



ORCHESTRA

Evelyn Champion, Director

Orchestra Notes Week 1

Good afternoon orchestra parents,

My name is Mrs. Evelyn Champion and I am the new orchestra director at Northwestern Middle School. I am thrilled to be your child's teacher this year and I am look forward to a great year of music making!

Each week I will send out "notes" on orchestra activities. Please take a moment to look at everything. Not every item will apply to every musician, so please feel free to ask if you aren't sure. I will include the links to the handouts on the orchestra website: nmsperforms.org/orchestra. Students will also receive the information in print.

Sixth graders recently received a [supply list](#) and flyers from our local music stores. Also, there is a school instrument rental form on the back of the supply lists. Please email me if you have any questions about securing an instrument for your child.

Starting next week, we will have **Talent Tuesdays** before school, where students can get individual help on audition music or solos they are learning. This is a good time to improve technique with a little help from Mrs. Champion.

Fridays (starting August 19) will be **Fiddle Fun Friday** before school. We will play all fun/easy pops music, movie music etc. This is for all levels, just for fun! This starts at 8:00 when the building opens.

On other mornings, students are welcome to practice independently in the orchestra room before school.

We will also start **Theory Thursdays** in class this week, where we will focus on concepts and rules that help us understand music notation and our instruments.

There are several events coming up quickly that you need to be aware of

- 1. Our Fall Orchestra Concert is Tuesday, October 18 in the gym.**
- 2. [Fulton County Honor Orchestra Auditions](#)- deadline Friday, August 19, 2016 at 4PM**
- 3. GMEA All State Orchestra**



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- a. [All State Audition Information](#)- payment deadline 9/2/2016
 - b. [All State Workshop at Clayton State University](#) -September 17, 2016
- 4. Kennesaw State University Workshops**
- a. [KSU Violin Day](#) September 17, 2016
 - b. [KSU Viola Day](#) October 8, 2016
 - c. [KSU Cellobration](#) October 22, 2016
 - d. [KSU Bass Fest](#) October 22, 2016

The orchestra handbook is updated on our website, but the syllabus is still a work in progress. I will send out more information as it becomes available.

Thank you,

Evelyn Champion