

Sterling Public Schools

Choir Handbook 2009-2010



Sterling Choir Handbook

The purpose of the choir program at Sterling Public Schools is to provide the students the opportunity to:

1. Study music through the medium of voice
2. Study the elements of music (tone, harmony, melody, rhythm, texture and form)
3. Participate in small and large ensembles
4. Interact with other students, teachers and performers at music contests and clinics
5. Provide students with many performing experiences
6. Perform, study, and listen to many styles of music

Grading:

Each student will begin the quarter with zero points. Points are accumulated through regular class attendance, participation, and performances, HOWEVER, IF NO EXTRA POINTS ARE EARNED, AND NO POINTS ARE LOST, THE HIGHEST GRADE POSSIBLE IS APPROXIMATELY A 92%, DEPENDING ON THE TOTAL POINTS FOR THE QUARTER.

Regular Points will be earned as follows:

Weekly Participation/behavior/effort.....15 points
Concert or contest.....200 points
Singing/Written Tests.....Variable, depending on assignment

Extra Points may be earned as follows:

Concert or Contest Solo
Small Ensemble Member
All State Member
Audition for All State
Honor Choir Member
Audition for Honor Ensemble
Volunteer Departmental help
Attend Outside Concert
Practice time
Lessons
Perform in an outside activity
Research Paper
Serve as an accompanist
Other activities with approval by Mrs. LeMunyan

Points may be deducted as follows:

Tardy from daily rehearsal

Tardy from a performance

Unexcused absence from a rehearsal

Unexcused absence from a major performance (concert, contest)

Absent from scheduled lesson time

Classroom disruption

Chewing gum, candy, pop, ect

*At the discession of the director

Absences and Tardiness:

Every performance is required. Very few excuses will be accepted for missing a performance. These times will be limited to family emergencies, illness, and natural disasters. Work outside of school will not be considered an excused absence. An absence is not considered excused unless Mrs. LeMunyan knows about it in advance through a note from your parents. If an emergency occurs, CALL ME! An unexcused absence from a major performance can constitute in failure of the quarter, depending on the total number of points in that quarter. It will also result in loss of letter for the year.

Tardies occur when a member is not present when roll is taken in class situations as well as performances. Letter and grade points will be deducted.

Letter Awards:

Students in grades 9-12 may obtain a music letter by:

1. Successfully completing the entire year.
2. Participating in ALL concerts and contest performances
3. Special cases will be considered by the instructor.

Classroom Rules and Procedures:

1. All students are to be in their assigned seat, music out and ready to go when the bell rings.
2. No visiting while the group is in rehearsal or performance, or while instructions are being communicated.
3. All band instruments are strictly off limits. This includes percussion equipment.
4. Treat others in as you wish to be treated. No put-downs. Encourage each other.
5. Food, pop, and gum are not permitted in the music room. This includes before and after school.

Uniforms:

1. Uniforms will be worn at every concert and contest.
2. The uniform must be worn correctly at all times. This means the shirt is always tucked in and buttoned, the vest is buttoned, etc. This also means no changes to the uniform may be made, (you must wear the correct black pants).
3. Each student is in charge of caring for his or her own uniform. Uniforms are **not** to be kept in the locker room. Uniforms should be properly hung up after each performance. Points will be deducted if uniforms are found in locker rooms

Care Instructions: All three parts of the uniform may be machine washed. The shirt and pants can be dried, however please hang the vest to air dry.

4. Each student is to supply their own black socks and black shoes to be worn with their uniform.
5. If the uniform is damaged in the course of the year, the student will be responsible for paying for the repairs needed. If a uniform is lost, the student will be responsible for replacing the uniform.

Student Fees

The following items are some of the responsibilities students may have if they choose to participate in music. Fee waivers are available for those who apply and are accepted (in which case it will become the responsibility of the school).

1. Appropriate attire for a performance (when not in uniform), is the responsibility of the student, as is proper shoes and socks when uniforms are worn.
2. Field trips will be the responsibility of the students, but eligible for a fee waiver.

Travel Information

1. We are representing our school and school policy on travel will be used.
2. Busses will leave at the announced time. DO NOT BE LATE.

Trip Information

Trips should be deemed a "privilege" and not a given "right". If it is financially feasible for a musical ensemble to take part in a trip, we will use the following trip schedule:

2009-2010 No Trip Planned

2010-2011 Band/Choir Trip

2011-2012 No Trip Planned

The following rules and regulation will be applied when planning a trip:

1. Permission to participate on a trip must be given by the administration and director.
2. A student must be a member of the group one-year prior to the trip year. This enables the student to help with various fund-raisers that are necessary to participate in a trip. Special circumstances will be considered by the director and administration.
3. Participation in fundraisers is optional; however each student is responsible for funding their own trip. An account will be kept with records of what each student has earned. If a student has not participated in fundraisers, they will be expected to pay the full cost of the trip if they choose to go. Trip payments will be adjusted according to cost of trip and amount earned in fundraising.

Sterling Music Handbook

I have read the Sterling Music handbook. I understand the information and procedures covered. I will call Mrs. LeMunyan at anytime if there is a problem or question.

Parent/Guardian

Date

Student

Date

PLEASE RETURN THIS PAGE TO MRS. LEMUNYAN BY THURSDAY, AUGUST 20.