

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Classroom teacher \_\_\_\_\_

## Travell Instrument Selection Form

Please return this form to Ms. Zlotkin by Tuesday, June 6th .

Other than recorder, do you currently play an instrument? If so, which one? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently taking private music or dance lessons? If so, for how long? \_\_\_\_\_

Does anyone in your family play an instrument? \_\_\_\_\_  
(who and which instrument)

Does anyone in your family own an instrument? \_\_\_\_\_  
(who and which instrument)

Circle TWO instruments that you would enjoy playing.

Choose from the following instruments:

Woodwinds

Clarinet  
Flute  
Alto Saxophone

Brass

Baritone Horn  
Trombone  
Trumpet

Strings

Bass  
Cello  
Viola  
Violin

\*\*\*All other instruments by special permission\*\*\*

Please email Ms. Zlotkin to inquire: [azlotkin@ridgewood.k12.nj.us](mailto:azlotkin@ridgewood.k12.nj.us)  
All choices will be considered with attention to balanced instrumentation.

I give permission to \_\_\_\_\_ to play either of the instruments circled above.  
(your child's name)

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

June 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians:

It is time for your child to select an instrument to play for next year. It is an important choice because they will need to follow through with regular practice and participation for an entire year. I am requesting that each student choose two instruments as possibilities. I will endeavor to honor these choices, while creating a balanced band and orchestra. Your guidance and assistance will be crucial to the success of the experience that your child will have. It is for this reason that I would like for you to discuss your child's choices with them and then please acknowledge your consent of your child's choice of instrument/s at the bottom of the "Instrument Selection" sheet on the back of this letter.

I will let the students know which of their two choices they will be assigned to and I will notify them as soon as all of the sheets have been returned.

The following are examples of a few music stores in the area:

Music & Arts in Paramus  
Ackerman's Music in Wyckoff  
From the Top Music Studios in Midland Park  
Sam Ash Music in Paramus

Please send all rental materials directly to the music company and **NOT** back to school.

The following are the selected supplemental books that each student will need a copy of:

Woodwind/Brass: Accent on Achievement-Book 1 (Your instrument)

Strings: New Directions for Strings,  
A Comprehensive String Method-Book 1 (Your instrument)

Finally, I would like to remind you about the Summer Music Academy in Ridgewood. This is a terrific summer music program hosted at Travell School and offered everyday through the month of July. It is a very fine program and a great way for your child to have a "jump start" into playing an instrument or to work on ensemble skills if they are studying privately. I am also sending a brochure for this excellent program for you to consider.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and timely response. If you have questions regarding any portion of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me at: [azlotkin@ridgewood.k12.nj.us](mailto:azlotkin@ridgewood.k12.nj.us). I look forward to a great year of music making!

Sincerely,

Ms. Amanda Zlotkin

June 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I met with your children to discuss the 5<sup>th</sup> grade instrumental program for next year. This is an exciting time for the 4<sup>th</sup> graders as most will be taking steps towards playing an instrument for the very first time. Through 'Link-Up,' the high school band visits, and other various school programs, the students have been exposed and introduced to the options we offer here in the Ridgewood public schools.

Beginning instrumental music is a rewarding and highly anticipated learning experience, though not mandatory. Beginning instrumental music is only offered in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade; there are no beginning instrumental lessons offered in the middle school or high school. Participation gives students the best possible advantage for long-range success and the opportunity to discover a new interest. It will take hard work and consistency to do well in the program, and a practice routine of 10 or 15 minutes, 3-4 times a week. This goal is easily achievable, but certainly a commitment that should be discussed with your child.

The oboe although not listed on the option sheet, is a great choice that students have found success, but because the instrument can be a bit more challenging and supplies can be costly (reeds in particular). We ask that students' first study with a private teacher to be sure this is a good fit for them and then will be integrated into the school lesson schedule. Concerning percussion instruments, students must have at least 2 years of piano experience in order to be comfortable on both pitched and non-pitched instruments.

Families are asked to rent instruments beginning in September from a reputable store of your choice. If you already own an instrument, please make sure it is clean and in top working condition. If you decide to purchase an instrument through the internet, please contact me with regards to instrument quality.

Attached is a sheet explaining instrumental choices. It is important that students take the time to research the instrument they are interested in and are excited about their choice. Please have the attached form filled out and returned by the date given. I look forward to next year and the introduction of instrumental music for your child.

Thank you,

Amanda Zlotkin  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Instrumental Music  
azlotkin@ridgewood.k12.nj.us

**Please e-mail if you are interested in Summer Music Academy in Ridgewood,  
it is a great way to get a head start for the school year!  
Have a wonderful summer!**