Fillmore Central High School Choir Syllabus 2023-2024

Course Description

Choir is an opportunity for students to develop their vocal musicianship and musical knowledge through choir rehearsals, choir concerts, vocal solo opportunities, and small group singing. This will be accomplished through group rehearsal on a variety of different styles of choral music.

Concert Choir "Our Purpose":

The purpose of the Concert Choir is to provide all students the opportunity and support to achieve vocal excellence, develop vocal technique/knowledge, and become life-long musicians.

Grading Policy

All students will have singing quizzes, written assignments and performances on which their grade will be based. These assignments are broken into two categories, "formative" and "summative." Formative assignments are practice – in-class papers, music memorization, etc. – and will be worth 20% of a student's final grade. Summative assignments are large assignments that demonstrate students' learning – performances and singing tests – and will be worth 80%. Further details are below.

FORMATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

• **In-Class Assignments** – From time to time there will be in-class assignments covering a variety of musical topics. These will be worth varying points and will be considered formative assignments.

SUMMATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

• <u>Singing Quizzes</u> – Each quarter students will be assigned quizzes that may include parts from performance pieces, diction, or singing as well as concert performances.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The choir attendance and tardiness policies are stringent. Attendance is required at all performances unless arranged in advance with Mr. Schwarz. We are expected to perform to our fullest potential. Absences affect our performance as an ensemble and are to be avoided at all costs. Absences that are excused will not affect your grade. Absences will be considered excused on a case by case basis. Advanced notice of your absence will greatly improve the chances of your absence being excused. As performances are part of the grading policy, make up assignments will be provided on an individual basis.

Examples of situations that will likely be an excused absence:

School Event Illness
Major events (family wedding, graduation, etc.) Family emergency

Unexcused absences will be dealt with at the discretion of Mr. Schwarz and Mr. Theobald.

If you have conflict with another activity please talk to Mr. Schwarz immediately in order to get this conflict resolved. If you are having problems with work schedule conflicts please do everything in your power to resolve it. If you are having trouble resolving your work conflict, talk with Mr. Schwarz, and he will do everything in my power to help resolve your conflict.

CONCERTS

We have five standard performance opportunities: "Opening Night", Veterans' Day Performance, end of first semester concert, end of second semester concert, and District Music Contest. The Veterans' Day performance will be during the school day; District Music Contest will require us to leave school and will extend into the evening. Other concerts will be held in the evening. Concert and Performance attendance and participation is mandatory.

November 3 - Opening Night November TBD - Veteran's Day December 11 - Winter Concert April 25 & 26 - District Music May 7 - Spring Concert In order to attain uniformity of both sound and sight, there will be a dress code for all concerts. Typical dress code is Choir Robe with clothing under that won't distract. At District Music Contest you will need to wear black dress clothing under your robe or something that will not distract the judge and lower our overall score. Women may choose to wear dresses along with black closed-toed shoes.

CHOIR CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

- 1. Follow the rules in the High School Student Handbook
 - Example: You are expected to arrive at each class of the day on time so you are expected to arrive to choir
 on time
- 2. Throw away your gum. Food and Drink eaten respectfully and without incident. Water is best.
- 3. You are expected to sing both in group settings and individually on occasion.
 - a. If you are not in this class to make music with your voice then I will help you find a different class to take in place of choir.
- 4. When it is time to work you are not talking.
- 5. Cell phones cannot be a distraction.
- 6. Respect each other, your music, school property, the director, and Nancy Jo.

LETTERING

Students will have an opportunity to earn a letter in choir. Throughout the year you will be given opportunities to go above and beyond normal expectations. This will be documented. Each student will be tracked and will receive a letter based on their accomplishments throughout the year/high school choral career.

MUSIC

Your music and folder are your responsibility. Lost or music or music that is returned unusable will need to be replaced at the student's cost.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

Beginning Class

- 1. Enter the room calmly
- 2. Get your folder and music from your slot
- 3. Sit in your assigned spot
- 4. Read the board for any announcements or directions
- 5. Wait patiently for warm ups to begin

If you are Tardy

- 1. Enter the room calmly/quietly
- 2. Put your tardy slip on the director's stand
- 3. Follow the "Beginning Class" procedure quickly and quietly.

If you need to use the restroom

- 1. Raise your hand with your index finger up.
- 2. Wait patiently for a response from the director
- 3. Leave items (music, cell phone, laptop) at your spot
- 4. Go to the restroom and return quickly and quietly

Ending class

- 1. Between 5 and 1 minutes left in class time students will be told to pack their items
- 2. Put away folders in a calm, orderly manner
- 3. After a student puts away their folder they are to return to their chair and wait for the bell
- 4. When the bell rings and your music is put away, exit class

Final

The contents of this document are not all encompassing. The director/teacher reserves the right to change the information presented here at their discretion. If you have questions please ask Mr. Schwarz or email him at jeff.schwarz@fillmorecentral.org