Spanish Fort Middle School Choirs**2018-2019 Chorus Handbook
Teamwork*•* Enthusiasm *•* Excellence**

*Mrs. Jennifer Fyock, Choral Director
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***Please sign up for Remind 101 –******Text @mrsfyock to 81010***

*Welcome to Chorus!*

*Let me congratulate you on your decision to become a member of one of the SFMS choral ensembles. I know it’s a decision you will find rewarding. Our choirs allow you to develop a love of music and experience the joy of singing. This opportunity will allow you to enrich your own musicianship as well as offering a chance for social and personal development based on teamwork and professionalism. The SFMS Choirs have a tradition of excellence and pride. It is up to each individual member to bring his/her personal best to each ensemble to further that tradition.*

*The following handbook outlines and presents the objectives, expectations, content, grading and rules of our choral classes. Also included is a calendar of events for the school year and fee payment procedures. Please read all the information carefully.* ***The last page will need to be returned with all the appropriate signatures no later than Friday, August 17th.***

*I know you will find being in choir a rewarding experience if you are active, receiving back only what you are willing to contribute. I look forward to a musically challenging and rewarding year as our participation in rehearsals, concerts, and festivals, with hard work and commitment, will continue the tradition of excellence at Spanish Fort Middle School.*

*I am truly blessed to experience music and the joy in singing with your children!*

*Jennifer Fyock, Choral Director*

**CLASS OBJECTIVES**

The objectives for Choir Classes follow the National Core Standards for Music Education. Daily lessons are prepared for each ensemble that include the four categories for Artistic Processes and Standards.

**Students will: Create –** Conceiving and developing new artistic ideas and work.

 **Perform/Present/Produce** – Realizing artistic ideas and work through interpretation and presentation.

 **Respond** – Understanding and evaluating how the arts convey meaning.

 **Connect** – Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external content.

 **Performance Standards** – Performance Standards are discipline-specific and measurable by specific learning goals.

**COURSE CONTENT**

**THREE CHORAL ENSEMBLES:**

 6th Grade Choir – Beginning Choir for boys and girls singing Unison/2-Part music

 7th/8th Grade Girls Choir – Intermediate Choir singing SA/SSA music

 7th/8th Grade Boys Choir – Intermediate Choir singing Unison/TB music

Content standards for Middle School emphasizes the fundamentals of singing and reading music. Students demonstrate the use of chest and head voices while singing; sight reading; and identifying musical compositions, composers, and musical styles. They learn the value of listening to various composers as they compare music from cultures around the world. Students are provided with opportunities to use available music software to learn music theory concepts and improve ear training and sight-reading skills.

**CLASS EXPECTATIONS**

* Treat Everyone with Respect
* Participate with Enthusiasm
* Limit Talking
* No Gum, Candy, Food, Drink, Cell Phones, or Nuisance Items
* Keep Backpacks, purses, lunch boxes and other personal items in your designated area.

**CLASS MATERIALS**

* **PROVIDED**: Choir Binder, 1 pencil and 1 sheet protector
* Music in the binder is school property. Please take care of it and **write only in pencil**.
* **The following** **donations are welcome (NO HOMEROOM)**: Kleenex, hand sanitizer, copy paper, dry erase markers, extra pencils, colored pencils, sharpie markers, Clorox wipes, paper towels, etc.

**CHOIR UNIFORM**

**Required:** The chorus uniform is **black** **embroidered polo shirt**, **full-length khaki pants**, **and** **neutral colored,** **closed-toed shoes (black, brown, tan, grey, navy or white)**. Orders for the polo shirt sizes will be made by the teacher for students who did not select a size at registration. Students are required to be in full official uniform and neatly groomed in order to participate in any chorus performance. Chorus T-shirts for casual wear and informal performances will be available in the Spring. **Students may wear both shirts to school any day of the week. \*See Choir Fee/Uniform page for payment procedures.**

**GRADING**

**Assessment 60%**

* **30% - Summative Assessments:** Concerts, Rehearsals and Other Performances
* **30% - Formative Assessment:** Music Theory Quizzes, Sight-Reading Quizzes, Singing Pass-Offs of Music, Binder Checks- includes care of binder and music, neatness, measures numbered and a pencil.

**\*Students are REQUIRED to attend all rehearsals and performances.**  Dates for after school rehearsals and performances are announced weeks prior to the event, and notices are posted, emailed, and sent home **(\*see attached CALENDAR).** There are usually only 1-2 after school rehearsals per semester. **Alternate assignments are allowed only when** **excused absences** **from concerts or after school rehearsals are unavoidable** (i.e. serious illness,emergencies, death in the family, etc.). The alternate assignment must be completed within **THREE SCHOOL DAYS** of the absence. Upon completion of the assignment, you will receive points based on the quality of the work. In order for an absence to be excused, the parent should contact the teacher as soon as possible and supply a doctor’s note or other supporting documentation in order that the grade may be made-up. **Unexcused absences will receive a 0 (zero). \* See Concert Performance Evaluation Rubric.**

**Inside Classwork 40%**

**Weekly** **Participation Grade, Bell Ringers, Written Work, Workbook Checks, Theory Worksheets, additional assignments.** Participation is assessed at 10 pts per day, adding up to 50 pts per week. *Failure to meet the daily requirements as outlined below will result in points being deducted from the daily grade.*

* Singing when and how you are instructed
* Remaining “on task,” listening to instructor, following directions
* Class Materials- choir binder, pencil, music, workbooks

**All students are expected to fully participate in class every day.** Students are not allowed to “sit out” from singing or class work because they do not feel well. If a student is truly vocally ill, you must first have a note from the doctor, parent or school nurse. Chorus members must still have music out and be actively engaged, however, you will “mouth” the words instead of making sound. A person with laryngitis should also be on complete vocal rest, that is complete silence for the whole day-NO TALKING, in order for the vocal cords to heal themselves. If you are capable of talking, then you are expected to sing!

**See Chorus Participation Rubric (Daily Grade).**

**CHORAL CALENDAR**

**2018-2019 PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS**

October 9 Fall Choral Concert

 Spanish Fort Middle School, 7:00 p.m.

 **\*This event is REQUIRED for all choirs.**

November 9 Veteran’s Day Assembly Program

 SFMS Gym (during school)

 \***Selected Choir Only**

TBA Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

 City of Spanish Fort - TBA

 **This event is for SELECTED STUDENTS ONLY**

December 7 SFMS Christmas Concert Tour Field Trip

 Spanish Fort Elementary & Rockwell Elementary

 **This event is for 6TH GRADE CHOIR & BOYS CHOIR ONLY**

December 13 **SFMS CHRISTMAS CONCERTS**

**\*\* TWO PERFORMANCES: 4:30 & 7:00**

 **PRE-SALE TICKETS ONLY**

 **$5 ADMISSION – school age and adult**

 **Spanish Fort Middle School Gym**

 **\*This event is REQUIRED for all choirs.**

February-TBA Singing Valentines

 TBA @ Local Nursing Homes/Assisted Living

 **This event is for 7th/8th GRADE GIRLS CHOIR ONLY**

March 26 State Choral Performance Assessment

 Mobile – Springhill Baptist Church

 **This event is for ALL choirs**

 \* After School Rehearsals TBA

May 7 SFMS Choir Spring Show

 Spanish Fort Middle School, 7:00 p.m.

 **\*This event is REQUIRED for all choirs.**

May 17 Performance with Baldwin Pops Community Band

 TBA-Spanish Fort Community Center

 **This event is for SELECTED CHOIRS ONLY**

**Document of Understanding and Agreement**

**Please sign up for Remind 101 –** **Text @mrsfyock to 81010**

Please write neatly in ink.

Student Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Choir Period # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ email address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Parents: Emails & Remind 101 Texts containing reminders and announcements are sent out often. This is the best and fastest way for me to communicate to you. Email addresses are not given out to anyone else.*

***I have read and gone over handbook with my child and agree to support the policies as outlined in the Spanish Fort MS Chorus Handbook.***

 ***Parent/Guardian Signature*** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 ***Student Signature* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**Volunteering:** It is a delight to see the continued growth and strength of the SFMS Choral Program. So that I can concentrate on teaching your children music, I would appreciate any contributions you can give in the following areas. Please mark any area you would be willing to help, and as the need arises, I will contact you. Thank you in advance for contributing your time and energy.

Check areas that apply:

\_\_\_ Chaperone (rehearsals, festival, field trips**,** concert)

\_\_\_ Assist Teacher (organization/communication, rehearsals, concert set-up, sound, etc.)

\_\_\_ Christmas Concert (decorating, monitoring students, set-up/break down in gym, food, etc.)

**Please return this page by Friday, August 17th.**

**Chorus Concert Participation Rubric – Assessment 30%**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Mastery- 20** | **Skilled -15** | **Novice -10** | **Unsatisfactory -5** |
| **On Time**(No restrooms breaks after call time) | Student arrives by call time, checks in, and immediately goes to assigned location and seat | Student arrives by call time, checks in, but is not in assigned seat location  | Student arrives by call time, does not check in, is not in proper location or assigned seat | Student does not arrive by call time |
| **Uniform** | Proper uniform shirt, khaki pants, closed-toed, neutral-colored shoes, no large jewelry, no cologne, neatly groomed. | Meets all but 1 of the uniform requirements | Meets all but 2 of the uniform requirements.  | Failure to meet 3 of the uniform requirements. |
| **Procedures** | Student goes to assigned place, moves in single file, walks quickly and quietly. Follows directions. Stays until the end of the concert. | Performs all but 1 of the procedures. | Performs all but 2 of the procedures | Student fails to follow 3 or more procedures. |
| **Behavior** | Student is quiet, attentive, and respectful throughout concert.  | Student talks during concert while others are singing. | Student distracts or talks while on stage. | Student displays disrespectful or rude behavior during concert. |
| **Performance** | Student displays good singing posture, eye contact, and fully participates in singing.  | Student does not display good posture while singing. | Student does not give eye contact to director while singing. | Student does not sing throughout concert. |

\****When attending a concert, or performing in a concert, always remember to represent your school and yourself with appropriate concert etiquette.***

**Chorus Class Participation Rubric – 40% (10 points/day, recorded bi-weekly)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Mastery- 10 pts** | **Skilled -8 pts** | **Novice -6 pts** | **Unsatisfactory -4 pts** |
| **Singing when and how you are instructed**  | All of the time for the entire length of class | Most of the time | Some of the time | Rarely singing |
| **Remaining “on task,” listening to instructor, following directions, following procedure** | All of the time for the entire duration of the class | Most of the time | Some of the time | Rarely on task |
| **Class Materials-folder, pencil, music, loose leaf paper**  | Has them all of the time | Most of the time | Some of the time | Rarely has materials or missing materials needed for instruction |
| **Weekly Participation Scores** | **A - 45-50 pts** | **B – 40-44 pts** | **C – 35-39 pts**  | **F – 34 or below** |

Choir Fees/Uniform

Choir Fees each year cover the cost of the following:

 Choir Polo Shirt

 Choir Tee Shirt (Spring Concert)

 \*Both shirts may be worn to school any day of the week!

 Music Fees

 Choral Binder

 Classroom supplies

 2 annual Field Trips:

\*Christmas Assembly Programs @ feeder pattern elementary schools –

Spanish Fort Elementary & Rockwell Elementary

\*State Choral Performance Assessmentin Mobile

Fees may be paid online or during registration in August.

There are 2 Choir Fees listed on the registration form

 $100 – Choir Fee with Polo Shirt

 $ 75 - Choir Fee without Polo Shirt

\***All NEW CHOIR MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE A POLO SHIRT**.

\*Former choir members may also purchase a new polo if needed.