-week period at each school in order to mitigate the risk of traveling between different school communities.) Your student will need to bring their instrument and book to school on days when they have lessons.

Your child will receive lesson with me in groups of 3 (or fewer). Occasionally we may use a larger space/outdoor space and have a larger group. Your child will only be put in groups with other children from their own classroom community. If your child is a virtual learner, they will also be accommodated into the program. If school moves to full virtual instruction, at any point, we will continue our lessons virtually.

Your child will need an instrument and a book. Please make sure that you rent the correct sized instrument. I will send home a note with each child regarding the instrument size that they need. This is very important to do. Once you know the size of instrument your child will need--Instrument rentals and books are available from:

AAA Band Rentals in Norwalk

20 Fitch St. Norwalk CT 06850

Phone: (203 416 6359)

Email: [admin@aaabandrentals.com](mailto:admin@aaabandrentals.com)

The average cost of an instrument rental is \$30 per month. We gently encourage every family who is ABLE to afford this cost to PLEASE rent your own instrument for your child. There are many students in the district who will need to borrow an instrument from the district's own limited supply. In order to make sure that there are enough instruments for students in the greatest need, please try to accommodate this cost, if you can. If you think you will need to borrow an instrument (at no cost) from the school district—please write to me individually. In addition to an instrument, your child will need the book "Essential Elements Level 1" FOR THEIR INSTRUMENT OF CHOICE. (i.e. violin/viola/cello/bass) (You do not need to select any other accessories during the rental process) We will start scheduling lessons as soon as your student has an instrument.

Please reach out to me with any questions!

