P.B. Ritch Middle School

Chorus Syllabus and Handbook

2020-2021

Mrs. Haley Traub

Chorus and Drama Room 404

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770-443-1449 ext. 48019

**Communication:** All student communication will be done through the remind, Canvas page, and in class. Parent communication will be sent through remind, Canvas, letters home and email. Remind links for each class will be posted below.

**Remind.com Codes:**

6th Grade Chorus: @6ritchchor (text this to 81010)

7th Grade Chorus: @7ritchchor (text this to 81010)

8th Grade Chorus: @8ritchchor (text this to 81010)

**P.B. Ritch Chorus**

**Behavior Management Program**

**Daily Expectations**

The chorus class is an environment in which all students must use teamwork to achieve a common goal. To be a productive chorus member, the individual student must adhere to the following rules and expectations in the class:

1. Leave your backpack by the wall when you enter, get out your chorus folder and writing utensil and complete the opening activity. Leave your phone in your bag unless instructed otherwise!

3. Sit in your assigned seat every day.

4. Listen and follow instructions.

5. Be respectful towards your director and peers.

6. Show respect for the property of others including school property and copies of sheet music.

7. Refrain from eating, chewing gum, or drinking anything but water in a closed container.

8.Raise your hand to voice a question or comment.

9. Be an active participant in ALL rehearsals and classes.

10. To leave the classroom for any reason, you need Mrs. Traub’s permission and a signed agenda.

**Discipline Guidelines**

Students are held responsible for all rules in the Paulding County student handbook. In addition, because rehearsal time is a focused, disciplined endeavor, students should observe the following rules of conduct:

**Rules of Conduct**

1. Students are to refrain from talking ***during instruction or performances.***

2. Students are to raise their hands and wait to be recognized before speaking.

3. Students are not to have any food, snacks (gum), drinks (water allowed), perfume, or electronic devices during class.

4. Students are not to conduct personal grooming during class (brushing, fixing, or playing with hair during class is not permitted).

5. Students are to arrive for class and rehearsals on time, with all of their materials for class before the late bell rings in order to be marked present for class. Anyone seated after that time or seated without all necessary materials will be marked tardy.

6. Students are to respect themselves and others.

7. Cell phones are not needed in chorus with very rare exceptions established by Mrs. Traub.

\*\*\*\* If a phone is seen in class, it will be taken up until the end of class for 1st offence and held in the office until the end of the day after 1st offense.

**Consequences**

Constant class disruption, disrespect, or inability to control one’s behavior will not be tolerated in the chorus classroom. Students who exhibit inappropriate behavior are hindering the teacher’s ability to give instruction and the students’ ability to learn. This inappropriate behavior is in violation of the Middle and High School Code of Conduct, Descriptor Code: JD-R(3).

*Student Offenses*

*G: Disrespectful Conduct*

*4. Insubordination: All students shall comply with reasonable directions or commands of all authorized District personnel or designees (Level 1-3).*

*H. Disruption of School*

*I. Class disruption: No students shall intentionally make noise or act in any other manner so as to interfere with a teacher’s ability to conduct a class or a student’s ability to learn. (Level 1-2)*

Consequences will follow in accordance with the RMS Behavioral Log and will include any or all portions of:

* Warning, redirection, reseating, &/or conference with student,
* Removal of student from instructional area,
* Alternative assignment,
* Phone conversation with parent, &/or Parent conference
* Administrative referral

**-Vandalism of school or student property, fighting, use of profanity, or actions in direct**

**violation of school policy are grounds for immediate referral and dismissal from the**

**program.**

**Grading Policy**

* 60% - Summative Assessments
* Singing tests/repertoire check
* Concept tests
* Concerts/Individual Singing Exam and assessments
* 40% - Classroom/Formative Assessments
* Weekly Performance Grade
* Daily class assignments and worksheets
* Rehearsal grades will be based upon the student’s ability to follow the classroom expectations listed on page one. This grade is broken down into the following criteria:

**Daily Performance Grade Criteria:**

1. The student always attempts to sing with accuracy

2. The student stands or sits with correct choral posture

4. The student is focused on the director’s instructions

4. The student behaves respectfully and does not distract others.

**Concert Assessments**

* Because Choral Music is a performance art, created with others, it is expected that students and their families will make every effort to be in attendance for performances. The student’s concert assessment is a summative grade based on the following:
* Performance-students will be graded on their singing at each concert.
* Audience Participation/Concert Etiquette/Professionalism- Students will be graded on correct audience participation at each concert.
* Students must wear the correct chorus uniform (see Concert attire below).
* Students are expected to stay for the entirety of the concert.

**Performance Expectations**

1. Be at the concert on time and in uniform

2. Be a respectful audience member when you are not on stage. No student cell phones are allowed during the concert!

3. Focus only on the director.

4. Do your very best and have fun.

5. Stay for the entire concert.

\*Remember that when you are in uniform before and after a concert, you are representing the Ritch Chorus program. Your behavior represents not only yourself, but also the entire group.

**Attendance at Performances**

I cannot stress enough the importance of your child attending each concert. Each member is a vital part of the team and if a student is missing, the whole group suffers. All performance dates are given on the calendar and listed below. In the unlikely event of a change, you will receive notice several weeks in advance. Concerts are an essential part of the chorus curriculum and therefore, students are not allowed to miss unless a letter is sent ahead of time or this is an emergency,

Any student who missed the concert for any reason must complete an alternative assignment in order to receive a passing grade for that unit’s summative

\*\*If your student is unable to attend a concert, a letter or email from a parent or guardian is required as soon as you are aware of the time conflict.

**Concert Attire**

Chorus shirt with khaki pants or skirt and closed toe shoes. Please keep clothes neat and wrinkle free.

P. B. Ritch chorus polo shirts will be sold in the fall to new chorus members. If you choose not to purchase a shirt, a black polo style or plain black short sleeve shirt is acceptable.

\*\*\*\*\*Students who are not in concert attire or not adhering to concert expectations will NOT be allowed to perform.

**Supplies and Music**

Students will be provided with music for each concert.

Materials to be brought by the student **daily**:

Agenda

Pencil

Student Chorus Folder

Notebook paper

\*students who do not pass chorus (below 70%) will be removed from the chorus program for the following semester.

\*\*Chorus rehearsals happen every day for the entire school year. Students and parents need to be aware that the expectation is for the student to commit to the entire school year. If the student/parent/teacher wishes for the student to be removed from Chorus, the parent must submit a written request/written permission for the child to be removed from the program. Schedule changes will be addressed on a case by case basis.

**With so many students, we go through all these supplies very quickly. The supplies you sent at the beginning of the year are for the academic teachers. Please send any or all of these supplies with your student at any time. Thank you.**

**Chorus Supplies Needed:**

**\*Notebook Paper**

**\*Pencils**

**\*Tissues**

**\*Hand Sanitizer**

**Concert Schedule**

TBA