



NORTH  
KANSAS CITY  
SCHOOLS  
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## Important Information on Instrument Quality and Features

### *All String Instruments*

- The following parts of the instrument should be made of ebony, *not painted hardwood*: pegs, string nut, fingerboard, tailpiece and saddle. You may want to ask your music dealer about these items.
- The bow should be *real horsehair*.
- European, Korean, and Japanese instruments are most often of high quality. Always choose an instrument that your instrument dealer will warranty for repair. Ask your music dealer questions about the instrument.
- Although carved wood construction is preferable, cello and basses made of laminated construction are acceptable.

### *Special Information for Violins*

- We recommend that all violins be fitted with over-the-tailpiece chin rests.
- It is important that each instrument come with a Kun shoulder rest that fits the instrument.
- Beginner violins should be either carved or pressed wood construction. *Laminated construction is unacceptable.*
- Every instrument should be equipped with four fine-tuners.

### *Special Information for Violas*

- Your music dealer should provide you with a junior size viola, **not a  $\frac{3}{4}$  violin which has been strung with viola strings.**
- We recommend that all violas be fitted with over-the-tailpiece chin rests.
- It is important that each instrument come with a Kun shoulder rest that fits the instrument.
- Beginner violas should be either carved or pressed wood construction. *Laminated construction is unacceptable.*
- Every instrument should come with four fine-tuners.

### *Special Information for Cello*

- Cellists may wish to purchase a rolling, collapsible luggage rack for transporting their instrument to and from school. If you choose this option, an elastic cord with hooks will be needed to hold the instrument onto the rack.
- Every instrument should be equipped with four fine-tuners.