

7th Period Butler Orchestra

Class Syllabus, 2025-2026 School Year

**Instructor:** Rochelle Garman

E-mail (best way to contact me): garmaro@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us

**Class Location:** Room #168

**After school County -wide Rehearsals:** Tubman Educational Learning Center

**Course Description:** This course is primarily a performance group. Students will perform assigned pieces of music and participate with other students to demonstrate an evolving understanding and mastery of his/her chosen string instrument. Knowledge of Western classical music history, terminology, and theory will also be included. Your grade will be based on mastery of learning objectives through daily performance, playing quizzes and tests, attendance at required auditions, rehearsals, and concerts, music history and theory quizzes and tests.

**Assignments:**  All students will have access to the 2025-2026 Combined Cross Butler Orchestra Canvas Course. Many of their assignments and copies of letters and music that I already gave them, will be posted in Canvas. Please check the Orchestra Canvas course for updates.

**Grading:** Minor Grades 60%. Major Grades 40%. (You will be receiving a separate letter explaining how I will be grading that breaks everything down)

**Richmond County Honor Orchestra*:***Theorchestra is an extension of the string class. You are HIGHLY encouraged to audition and attend rehearsals on Tuesday nights There is an audition and weekly evening rehearsals at **Tubman Education Center**, 1740 Walton Way. Amy Ellington/Christopher Connolly, Directors[*ellinam@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us/connoch@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us*](about:blank)

*Butler Orch. 25-26 Syllabus p1*

**Audition**: Tuesday, August 26, 2025 6:00-8:00p.m. Tubman Education Center.

**Rehearsals**: Tuesday evenings, 6:00-7:20, starting September 9th. The director may extend certain rehearsals as needed.

**Teacher Absence, Irregular Schedule:** Please note that I’m not on campus until shortly before the class period starts because I also teach at Cross Creek High School, Pine Hill Middle, McBean,Goshen and Hains Elementary. Students are to report to Mr. Williams in the Band Room whenever I’m out or the class period starts at an irregular time and I’m not in the Orchestra Room.

**Learning Objectives:**

* Singing, alone and with others.
* Performing on stringed instruments, alone and with others, to produce music.
* Reading and notating music.
* Creating music by improvising melodies and harmonies.
* Listening to, analyzing, describing, and evaluating a wide genre of music.
* Understanding the relationship between music and our history and culture, as well as the history and culture of others.
* Using music as a communication with others in our community.

**Required Materials That the student is responsible for bringing to class every day:**

1. **A violin, viola, cello or bass** (or tell me you are requesting use of a county-owned instrument)
2. **a *rag*** to wipe the rosin off the instrument,
3. ***tuning & metronome app (which is free)***
4. ***a pencil,***
5. ***Rosin***
6. ***Music that I will give you.***
7. Further, all students will be responsible for the maintenance of his/her instrument, whether owned by the student or the county. **Spare, new strings (Violin E, A, Viola A) stored in the case are highly recommended.**

*Butler Orch. 25-26 Syllabus p2*

**CLASS RULES**

ARRIVAL

1. Take care of restroom needs before class. You are counted tardy when the tardy bell rings unless you are in the room.
2. Bring the required materials listed above to class everyday.
3. Be set up and completely ready by the time instruction starts. Do not socialize when you should be setting up.

DURING CLASS

1. Handle and store your instrument and materials responsibly at all times.
2. We do not eat during class, this includes gum.
3. Keep fingernails short.
4. Phones out at improper times will be given a chance to put the phone away. If

this continues on the same day or becomes habitual, phones will be taken up for the rest of the class.

1. All students are expected to keep the classroom orderly by placing all materials in designated areas.

AT THE END OF CLASS

1. Please listen to all closing remarks without packing up. Then remove all of your materials from your work area.

A parent should e-mail the orchestra director if extenuating circumstances force the student to miss a concert or have excess rehearsal absences, as discussed below.

For each **concert** performed, a grade of 100 is posted. If a concert event is missed, at the discretion of the director, this grade may be dropped from the average or make up work assigned.

Home practice is required for you to progress in the orchestra. If sufficient progress is not being made, we will use practice charts and other methods to help get you back on track.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

*Butler Orch. 25-26 Syllabus p3*

2025-2026 BUTLER ORCHESTRA CLASS AGREEMENT

Returning the information below the dotted line will be the first written grade of the year

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand the student

(student signature)

expectations for the High School Orchestra Class as of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand my child’s

(parent or guardian signature)

expectations for the High School Orchestra Class as of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mails \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please put a star next to the best way to reach you.

I’m looking forward to a wonderful year!!!

Rochelle Garman,

Richmond County Orchestra

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