

Dear Parents:

Welcome to the exciting opportunities that our beginning instrumental music program will offer to your child. We are happy to have your *student musician* as a member of the Indian Prairie School District bands and orchestras.

The District 204 Beginning Instrumental Music Handbook (<u>www.meteamusic.org</u>, <u>www.neuquamusic.org</u>, or <u>www.wvhsmusic.org</u> - Search: Beginning Instrumental Music) identifies specific quality instruments and accessories that we believe best meet the needs of beginning student musicians. These instruments have proven quality and durability; two major considerations when selecting an instrument. <u>There are better instruments available if you choose, but we do not encourage selection of less reputable instruments or accessory equipment.</u> In addition we strongly discourage the purchase of any instrument from an on-line site without the assistance of your student's MS band or orchestra directors.

Last spring, District 204 asked area music retail stores to reply to a questionnaire to 1) determine their ability to provide the instruments and accessories we recommend, 2) learn about their customer service and repair program, and 3) determine their ability to meet a wide range of music service demands. Promotional materials for area vendors are not distributed at our information meetings. Street addresses, phone numbers and web addresses are provided below for your convenience.

Please be aware that rental or sales agreements were not compared because they can vary significantly by instrument and rental period. However, parents or guardians should investigate this issue for themselves. Inquire about the total cost of renting, the total cost of buying (including installment purchases), the cost to purchase after the lease ends, and the possible application of "Starting Instrument" rental fees to a future "Step-up Instrument" purchase.

As a result of responses to our survey, District 204 selected Quinlan & Fabish Music as our preferred vendor. With three Chicagoland locations (two located near District 204), we are fully confident in their ability to provide quality instruments, as well as a comprehensive level of service that meets the needs of District 204 students, parents and teachers.

Quinlan & Fabish, 6827 High Grove Blvd., Burr Ridge, IL 60527 Quinlan & Fabish, 299 Montgomery Rd., Montgomery, Il 60538 www.qandf.com	630-654-4111 630-906-6595
Additional area band and orchestra instrument and accessory vendors include:	
PM Music Center, 4411 Fox Valley Center Drive, Aurora, IL 60504 www.pmmusiccenter.com	630-978-9927
Ellman's Music Center, 508 W. 5 th Avenue, Naperville, IL 60563 www.ellmansmusic.com	630-355-5880
Music and Arts, 385 S. Route 59, Aurora, IL. 60504 www.musicarts.com	630-577-0820
Naperville Music, 636 E. Ogden Naperville, IL 60563 www.napervillemusic.com	630-355-1404
Additional String ONLY vendors are: Austin's Violin Shop, 316 Wheeler Road, Sugar Grove, IL 60554 Gregory S. Sapp Violins, LTD., 1036 Sard Ave., Montgomery IL 60538	630-466-7562 630-906-0244

Thank you for your participation in District 204's outstanding music program.

Sincerely,

William Jastrow District 204 Coordinator for Music Education