# Rawlinson Road Orchestra Internship

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### Getting To Know Each Other

- The first day of school at Rawlinson Road the first thing I could notice was the lack of confidence and shyness around the room. With middle school, the grades (8<sup>th</sup>,7<sup>th</sup>,6<sup>th</sup>) are generally separated to keep the grades from mixing, but in this orchestra class they weren't.
- I then came up with a plan to open them up and "break the ice"

#### **Toilet Paper Ice Breaker**

- The second day of school I brought I role of toilet paper.
- Without explaining the game, I handed the role to the first person in the role and said "take as much as you need". Everyone was really confused but took the paper.
- Some kids grabbed a couple sheets, and some took a lot. Once everyone had take the toilet paper, I then explained to everyone that how ever many sheets they took they need to give a fact about themselves.
- The game is intended to open up the kids and get them comfortable around there new classmates, and for everyone to know a little about everyone. The game was a fun activity that the kids seemed to enjoy.



## **Daily Preparations**

- The first thing that is completed before we get started with class is tuning. I walk around to each student to listen to their instruments to make sure everyone strings have been tuned.
- During this time I show them the proper way to tune their string
- This time also helps to train their ears to certain pitches on the instrument to help them play and tune certain notes when they are playing their music.

#### Pieces

The Rawlinson Road Middle School Program has been combined three classes (beginners, intermediate, and advanced players) into one class, so when we are ready to practice our pieces we split them up.

When we split them up one half of the class comes with me into the band room, and on half stay with Mrs. Gross in the strings room.





- When we work on our pieces for the concert, we break the song apart. We take a section of the song and work it up to where it need to be then we move onto the next section.
- The first thing we look at in a section of a song is the rhythm. Rhythm is the repeated pattern of movement or sound. We do this by clapping the notes. By doing this it focuses in on the beat and not the specific sound the note makes.
- When the rhythm is accomplished we start by adding the intonation. Intonation is the accuracy of the rise and fall of pitch when playing.
- Once we have the intonation down. We then add the musicality of the song. Musicality is accomplished by dynamics and style of music. Dynamics are what control volume, it's the soft and loud moments in a song.

## What I took Out Of My Internship

- My internship allowed me to expand on my knowledge of music. It also allowed me to learn the basic skills and techniques to educate students on playing.
- Mrs. gross taught me multiple ways to make getting a lesson across to the students easier.