

6TH GRADE CHORUS

2014-2015

COMMUNITY ~ PERSONAL GROWTH

OPEN-MINDEDNESS ~ WORK ETHIC

Mr. Saville-Iksic

lsavilleandree@loyalsocklancers.org

Course Description: The 6th *Grade Chorus* is a vocal performance ensemble open to any student who enjoys singing as part of a group. The Chorus rehearses a wide variety of repertoire on a regular basis as well as giving numerous school performances. The Chorus functions as a community driven by the efforts and investments of its members. Students will be given opportunities to engage in projects that enrich the music-making experience through reflection, self-guided learning, and leadership opportunities.

Course Objectives:

Students will:

1. Develop a healthy, expressive, and effective singing voice.
2. Demonstrate command of the music language through aural and written forms of communication.
3. Analyze and create music based on an understanding of musical characteristics such as form, texture, harmony, melody, dynamics, rhythm, etc.
4. Express personal ideas and feelings through musical, written, and verbal communication.
5. Participate actively as a member of a music performance community.
6. Understand how music has a significant role in society and in the life of the individual.
7. Broaden their range of musical taste as a means for knowing more about the human experience – physically, intellectually, emotionally, spiritually, historically, and culturally.

Essential Questions:

- Why does music have an important role in our lives?
- What makes a piece of music worth studying?
- What make a performance worth presenting to an audience?
- How are you contributing to the Choir?
- How is the Choir contributing to the greater community or society?

Performance Responsibilities: This year, the 6th *Grade Chorus* will be involved in three school performances. Students are required to sing in all Choir performances. Please, put them in your calendar as soon as possible. **Any conflicts (including sports competitions) with the dates below should be brought to the attention of the director by September 30**, and an appropriate excuse will be necessary if the absence from performance is to be excused. Absences due to homework and sports *practice* will not be excused. If the student needs a ride to the concert, please notify Mr. Saville-Iksic. Unless announced as otherwise, **report time is always 30 minutes before the performance.**

December 5, 2013

7:30 PM

Winter Holiday Concert

TBD (February or March 2014)

TBD

Intra-District Performance

May 8, 2014

7:30 PM

Spring Concert

Concert Dress:

Boys:

- Dress or khakis
- Button-up shirt, sweater, or polo
- *Preferred...* dress shoes and socks

Girls:

- Nice blouse with dress pants or skirt - OR - dress
- Skirts and dresses at least knee length
- Shoes with 2" heels or less
- Dress and blouses must have straps - OR - a sweater must be worn over any strapless attire

Everyone:

- Please no jeans or t-shirts

Course Expectations:

Students will:

1. Conduct themselves in accordance with the desired behaviors outlined in the rehearsal behavior rubric found on Moodle.
2. Complete all assignments and submit them by established due dates.
3. Participate in all Chorus performances and special projects.

Teacher will:

1. Provide engaging music making opportunities that are educational, challenging, fun, and relevant to the student's life.
2. Provide guidance that respects the student's individual learning style and personal experience as (s)he grows as an intellectual, physical, and emotional person.
3. Provide meaningful, specific, and honest feedback to students and parents in a timely manner.

Grading and Assessments: Student grades are broken down into five categories:

1. **Rehearsal participation (120 points):** Every three weeks, the student's rehearsal participation and behavior will be evaluated by both the student and the teacher using the rubric found on Moodle.
2. **Outside Assignments (30 points):** Outside listening/reflection assignments will be posted online for the student to complete. If a student does not have an internet connection at home, please notify Mr. Saville-Iksic and other arrangements may be made for the completion of these assignments.
3. **Attendance (80 points):** Because presence in rehearsal is vital to the development of a successful ensemble, the student attendance will be reflected in their grade. Excused absences from school will not count against a student's grade.
4. **Bell-Ringers (50 points):** Each rehearsal, students are given a music literacy exercise. These short assignments add up to this component of the student's grade.
5. **Special Project (20 points):** Each grading period, students will be given a different special project to complete. Evaluation will be based on a custom rubric designed for each project. Project are listed below.

Marking Period 1: create a verse with at least two parts to a given song

Marking Period 2: create an ostinato ensemble with at least three parts

Marking Period 3: create a visual listening map for a piece from the Chorus's repertoire

Marking Period 4: create an *a capella* arrangement with a group

Agreement:

By signing below, we (the student and his/her legal guardian) state that we have reviewed this syllabus *together* and agree to the terms it establishes. We understand that Mr. Saville-Iksic reserves the right to alter the course schedule and assignments (including point values) as he may see necessary. We have directed any questions or concerns we may have to Mr. Saville-Iksic, and they have been addressed to our satisfaction.

Student Name (please print): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Guardian Name (please print): _____

Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

PARENTS, PLEASE NOTE: There will be several changes and additions made to our vocal music program this year. In order to fully inform you on everything that the year has to offer, I request your presence at a special *Beginning of the Year Information Session*, to be held...

Wednesday, September 10, 2014
7:10pm
High School Auditorium

Please indicate if you plan to be in attendance...

_____ I will be in attendance.

_____ I will not be in attendance.