



# DMS Choir

## 2024-2025

*Mrs. Ashley Ricks*



### Contact

Ashley.ricks@washk12.org

#### Please add our class on BINDERLY

(formerly SchoolBinder)

Parents are encouraged to join the class to receive class information & updates. This is especially helpful for evening performances & travel.

### Expectations

- **Be Prompt**- on time & in your seat
- **Be Prepared**- music, pencil & water every day
- **Be Productive**- employ excellent rehearsal skills & habits daily
- **Be Polite**- be kind & considerate to everyone & everything in the room
- **Be Persistent**- don't give up when things get tough

*Welcome!*

I'm so glad you're here! This is my 22nd year teaching, and my 5th year at Dixie. I've taught every grade level from kinder through college. Singers in my ensembles have ranged in age from 3-95!

The vocal music department is dedicated to training students in individual vocal and choral technique, music literacy (notation & sight singing) and music history & skills that will be directed toward performances throughout the year.

We will explore a variety of musical genres, such as: Folk, Sacred, Secular, Classical, Multicultural, Foreign Language, Broadway, Pop & Contemporary music. Our ultimate goal is the enjoyment of singing, and becoming the best musician possible.

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### *Performance Expectations*

**Performance is a required part of participation.** Students are expected to participate fully in all scheduled evening concerts & festivals. Dates are already scheduled. Please put them on your calendar now.

Daily classroom rules apply to concerts and all performances.

**Flip over for more!**

# Performance Expectations Continued

Students have 3 responsibilities for performances

You must be in your appropriate place for warm-ups by the call time given..

You should have all music memorized, unless directed otherwise.

You need to be dressed in the appropriate **concert attire**

## Attire Policy

Choir shirt (provided),  
**Black Pants**- dress style slacks, leggings or similar  
(Please avoid multi color athletic pants & jeans)

**Black/dark closed toed shoes** (Dress shoes & ballet flats work GREAT!)

\*Hair should be worn secured away from the face\*

## Music Apps

We utilize a variety of music tech resources

### SIGHT READING FACTORY

all students have individual accounts that are accessed & integrated via Canvas. SRF work can be completed on any computer or mobile device.

### Three Minute Theory

an interactive music theory program that can be accessed directly from canvas.

### PlayScore

FREE app to download. Allows students to easily receive & playback part recordings (optional)



## Grades

the easiest part!

10%

musical knowledge

30%

performance assessments  
(concerts, part checks, SRF, etc)

60%

daily rehearsal skills

**Performance Assessments:** Includes all concerts/performances, part checks, SRF assessments

**Daily Rehearsal Etiquette:** Includes daily rehearsal skills: Proper body alignment, Rehearsal Markings/Notes, Vocal Phonation, Rehearsal Engagement & Productivity (includes tardies/absences)

**Musical Knowledge:** Solfege & theory assignments & additional assignments (varies by quarter)

## Makeup work in Choir

What to do when you're  
absent



ALL ABSENCES  
have the SAME  
MAKEUP WORK  
ASSIGNMENT

Complete 20 min of  
SRF practice (in  
Canvas) for every  
absence

Take advantage of  
the "bonus points"  
to avoid makeup  
work!

### BONUS POINTS

Earn 5 bonus points **PER CLASS** for being on time & in class. If you are rarely absent, these bonus points can cover absences, or count as extra credit!

## Fees

To provide a high-quality choral experience, additional fees are necessary. I strive to keep costs low while ensuring the best value for our students. We appreciate the support from our choir families and community as we aim to deliver a comprehensive choral program. No student should miss out due to fee concerns; please contact me regarding accommodations.

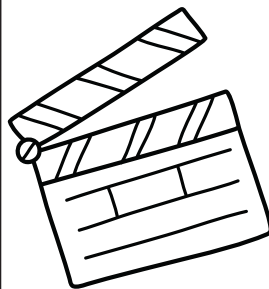
**Class Fee: \$20** This WCSD-approved fee applies to all choir students and is collected only once per school year.



## Phone Policy

**Keep your phone in your backpack or assigned phone pocket during rehearsal. It is expected that earbuds and headphones are removed during rehearsal.**

If you choose to have your phone out during rehearsal, you choose to accept the consequence of having your phone confiscated for the duration of class, or turned in to administration for repeat offenders.



## Movies & Media

Instructional videos may be shown in class and via canvas. (Warmups, vocal technique, performance factors, etc..) These videos have been previewed. Occasionally we may watch a movie or musical that is music related. This is rare! Examples include: Hello Dolly, The King & I, The Sound of Music, STOMP, Amadeus, The Greatest Showman, The Marriage of Figaro (Opera), etc. These movies are rated G and PG.

# Concerts & Impt Dates

Cut and keep on the fridge!

## DMS Events



**October 14:** DMS Commons

**December 9:** Winter Concert @ DHS Auditorium

**February 27:** MS Choir Fest during school.

**March 3 :** Spring Concert @ DHS Auditorium

**May 5:** Pops Concert @ DHS Auditorium

\*These events are required  
Call time is 30 min prior



## Emergency! What if I miss a concert?

Students must attend all concerts, festivals, and performances in the correct attire. Performance is an Essential Standard and part of the choir grade.

If an unavoidable conflict arises, discuss it with Mrs. Ricks **well in advance**. Individual circumstances will determine whether full, partial, or no points are given, and possible concert makeup options. **Makeup options can include the student performing concert music for a live audience at a fine arts recital.**

Any unexcused absence will result in 0 points for the performance.

\*hint\* It's easier to just show up to the concert. ;)

**EVENTS NOT LISTED:** Spring Choir Festival, Senior Music Service Field Trips (during school) For these field trips, we travel to various care centers throughtout the year to perform for and visit with residents.



Scan the QR code to complete disclosure online.

OR

Sign and return the bottom portion of this page.

Having Read the 2024-2025 choir contract, I understand my child's responsibilities as an ensemble Member. I understand that they need to be at all performances and know what they are supposed to wear



Return by: 8/30

Student Name:

Parent/Guardian:

Sign: