



**2011-2012 Strings Enrollment Form  
Conder Elementary Arts Integrated Magnet School**



Student Name	Teacher/Grade Level
Student Address	Telephone #'s
Parent/Guardian Name(s)	Parent/Guardian e-mail address(es)

--	--

**Circle any areas you may be able to collaborate with the Strings program this year.**

Concert Assistance (Specific Grade Level? _____)	Field Trip Chaperone
Fundraising	Post-Concert Celebration
Contacting Community Sponsors and/or Donors	Creating and/or Posting Advertisements

--	--

**Would you like to be included on a Conder Strings e-mail contact list? (circle yes or no)**

Yes	No
-----	----

--	--

**Teacher - Student - Parent Commitment**

By signing here, I acknowledge that I read and support the Conder Strings General Information handout. I understand that participation in the Conder Strings program requires a C average in academic areas. I am willing to commit to encouraging my child both academically and musically. My child will make-up any classwork missed during a small group lesson. If my child struggles to maintain a C average in academic areas, I understand that he or she may not be allowed to miss academic class time for a small group violin lesson. I will do my best to partner with Mrs. Wiley and our classroom teacher(s) to help my child be successful both academically and musically this year.

**Parent/Guardian Signature**

--	--

**Questions? Contact Mrs. Wiley at [swiley@richland2.org](mailto:swiley@richland2.org) or (803) 736-8720 ext. 3109**

**Please return this form to Mrs. Wiley**



2011-2012 Strings General Information  
Conder Elementary Arts Integrated Magnet School



## Welcome to the Conder Strings program!

I am very excited about the 2011-2012 school year and the Conder Strings Program!  
Below you will find some specific information regarding your child's Strings experience this year.

Please read the information, fill out the attached form, and return it to Mrs. Wiley.  
A schedule of which 2 days a week your child will need his or her violin will be sent home at a later date.

### Small Group Lesson

Students will have a 30 minute small group lesson each week.  
Students will be pulled from their academic class time to attend their lesson.  
(If they forget their violin, students will **NOT** be pulled from academic class time for their lesson)  
Students are required to make-up the work they miss in their academic class due to their lesson.  
Students must maintain a C average in academic areas in order to attend their weekly lesson.  
Students will be grouped based on skill level when scheduling small group lessons.

### Large Group Class

Students will have a 40 minute large group class each week.  
Students will be pulled from their Encore class time 1 day a week to attend their Strings class.  
Large group classes will be grouped based on grade level when scheduling.  
Students are required to attend their large group class whether or not they have their violin that day.

### Classroom Expectations

Students are expected to exhibit our school's Lifelong Guidelines and Lifeskills when interacting with Mrs. Wiley and when interacting with their classmates. Failure to do so will result in:

- 1st – Warning/Reminder of expectation
- 2nd – Instrument packed up for the remainder of class - Personal reflection time - Parent Contact
- 3rd – Referral to administrator

### Class Description - Strings 1

Strings 1 is a class for 1st year violin players at Conder Elementary.  
Students will learn basic musical symbols and terms, simple note and rhythm reading, correct body, instrument, and hand positions, and will develop beginning violin playing skills.

### Concerts

Strings 1 students have the opportunity to show off their skills through at least 1 Strings concert their 1st year (Spring 2012). Detailed information will be given at least a month prior to the concert date. Concert attendance and correct uniform is required and will greatly benefit your child as he or she showcases new playing skills! (Short-sleeved white polo shirt or button-up shirt, dark navy or black pants, black shoes/belt).



2011-2012 Strings General Information  
Conder Elementary Arts Integrated Magnet School



## General Information

### Parent Involvement

Parental involvement is a key element in providing a successful musical experience for your child. Your support and encouragement will help your child overcome frustrations, stay focused, and feel proud of his or her accomplishments. Feel free to contact me regarding your Strings student anytime throughout the year.

### Personal Growth

Although the primary goal of Strings class is to develop violin playing skills, students will also cultivate personal growth in areas such as musicianship, discipline, and self-esteem. Mrs. Wiley encourages students to succeed not only in Strings class, but in academic classes and all areas of life.

### At-home Practice

At-home practice is a key element in successfully developing violin skills. Because students learn best from repetition, practice should be established as part of a daily routine and should be done in a place without distractions. Students are expected to stand during home practice in order to develop correct posture more easily. 1st year students should practice 20-30 minutes a day at least 5 times a week.

### Physical Contact

Teaching a musical instrument requires not only verbal instructions but also a great deal of visual teacher modeling and student hand/arm position correction. At times, there may be physical contact from the teacher in order to correct position and point out skills that need to be improved.

### Instrument Care

Whether you own or rent your child's violin, keep in mind that a violin is NOT a toy. Students will learn in class how to properly and carefully handle their violin. In the event that your child's violin is damaged in some way, please seek the help of Mrs. Wiley or a music store. Never try to repair an instrument on your own or with any household repair items.

### Assessment - Karate Strings

To assess their progress, students will earn 'karate belts' to tie on their instrument. At the beginning of each unit, students will receive a karate belt sheet. If he or she masters the new skill outlined on the paper, a sign-off will be given at the end of each class. After completing 3+ sign-offs, students will receive a karate belt for their instrument. Karate sign-off sheets will be stored in your child's case so that you can access them and follow your child's progress. Karate belts are an indicator that your child is doing well in strings!