



## **Adkins, Blanton, & EP Rayzor Elementary 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Students:**

Next year you have the option of participating in the 5th grade orchestra class!

### **What are the benefits of participating in orchestra?**

- ♪ Learning a new skill
- ♪ Making new friends
- ♪ Learning to play music
- ♪ Being a part of a team
- ♪ Representing your school at contests, concerts and field trips

### **Is orchestra hard?**

Yes and No. Learning to do something new is challenging and it takes hard work and dedication but it is also a lot of fun!

### **What instruments can I choose from?**

You can choose the violin, viola, or cello. Most students will get to play their first choice of instrument but if your choice fills up you may be asked to learn your second choice.

### **Do I have to do orchestra all year?**

Yes. Orchestra is a class you will sign up to be in all year. Some students feel like quitting when we are learning something new and it is hard at first. At the end of the year they are always glad they did not quit when they look back and see how much progress they have made.

### **What activities does the orchestra do?**

The orchestra has class 2 times per week during 5th grade specials. The orchestra performs 3 concerts per year. We also take a field trip on a school day to an orchestra competition.

### **How much do I have to practice?**

Orchestra students are asked to practice about 45 minutes to 1 hour per week outside of class time.

### **Can I skip 5th grade orchestra and join orchestra in Middle School?**

In Denton ISD, our orchestra programs start in 5th grade. At most middle schools the directors will work with you to allow you to participate if you have to skip a year for some reason. However, skipping a year would usually require you to be in a class with students one year younger than you and/or take private lessons to replace lost instruction time. If you want to join orchestra, it is expected that you do so in the 5th grade.

### **If I do orchestra in 5th grade am I required to do it in 6th grade?**

No. The orchestra program is designed for students to continue from 5th to 6th grade and for many years beyond (and most students do), but you may choose a different class in 6th grade if you decide orchestra is not a good fit for you.