

## 2010-11 Student Lessons Policies

### Lessons

Music instruction for a student in grades 2-12 includes 27 half-hour lessons and weekly after-school orchestra rehearsals. In Bigfork, instead of orchestra rehearsals, students will have some ensemble practices to prepare for concerts. When possible, lessons are during the school day at a student's school in small groups or individually. Students in Grand Rapids in the orchestra program may take the bus from their elementary schools to the Robert J. Elkington Middle School (RJEMS) to attend orchestra practice at 3:30 pm in the band room. Cellos and basses are not allowed on school buses and must be dropped off at the school by parents and guardians.

### Payments

- Payment for the full year is greatly appreciated but may be made in 8 monthly payments.
- PayPal payments also may be made online at [www.itascaorchestra.org](http://www.itascaorchestra.org). The higher fees cover the cost of this service.
- The first payment is due October 15 and the final on May 15. Monthly invoice reminders will be emailed or mailed to households.
- The IOSP program is a full-year commitment. The tuition is for the full year and must be paid even if the student drops the lessons.

### Delinquent Payments

After the third delinquent payment, parents/guardians will be notified by mail that lessons will be discontinued unless full payment is made within seven days.

### Financial Assistance

Families must apply for financial aid by June 30. Please contact the IOSP office for information on income guidelines. After the June deadline, applications will be placed on a waiting list. Some families also may be eligible for the Minnesota Education Tax Credit program.

### Registration

Registrations submitted in the spring of each year guarantee a spot for next year's program. Fall registrations are processed on a first come, first served basis. Families owing any tuition, rental, or merchandise fees from the previous year will not be allowed to register for next year's classes until payment is fully made.

**Instrument Rental**

IOSP has instruments available for rental at the following monthly rates:

<b>Per month:</b>	Violins \$12
	Violas \$12
	Cellos \$20
	Basses \$30

**Attendance**

All parents and guardians will receive a calendar of lesson days and holiday breaks at the beginning of the year. If school in ISD 318 is cancelled then lessons and student orchestra practices are cancelled.

Parents must notify IOSP by calling or emailing the office if a lesson will be missed for any reason. IOSP schedules at least 27 lessons during the school year. Make up lessons will only be given if a teacher misses a lesson.

Regular attendance at student orchestra rehearsals is a requirement. The director may determine when a student has missed too many rehearsals and not be allowed to perform with the orchestra in concert.

**Practice**

Regular practice is most important. Generally, 20-30 minutes most days is a good basis, with shorter time for beginning students.

**Concert Dress**

Dress for girls and boys for student concerts is all black including shoes and socks.