

Seven Springs Middle School

2011-2012 Chorus Guidelines

Congratulations on your decision to become a member of the Seven Springs Middle School Chorus program. As a member, you will sing, study, and perform choral music. You will also meet new friends, participate in fun activities and develop a greater appreciation of the arts.

To be a successful choral member you must make the commitment to always strive to do your best. It is important to conduct yourself with the best possible behavior, have pride, and respect others and their property. As a choral member, you not only represent yourself, you represent the music department and the entire school. Only choral members that demonstrate qualities of good character will represent Seven Springs Middle School. The pleasure of performing good music for an appreciative audience is matched only by the personal satisfaction of performing for ones own enjoyment.

If you ever need to reach me you can call the music suite directly at (727) 774-6843 or leave a message at the office (727) 774-6700. I generally do not answer the phone during class so calling before or after school may be your best. You can also contact me using the following e-mail address.

Mr. Viking <tviking@pasco.k12.fl.us> Calendar information will be updated regularly on our school web site. To help with scheduling concerns I recommend you visit the site often. . You can access the site at the following address: <ssms.pasco.k12.fl.us> click on "Music" and follow the prompts.

GRADES AND ATTENDANCE

Class Participation - Students earn a daily grade by simply participating in the activities of the day. Participation points are earned and or lost based on student participation.

Assignments - These may be in the form of vocal or written assignments and will be given throughout the quarter. If a student is absent on a day where an assignment is given it is his/her responsibility to turn in the make-up work.

Assessments - These may come in the form of written quizzes or vocal quizzes and will be given periodically. All tests and quizzes will cover the information discussed in class or from assignments. A Student may retake any written test during a specific quarter without any grade penalty.

Performance Participation - It is the responsibility of each member of the chorus to attend and participate in all scheduled rehearsals and performances of their respective class. This includes being prompt and dressed appropriately. **Performances are a major part of any performance based class and failure to attend will result in a grade penalty.** The performance part of a students grade can not be made up. Performance dates and times will be given well in advance.

ISSUED ITEMS

Students are responsible for any issued items. This may include but not limited to musical instruments, supplies, uniform robe, music, music folder etc. Replacement or repair fees will be assessed if items are damaged or not returned. Students will be assigned a performance robe which will generally be worn at all concerts. The length of the gold and black performance robe extends to just below the knees so it is important to remember that part of what you wear from the waist down will show. Please wear black dress shoes. Also, avoid wearing something with a collar as it is difficult to tuck under the top of the robe.

POLICIES AND BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

* Students will show respect at all times toward the director, parents, chaperones, school officials and other students. They will also be respectful of school property, and the property of others. Disruptive, irresponsible or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.

* Gum, candy, food or drinks are **NOT** allowed in the music suite, on busses, during rehearsals or performances without director permission.

* Gum chewing, smoking or use of tobacco products is prohibited by anyone entering the SSMS campus. This policy also applies to anyone representing SSMS during off campus activities.

* Plan to ride the bus when provided for scheduled activities. **Prior arrangements MUST be made** with the director if a parent plans to transport a student to or from an activity where bus transportation is provided. This policy assures the safety and accountability of all students.

* Always be on time! Every effort will be made to start and end rehearsals or performances on time. If a rehearsal is scheduled to end at 5:00 p.m. please be here to pick up your child at that time. You are always welcome at any rehearsal or performance. The ending times for some performances are more difficult to estimate. Lets work together on this issue.

* For obvious safety reasons, inappropriate language, running or horseplay type behavior will not be tolerated in the music suite or while representing Seven Springs Middle School.

NORMAL DISCIPLINE POLICY

1. a student reminder
2. time-out from the activity and/or deduction in participation points
3. a parent conference, note home, telephone call, etc.)
4. exclusion from a performance or activity
5. discipline referral, detention, removal from activity or class

* Severe discipline issues will result in a direct administrative referral

I encourage all parents to get involved in their child's musical exploration. Many of you probably sang in the chorus or played in the band when you were in school. If so, you know that the time spent studying the arts was one of the most rewarding experiences of your life. It can be equally rewarding for these students. All it takes is commitment and a love for music.

I have read and understand the information included in this Choral Course Guide.

Date: _____ Period: _____

Student Name: _____ Student Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____ Parent Signature: _____