

CMS Choir Handbook

2018-2019

Contact information:
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Welcome to the CMS choral program! This year will be an exciting time of music, community building, and fun. The following guidelines will help us achieve success as individuals and as choirs. Please put the calendar where you can see important dates throughout the year.

Required Materials provided by school

Music and T-shirt: Please take care of all sheet music. Lost or damaged music will be paid for by the student.

Provided by the Student

Notebook paper spiral: This will be for daily bell work.

Pencils: You must have a pencil each day even though we may not write everyday.

Box of Tissues is kindly requested

Course Description

This course is designed to teach fundamental music theory, sight-singing, and proper vocal and performance techniques. Students will also develop an overall appreciation and knowledge of choral music through the performance of a wide variety of repertoire and study of music history. Students will exhibit teamwork and discipline through the rehearsal process.

Course Goals

<i>*Theory*</i>	Increase understanding of musical notation
<i>*Sight-singing*</i>	Improve aural skills and independent musicianship
<i>*Performance*</i>	Enhance poise and self-confidence through expression
<i>*Music Appreciation*</i>	Broaden knowledge of music from other cultures and time periods
<i>*Discipline*</i>	Rehearse and practice through score study and teamwork

Grading Policy

Choir is a **performance-based** class. There is no excuse or reason that warrants an absence from a performance, short of major illness or family emergency. A choir is like any other team. A concert cannot be duplicated, just like a championship game cannot be played again. Proper concert behavior is expected.

Attendance for required performances/contests/dress rehearsals=40% of total grade

Concert dress is required to receive credit for performance

Daily Participation=50% of total grade

Includes singing, using correct posture, having pencil, remaining quiet according to rehearsal policy, punctuality, and appropriate behavior.

Written Assignments and Part singing tests=10% of total grade

Includes homework, tests, and music theory assignments

Classroom Expectations

Respect People and Property

Use kind words in the classroom
Leave any food, gum, or candy outside of the room
Walking and dancing feet only in the choir room
Hands to yourself

Enter Prepared and On Time

Bring a pencil to class
Begin bell work upon entering the room

Stay on Task and Work Hard

Practice your music and apply yourself every day
Consider other students and be supportive
Always encourage each other... we are on the same team

Perform Only at Proper Times

Be quiet as other sections are working
Cell phones may only be out with Corbit's permission

Exemplify Awesomeness

Take risks and be vulnerable
Help other students in your section
Keep a positive attitude

Create Beautiful Music

Sing OUT!!
Learn things that are outside of what you already know
Be open minded

Teamwork

Trust each other

Uniform information:

Informal: Choir t-shirt, nice jeans, closed toed shoes. T-shirt orders will be made at the beginning of the school year. Students may be asked to wear their shirt for a performance.

Contest Attire: Girl: black dress shoes, black skirt or slacks, black shirt. Boys: black shoes, black slacks, white collared or button down shirt.

Fundraiser: This year's fundraisers will include cookie dough, bracelets, and candy. The budget from the district is very limited making fundraising necessary in order to provide transportation, substitutes, music, accompanists, and more. Students are not required to participate in fundraisers, however, that means students that wish to travel and participate in choir must pay the associated class fees.

Information for each fundraiser will be sent home. Please understand that financial hardship is always considered. Communicate directly with the director as soon as possible to work out a payment plan or learn about fundraising opportunities.

Fees per class:

6th grade: \$125 per student
Concert Choir: \$125 per student
Men's Choir: \$125 per student
Show Choir: \$200 per student ** higher due to costumes

\$\$ Branson field Trip \$\$ 7th & 8th graders will have the opportunity to go to Branson, MO. This is in addition to the regular choir fees. Students may pay an extra \$300 to perform a pre-show for a live Branson venue.

Consequences in class:

Your daily grade is a reflection of your daily participation. Unlike many of your other courses, you will have very little written work in this class. So during your time in class you need to follow directions and participate. Every day you can receive 100%. However, failure to follow our class expectations lowers your daily grade. Continued misbehavior will result in parent contact.

Social Media Clause:

Technology is a great means of communication in the classroom. Students will receive notifications through the Remind101 app and Canvas. Please make sure you are enrolled in both accordingly.

On the contrary, social media misuse of any kind will not be tolerated. Students may be dismissed from performances and given a zero or removed entirely from a program.

District Policy: Any student that is currently ineligible cannot miss school for a performance, trip, or rehearsal. This applies to all performances, trips, or rehearsals not just to OSSAA sanctioned events. No refunds of money will be allowed for a student that misses a trip, performance or rehearsal due to the fact that he or she is ineligible. Students may perform in evening performances that happen outside the school day at the directors discretion. Students cannot be penalized with a lowered grade due to their eligibility status. An alternative assignment can be assigned.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the choir policies or activities. Thank you for supporting your child's success in music!

Sincerely,

Heather Corbit

Broken Arrow Public Schools is an equal opportunity educational institution.