



BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS

LANE SCHOOL GRADE 4 ORCHESTRA

GREETINGS!!!

As your student starts their fourth grade year at Lane School, he or she has the opportunity to play an instrument in the Lane School Orchestra. The fourth grade orchestra is the first step in the nine-year program here at Bedford. It is our hope that this program will see the students through to high school graduation.

INSTRUMENTS

Students can choose from a variety of string instruments to learn: ♪ Violin ♪ Viola ♪ Cello ♪ Bass

HOW DO I REGISTER MY STUDENT?

To sign up for strings, parents should log in to Aspen By JUNE 30TH. There are detailed directions on the back side of this letter. Be sure to read all the information that is presented at that time. If your child changes their mind over the summer and would like to participate please send me an email: brianna_creamer@bedfordps.org. Any difficulties with Aspen should be directed to aspen@bedfordps.org.

WHAT WILL MY CHILD NEED?

- Students will need to have an instrument, rosin, shoulder rest (violin/viola) or rock stop (cello/bass), and a pencil in the instrument case. You are responsible for getting your child an instrument. On the questionnaire you will see a list of local rental companies that you can choose from.
- Please **do not purchase** an instrument online; your child will grow and the instrument will need to grow with them. If you already own an instrument, please email me so I can check the quality and size for your child.
If your child really wants to play and you need financial assistance please email or call me. I handle these matters privately and with respect. All children should be able to participate.
- Students will need a copy of **"Orchestra Expressions" BOOK 1** for their particular instrument. The book is written by Brungard, Alexander, Anderson, and Dackow and published by Alfred Music. It can be purchased on Amazon or with the instrument rental.

LESSON INFORMATION

Group lessons are given during school, in the afternoon, free of charge, and are given once per week with like instruments. The lesson schedule will be determined at the end of August. You will be informed via email during the **first week of school in September** of your child's lesson day.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The Lane School will perform in three concerts. They are currently scheduled for late December, late March, and late May. Students are expected to attend their weekly lesson in order to learn new skills and prepare for the concerts. If needed, a student may make-up a missed lesson by attending another lesson time that same week. Lesson attendance will be made known to you through email.

WHEN DO LESSONS BEGIN?

It is our hope that lessons with instruments will begin Monday, September 11th.
I will inform you via email as to their lesson day by Friday, September 8th.

MORNING ORCHESTRA

Beginning in October, we will meet as a full group before school from 7:20-8:15. Here students, who are able to arrive early, will learn to work and play together. You will receive the details as the time nears.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to meeting your child and continuing what has become a great tradition in the Bedford Public Schools!

Best Regards for a great summer,

Brianna Creamer

Lane School Orchestra Director

USING ASPEN TO REGISTER FOR ENSEMBLES

Hello!

In order to register your child for Grade 4 Orchestra, Grade 5 Orchestra, Grade 5 Band, or Grade 5 Chorus you will need to be able to log in to Aspen, the Bedford School's grade & information keeping program.

To log in you must know your Aspen Parent Username. If you do not know what this is please email Nicole O'Toole and she can look it up for you: nicole_otoole@bedfordps.org

Use the email that you gave to the Lane School as your contact email when making this request & include your name and your child's name.

To connect to Aspen:

1. go to the Bedford Schools Website: www.bedfordps.org
2. go to the "Links" tab
3. then click on "Aspen Parent Portal"
4. in the second paragraph it says "Aspen can be accessed directly [here](#)"

If you don't remember your password OR have trouble logging in please do look at the "Password Recovery Instructions" on the Aspen Parent Portal page.

If that does not work you may request help by emailing: aspen@bedfordps.org

To Register for Ensembles:

Once you have logged in click the **Initiate** button in Tasks.

Choose the **Elementary Music Ensembles** Workflow

Use the **magnifier** to select child to register, OK.

Then 

The below form should appear.

BE SURE to read all the paragraphs please!

Make your selections and click



Initiate Workflow: Details

Step 2 of 3

Elementary Music Ensembles Details for O'Toole, Liam

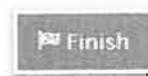
Lane School Band, Orchestra, and Chorus registration

Please verify your emails listed in the "security" tab of your "Set Preferences" by clicking on your name in the upper right corner of any aspen page after completing this workflow.

For Orchestra students - The required book is "Orchestra Expressions Book 1" for the instrument your child will learn. [Lane School Orchestra page link](#)

For Band students - The required book is "Sound Innovations for Concert Band Book 1" for the instrument your child will learn. Percussionists will need the "Combined Percussion" book. Clarinet and Saxophone players will need at least five good reeds in their cases at all times. Please buy strength 2 or 2½ for clarinet or alto saxophone. Oboe players will need at least two good reeds in their cases. I would suggest a medium-soft reed to start. [Lane School Band page link](#)

To make your selections final click



Please only do this process one time per child.

Please only register your child for the upcoming year.

Note: Aspen does not send you a confirmation of your registration.

Questions about our programs?

Orchestra: brianna_creamer@bedfordps.org

Band: nicole_otoole@bedfordps.org

Chorus: natan_wythe@bedfordps.org

