



January 2020

Director's Note

Orchestra students are back up and running after what was hopefully a restful and rejuvenating winter break. East students began their first week back pivoting to a two month long unit on chamber music (WSMA solo & ensemble), as well as music for All City String Festival, and the end of the year performance in May.

Speaking of hitting the ground running, immediately after finals week students in symphony orchestra will host Longfellow 8th graders for our 2nd annual side by side on January 27th during 5th hour. Videos and pictures will be posted on Instagram.

On another note:

Now that it seems more likely that winter is here to stay, it's important to remind ourselves of the best ways to keep instruments safe during the cold season.

- Keep instrument in the case
- Try to avoid extreme temperature changes
- Don't leave instruments in the car
- Try to maintain a consistent humidity level. [Dampit](#) makes an inexpensive humidifier.
- Remove rosin dust after every use
- Keep instrument away from heat vents
- Keep extra strings on hand
- Allow instrument time to "warm up"

As always, should you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask!

Stay Warm!

~Michael Hayden

Upcoming Events**February 29th, 2020**

District Solo & Ensemble Festival  
Longfellow Middle School

**April 19th, 2020**

Wauwatosa All City String Festival  
Brookfield East Fieldhouse  
1:45pm & 3:30pm (perform both times)

**New Opportunities: 2020-2021**

I am excited to share that beginning next school year, 2020-2021, East High School will offer **THREE** different orchestra classes for students! Even though there are currently three sections of orchestra at East, only two curricular orchestras exist, Concert (9-10) and Symphony (11-12)

Next school year, orchestras offerings will include **Concert Orchestra** (9th grade only), **Symphony Orchestra** (10-12th grade) and **Chamber Orchestra** (10-12th grade). Concert orchestra will focus on concepts critical to successful high school string playing. Symphony Orchestra more or less will stay the same as it is now. Chamber Orchestra will focus on college-level string literature and on advanced string techniques. Students wishing to take Chamber orchestra will be expected to audition before signing up. This year, students interested in Chamber will be able to use their first semester final as their audition.

I am very excited for the positive impacts this will have on all students as well as the orchestra program at East.

**Orchestra Descriptions**

CONCERT ORCHESTRA is designed for all 9th-grade string players. Students who play and have previous experience on the violin, viola, cello, and double bass are welcome to join this class.

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA is designed for 10th-12th grade string players. Students who play and have previous experience on the violin, viola, cello, and double bass are welcome to join this class. Symphony Orchestra students also have an opportunity to play full orchestra repertoire with the winds, brass, and percussion.

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA is designed for 10th-12th grade string players. Placement in Chamber orchestra is based on student audition or at teacher discretion. Many students in this orchestra have an extensive background in their instrument and study privately. Chamber orchestra regularly performs college level string repertoire. Chamber Orchestra students also have an opportunity to play full orchestra repertoire with the woodwinds, brass, and percussion.

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