

Rampello K-8 Music Handbook



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Welcome to Rampello K-8 Music Handbook!

Welcome to the Music Program at Rampello! We are so excited to be making music with our students this year and working with them to reach their highest potential.


This handbook outlines expectations, procedures, grading, and materials that are essential to making our students and program successful. Additional information about the choral program will be posted on Canvas over the course of the year. Parents are encouraged to read this handbook with your child and discuss the contents with them. Please keep this handbook in a safe place for reference over the course of the year.

We encourage all our parents to be involved with the Rampello Music Booster Program. Our students need the support of parents, friends, and family in addition to their dedication for them to grow as musicians. With continued support and dedication from parents and students Rampello Music can continue to grow and become more successful. We look forward to meeting everyone and helping your student have a rewarding experience in our classrooms!

Communication

A huge aspect to having a successful music program is communication. The Rampello Music Department uses Remind as our primary communication method for ensembles, followed by the website and Canvas. If you have any questions, we encourage you to check those sources first! If you still cannot find what you are looking for, please feel free to contact your student's music teacher. Please note that we are not always close to a phone or computer when teaching so you may not get an immediate answer. If you have not heard back from us in twenty-four hours try again!

All parents with a student in an ensemble are required to join that ensemble's Remind. Please see below for Remind Codes and important web addresses.

<p>Reminds:</p> <p>Full Department: @rampellom Elementary Chorus: @RamEChor Show Choir: @RamSChor World Drumming/Xylophone: @RamWorld Middle School Advanced Band: @rampelload Middle School Orchestra: @rampelloo Middle School Chorus: @2c4adea 6th Grade Band: @8fb3d3 Middle School Beginner Band: @rampellobe</p>		<p>Links:</p> <p>Info:</p> <p>www.rampellomusic.com</p> <p>Order Shirts:</p> <p>rampellomusic.printify.me</p> <p>General Info:</p> <p>facebook.com/rampello.music</p>
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Rampello Music Calendar 2023-2024

All Dates Tentative- Please check the website and Remind for updates.

August

8/28 All MS Band/Orchestra must have instruments.
8/29 First day of Elementary Chorus
8/29 MS All State Forms and Fees Due
8/31 Elem Show Choir Auditions

September

9/1 Elem All State Chorus Paperwork and Fees Due
9/4 Labor Day – Student Holiday
9/5 MS Handbook Contract Returned Signed (Graded Assignment), All parents must be on Remind
9/7 World Drumming/Xylophone Auditions
9/11 Elem All State Chorus Auditions
9/14 First Day World Drumming/Xylophone/Show Choir First Rehearsal
9/19 MS All County Forms and payments Due
9/23 ***All State Band/Orchestra Auditions – Rodgers Middle School
9/28 No World Drumming/Xylophones

October

10/18 Mega Night

November

11/1-11/10 Music Booster Fundraiser
11/6 ***MS All County Chorus Tentative-
11/10 Veteran's Day (No School)
11/13 ***All County Band/Orchestra Auditions – Strawberry Crest HS
11/17 Great American Teach In
11/20-24 Thanksgiving Holidays (No School)
11/27 Students Return to School

December

12/5 December Dazzle
12/22 End of the 2nd Quarter
TBA Trail of Trees (Elem Choirs)
12/25-1/5 Winter Holidays (No School)

January

1/8 Students Return to School
1/9 Elem Ensembles Resume
1/16 Beginner Band Parent Meeting
6:00 PM
1/10-13 FMEA All State Conference – Tampa, FL
1/15 MLK Day Holiday/Non-Student Day
1/30 Beginner Band Instruments/Handbook Due
1/30 MS All County Rehearsal (Evening)

February

2/1 MS All County Rehearsal
2/2-2/3 MS All County Rehearsal and Festival
2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26 Elem All County (FAF) Rehearsals
2/16 Non-Student Day
2/28 Fine Arts Festival (Elem)
2/29 Mega Night

March

3/4	Non-student Day
3/6-8	Orchestra MPA District MPA (Music Performance Assessment)/Time TBA MANDATORY MPA is one of our most important assessments of the year. All Orchestra students are required to attend.
3/11-15	SPRING BREAK/End of 3 rd Grading Period
3/20	End of 3 rd Grading Period
3/26-28	Band MPA District MPA (Music Performance Assessment/Time TBA MANDATORY MPA is one of our most important assessments of the year. All Advanced Band students are required to attend.
TBA	Vocal MPA

April

4/16 Spring Fling

May

TBA	2024-2025 Ensemble Auditions (MS)
5/24	****LAST DAY OF SCHOOL****.
5/27	Memorial Day

Please note:

All rehearsals and performances are NOT optional and are part of each student's grade for the nine weeks. Please check the attendance policy in the handbook regarding absences for each ensemble.

This calendar does not include all rehearsal dates and times. These will be added to the calendar as the school year progresses. The calendar is subject to change. Changes made to the calendar will be made at least two weeks prior to any event.

Elementary General Music

All students in grades K-5 will have a general music class twice a week for 50 minutes. Students will learn the fundamentals of music, play classroom instruments, sing, move with music, develop listening skills, vocabulary, and music history knowledge. The curriculum taught is approved by the Hillsborough County Public Schools and is in line with the Florida Education Standards. All students will participate in district testing for music at the end of the school year.

Performance is an important part of learning music! All our K-5 students will have the opportunity to perform in at least one concert during the year! Our students in Kindergarten, Grade 2, and Grade 4 will perform in the December Dazzle Concert. Students in grades 1, 3, and 5 will perform in the Spring Fling Concert. Dates of these concerts can be found in the calendar. A memo with more information about the concert will go out about one month prior to the event.

Elementary Ensembles

Elementary Chorus

Elementary Chorus is open to all students in grades 2-5 without an audition. Students participating are expected to participate for the entire year. Students in chorus will perform in multiple events throughout the year. Rehearsal attendance and best behavior is required for this ensemble. More information about elementary chorus can be found in the sign-up contract at the beginning of the year.

World Percussion

This ensemble is open to students in grades 4/5 by audition only. This ensemble will include both world drums and xylophones, along with other creative aspects of performance! Students will have the opportunity to develop and grow their knowledge in musical theory, drumming techniques, xylophone techniques, and other percussion-based instruments (both pitched and unpitched). All students will have opportunities on all instruments utilized in the ensemble based on need within with current repertoire. More information about this ensemble and auditions can be found in the student sign up packet.

Show Choir

Show Choir is open to students in grades 4-6 by audition only. Students involved in Show Choir must also be in Chorus (unless in 6th Grade). This group combines singing and dancing techniques to put on show type performances. Rehearsal attendance and best behavior is required for this ensemble. More information about Show Choir can be found in the sign-up contract at the beginning of the year.

Middle School Course Descriptions

Sixth Grade Band

Sixth grade band is a 1/2 year course taking place in second semester from January to May. Students complete the required wheel curriculum in the first semester and then may choose to continue with band as their elective course. Students enrolled in sixth grade band will be assigned an instrument and learn fundamental music techniques as well as build upon their foundations of music literacy. Previous musical training and music reading is of course helpful, but not necessary. Students may have before or after school rehearsals when necessary for concert preparation for which attendance is mandatory. Scheduled performances are required as part of the class. *Home practice and video assessments are required as part of the grading of this class. See the grading section for more information. Private lessons are helpful and encouraged but not required.*

Beginner/Intermediate/Advanced Band

Beginner Band is a full year class and is open to students who have little or no experience playing a band instrument.

Intermediate Band is a full year group that is open to students with previous band experience. Students will continue to work on instrumental techniques and music literacy.

Advanced Band is a full year group that is open to students with previous band experience. This ensemble will be selected by audition. Mandatory MPA participation is part of this class.

Each band performs several concerts each year. *Private lessons are highly recommended.* Private teachers can help with preparation of All-County Band auditions, All-State Band auditions, and preparation of band music. Students may have before or after school rehearsals when necessary for concert preparation. At least two weeks' advance notice will be given, and attendance is mandatory. Scheduled performances are required as part of the class. *Home practice and video assessments are required as part of the grading of this class. See the grading section for more information.*

Orchestra

Orchestra is a full year course open to all students. Orchestra students will learn fundamental music techniques as well as build upon their foundations of music literacy. Previous musical training and music reading is of course helpful, but not necessary. Students may have before or after school rehearsals when necessary for concert preparation for which attendance is mandatory. Scheduled performances, including participation in MPA assessments are required as part of the class. *Home practice and video assessments are required as part of the grading of this class. See the grading section for more information. Private lessons are helpful and encouraged but not required.*

Middle School Chorus

Chorus is a full year course open to all students. Choir students will learn fundamental music and health singing techniques as well as build upon their foundations of music literacy. Previous musical training and music reading is of course helpful, but not necessary. Students may have before or after school rehearsals when necessary for concert preparation for which attendance is mandatory. Scheduled performances, including participation in MPA assessments are required as part of the class. *Home practice and video assessments are required as part of the grading of this class. See the grading section for more information. Private lessons are helpful and encouraged but not required.*

Jazz Band

Jazz Band is an after-school ensemble, open by audition only. Audition times and dates will be posted in the music room.

Code of Conduct for Ensembles at Rampello

All ensemble students are responsible for the reading of and adhering to the **HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT**. In addition, the following behavior policies will be in effect in the music rooms and when representing Rampello at events off campus:

FOLLOW DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY.

To create a safe environment for our students and music equipment, it is important that students listen to and follow directions the first time. Students not following directions may be asked to leave the event or ensemble.

BE PREPARED.

Learning cannot take place if one does not have the proper equipment or if one has not practiced his or her part.

RESPECT OTHER PEOPLES' AND THE SCHOOL'S PROPERTY

Musical instruments are sensitive and fine-tuned machines. They should only be handled, touched, and/or played by the owner. Sharing of instruments is not allowed. Students will be held accountable for any damages that may occur from not following school and district policies or procedures.

FOLLOW THE GOLDEN RULE

Students will be respectful within the music classrooms, within ensembles, and at all extra-curricular events. Students not showing respect may be removed from ensembles.

GUM, CANDY, FOOD, AND/OR DRINKS ARE NOT ALLOWED.

These things can damage the working mechanisms inside instruments and equipment and are a choking hazard for singers. Water in a closed bottle is allowed, and students will be given opportunities for water breaks during rehearsals.

DEVICES ARE NOT PERMITTED DURING CLASSES, REHEARSALS, OR PERFORMANCES.

Students may ask the teacher if they need to contact home but should wait for a break in instruction to do so. Teachers will be following school policy of "if we see it, we take it."

Music teachers work with unusually large classes. To maintain high educational and musical standards, a high standard of conduct must be maintained. Parents and students invest a great deal of time, money, and love into the music program to make this an organization in which to be proud. Therefore:

Membership in the Rampello Music Program is contingent upon adherence to the rules and procedures outlined in this handbook.

Any student who challenges these rules and procedures will be removed from the program.

Classroom Etiquette

Students are expected to exhibit the following qualities on a consistent daily basis, including concerts:

Effort: proper posture, active listening, sincere attempt to demonstrate mastery.

Responsibility: turns in items on time, a positive contributor to classroom environment.

Attitude: pleasant demeanor, receptive to instruction, falls in line with class activities, meets expectations.

Concert Etiquette

Our concerts are always a lot of fun and represent the fine efforts of our students during the preparation process. Concert Etiquette should be followed for the enjoyment of all audience members and respect for the performers. Please review concert etiquette for both performer and audience with your student and family. The purpose of these concerts is to showcase the students' musical achievements, *not* to draw attention to performer or audience behavior.

Performer Etiquette:

- Do not talk or play out of turn.
- Do not stand, wave, or draw attention to yourself.
- Keep an eye on the conductor to get instructions.
- Follow directions from stage managers and conductors.

Audience Etiquette:

- When the lights go down, quickly get quiet.
- Silence any cell phones, pagers, etc.
- Do not enter or leave the Auditorium when the ensemble is playing; wait until the selection is over.
- Applaud for everyone, after every song – each group has worked equally hard.
- When you applaud, do not make unnecessarily loud noises.
- Please be courteous when taking pictures and video. Flashes can be distracting to the performers on stage.
- Families with small children should sit near an exit so you can easily slip out if they get restless.
- Stay for the entire concert, every performer has worked hard and deserves a full audience.

Performance/Field Trip Policies

A student's participation in a music field trip or performance is contingent upon that student meeting criteria established by Rampello K-8 and Hillsborough Public School as well as the director. Some of the criteria may include:

- Minimum GPA requirements
- Fulfilling all fundraising responsibilities, payment of all school fees/school instrument rental fees
- Demonstration of acceptable behavior (i.e., not receiving referrals, detentions, tardies, etc.)
- Past concert or class participation
- Class assignments completed.
- Turning in of requested materials, permission slips, equipment, or uniforms
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***Students music turn in required permission slips by the due date, or risk not attending the event.**

Students will be given a reasonable chance to fulfill these requirements in the time preceding each event. If the event is for Middle School and a student does not qualify for a particular event, his/her grade for that event will be determined by the completion of an alternative assignment, to be determined by the director.

Before/After School/Pick up/drop off information

Unless otherwise noted, all students must be picked up and dropped off for all events in the car line area. This is for the safety of your children. Students should be picked up within ten minutes of the end of the event or rehearsal. Students who are not picked up in a timely manner may face removal from the ensemble.

Students will not be allowed to stay at the school between school ending and concert time unless they are registered with HOST.

Students in morning HOST that are signed up for elementary chorus will be released at 7AM and are to go straight to the music room.

Students involved in afternoon HOST must be signed out by an adult before attending concerts.

Elementary Grading Policy

Elementary General Music is designed to give a broad overview of music to students. All students in grades K-5 have music twice a week for fifty minutes. Students will learn classroom instruments, singing, move to music, study rhythm, performance skills, and learn music vocabulary that aligns with the Florida State and National Standards. Grading in music places a strong emphasis on active participation, effort, and mastery of the Florida State Standards. Students struggling academically in music will receive a progress alert at the end of the first five weeks of the quarter.

Students in music are expected to follow all Hillsborough County and Rampello School Rules. In our classroom, students are expected to practice respect for each other, the equipment, and to always show their best effort. Students not meeting behavior expectations will first receive an in-class warning, followed by a note home (please check student planners). In the case of a more serious infraction, a conduct cut will be given. Three or more notes/conduct cuts in a quarter will result in a behavior mark on the report card. A progress report will be sent home after the second note or conduct cut.

Middle School Grading Policy

It is important to remember that band, chorus, and orchestra are a “real” class and a full year commitment. Students will earn a grade for their class, and the grade counts toward the honor roll. The following is a breakdown of how each student will be graded in Middle School Ensembles:

- **Daily Participation/Professionalism/Preparedness* 40%**
- **Concert/Performance/Quizzes/Exams 30%**
- **Playing/Written/Video Assignments 30%**

*Daily & Concert Participation: Students receive points toward this grade daily by *participating positively* in classroom activities. This includes having the materials necessary to participate in class (i.e.: instrument, accessories, music binder, music book, etc.) Each day’s participation is worth 5 points for a weekly participation grade of 25 points.

****An unexcused absence from Music Performance Assessments in March or April, or other performances will require a makeup assignment.***

****Students will not be allowed to perform at concerts or MPAs without proper attire. This will negatively impact their performance grade.***

Class assignments, concert and rehearsal dates will be posted on the Canvas, Remind, and Music Website for your convenience.

Video Assignments

Each student will be required to play lines from their method books and concert music during each nine-week period for a grade. These assignments will be turned in via Canvas. Students will need access to a smart phone, computer, or tablet with a microphone at their home. Computers will also be available before and after school for students without internet access available.

Rampello Middle School requires semester exams and final exams for all classes.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend their rehearsals and concerts. Music is a co-curricular class which means sometimes there will be required events before and after school. Performing groups can only develop to their fullest potential when each member is fulfilling their role completely. Absences not only affect the learning of one student, who misses the summative assessment, but also the learning of the other ensemble members. Concert dates and times are published in this handbook, on the Website, and on Remind.

How to handle conflicts:

Students should be encouraged to participate in a variety of activities at this age, and sometimes conflicts will occur. Use the following guidelines to resolve any conflicts:

1. Copy the Music Calendar (included in this handbook) into your family calendar.
2. Notify the director of any school conflicts, so that the director may make arrangements with the sponsor.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Everyone experiences things in life that call for an absence from an event. Provided an absence note is on file with the director within two (2) days of the absence, these absences may be made up. CONCERTS can be made up as seen below in the “Concert/Performance Make-up Policy” section of this handbook.

Below are some common reasons for granting an **EXCUSED** absence:

- *Illness, family emergency, planned family trip*

An “excused absence” will remain a zero in the grade book until the completion of a makeup assignment by the student.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Below are some examples of excuses generally regarded as **UNEXCUSED**:

Sporting Events (practices or games, Social Engagements, “I couldn’t find a ride,” “I forgot to tell my parents,” “I couldn’t find my band uniform,” “My reed broke.”)

An “unexcused absence” will remain a zero in the grade book until the completion of a makeup assignment by the student. An excess of unexcused absences may result in the student being removed from the ensemble at the end of the semester.

Concert/Performance Make-Up Policy

Missing a concert is the same as missing an exam or summary project in another class, and therefore requires a make-up project. Make-ups will be graded based on the quality of the project. It is up to the student to schedule a time before or after school with the director within 2 days of missing the assignment.

Music Performance Assessment

Members of Middle School Ensembles will be selected based on positive participation and dedication to perform in the *District MPA*. These performances will be evaluated by three highly qualified judges and rated on a musical scale including Superior, Excellent, Good, Fair and Poor. After their concert appearance, each band will then go to another room and be evaluated on their ability to sight-read music they have never seen before. Here, a fourth judge will evaluate them using the same scale.

Class Supplies

Students will need the following items by the beginning of the 2nd week of school

Elementary General Music (Grades 3-5)

- Plastic, 3 pronged folder (any color except orange)
- Pencils
- Headphones (they may use the ones they have in homeroom)
- Optional Grades 4-5: Nuvo Recorder (see website for link), students not owning a recorder will have one provided to borrow from the school.
- Instrument & accessories
- *Essential Elements 2000 – Book 2*
- Pencils
- Black 1 inch 3-ring binder
- Plastic page covers

Elementary Ensembles

- Black pocket folder
- Pencils
- Uniform shirt

Beginning Band

- Instrument and Accessories
- Pencils
- Black 1 inch 3 ring binder
- Plastic page covers
- Essential Elements Book 1

Advanced Band

- Instrument & accessories
- *Essential Elements 2000 – Book 2*
- Pencils
- Black 1 inch 3-ring binder
- Plastic page covers

Percussion Students (All bands)

- Pencils
- Starter percussion kit – includes hard mallets, soft mallets, and timpani mallets –
- Black, 1 inch 3-ring binder
- Plastic page covers

Orchestra

- Instrument & accessories
- *Essential Elements– Book 1*
- Pencils
- Black 1 inch 3-ring binder
- Plastic page covers

Intermediate Band

All music books & instrument accessories are available from local music stores

Helpful Classroom Donations: Copy paper, Expo Markers, Tissues

The Director will provide the first copy of the music. Any copies made after will be the student's responsibility to print.

It will be the responsibility of the student to pay for the replacement of any lost or damaged books.

Instrument Rental (Middle School)

**Students will be responsible for obtaining an instrument by renting from the school, Music and Arts, or buying a personal instrument. They are also responsible for the necessary accessories for these instruments, including mouthpieces if possible. The band does not provide reeds, drumsticks, mallets, or practice pads.*

- Rental forms for school instruments will be passed out during class when instruments have been assigned.
- Instruments will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis, pending completion of the Instrument Rental
- Instrument Rental for 1 school year is \$43.00. This can be paid through my payments plus.
- 6th Grade Band Rental Fee will be \$21.50 due by 1/30

**If a student is unable to afford the necessary supplies for class for any reason please reach out and we will work together to find a solution that best suits the situation*

INSTRUMENT SUPPLY LIST

All Clarinets

- Vandoren Reeds (2½ or 3's will probably work best)
- Rovner Mark III Ligature (will darken your tone and make playing easier!)
- Vandoren M30, 5RV Lyre, M13 Lyre, * (Be sure to test different mouthpieces to find the best fit!)
- Mouthpiece cushion pad (goes on top of mouthpiece)

All Saxes

- Vandoren Reeds (2½ or 3's will probably work best)
- Rovner Mark III Ligature (will darken your tone and make playing easier!)
- C* S-80, S-90 Vandoren Optimum 4 Mouthpiece cushion pad (goes on top of mouthpiece)

All Trumpets

- Bach 3C or 5C mouthpiece (7C is too small)
- Bach 2½ C or 1½ C mouthpiece for Wind Ensemble members that is ready for a larger mouthpiece

All Members:

- Any standard metronome to improve technical skill and evenness (for scales & technical passages)
- Any standard tuner (to check and tune all notes in the practical range of your instrument)

SUGGESTED DEALERS:

- Local (Band) Music and Arts (Brandon 813-643-4431)
- Local (Orchestra).....(South Tampa 813-288-8215)
- Local (Band).....The Brass and Woodwind Shop (Lutz 813-971-2120)
- In-State American Music in Orlando (1-800-999-8228)
- Well-known DealerWoodwind & Brasswind in Indiana (1-800-348-5003) www.wwandbw.com

All French Horns

- Holton Farkas MDC mouthpiece (Warburton M10 or Giardinelli standard mouthpiece also acceptable)

All Trombones

- Bach 6½ AL mouthpiece is basic for young players. Step up to a larger mouthpiece, if possible.
- Bach 4G mouthpiece for Wind Ensemble members (5GS or 51C also acceptable)

All Euphoniums

- Bach 6½ AL mouthpiece is basic for young players. Step up to a larger mouthpiece, if possible.
- Bach 5G or Schilke 51/51D

All Tubas

- Helleberg 7B standard mouthpiece

Percussion

- 1 set of Vic Firth SD 1 concert snare sticks, 1 set of Saul Goodman General Tympani Mallets
- 1 set of Medium Marimba Mallets, 1 set of Mike Balter Large Plastic Xylophone Mallets, and 1 Stick Bag

Rampello Music Boosters

Parents interested in helping with the program are always welcome! We do a lot in our program from concerts to fundraisers to field trips and the directors are always looking for some extra hands. Membership in the Music Boosters is open to all Rampello Families! Please see the music website for details!

Parents who wish to volunteer or chaperone events and field trips must be registered volunteers with Hillsborough County Schools. Please see the front office for a volunteer form or visit the district website.

Florida All-State Ensemble

The Florida All-State Ensembles are comprised of, through audition, the finest student musicians in the state. Auditions are held locally each year during the latter half of September. Rehearsals and performances are held during the Florida Music Educators Convention early in January in Tampa. Participation in this event is a great honor. Students that are capable are urged to prepare the All-State audition material and audition. Students in grades 4-5 may audition for choral all state, middle school students can audition for band, chorus, or orchestra.

Hillsborough All County Festival

The Hillsborough All County Ensembles are comprised of, through audition, the finest student musicians in the county. Auditions are held locally each year during the month of November. Rehearsals and performances are held during the month January or early February in Tampa. Participation in this event is a great honor. Students that are capable are urged to prepare the all-county audition material and audition.

Rampello Middle Music Parent/Student Contract

Parents, thank you for reviewing the handbook with your child, and for your support of the choral program and your child's music education. Please fill out this sheet and return it to school no later than **September 5, 2023. This will count as a written assignment (only middle school classes).**

Contact Information:

Student Name: _____ Student Number: _____

Birthday: _____ Home Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Name/Cell Phone e-mail

Parent/Guardian: _____

Name Cell Phone e-mail

Emergency Contact: _____

Name Phone Number

[] I am interested in becoming a parent volunteer or becoming involved with the Rampello Music Department.

Handbook Agreement

I have gone over and discussed all aspects of the Music Dept. handbook with

(Student's name)

We understand and support that chorus is part of the core curriculum for which students earn grades that count towards the honor roll. We are familiar with all aspects of the Music Dept handbook, and we respect and support the attendance and grading policy regarding required materials as well as rehearsals and performances. We also understand and support the uniform policy and instrument requirements. In addition to the above, we also understand that the chorus is a full year commitment and once a student is enrolled in chorus, that student must remain in chorus for the remainder of the school year.

Student Name Printed

Parent/Guardian Name Printed

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature