# Chorus Syllabus 

2022-2023

## Contact:

Jayna Morgan Decuers
General Music and Choir Director
jayna.morgandecuers@stpsb.org

Texts and Materials:
(Provided by instructor) Binders, sheet protectors, sheet music
(Provided by student) Pencil, bottled water, performance polo shirt

## Course Description:

This class will incorporate basic music theory with vocal technique. Students will learn music theory while preparing to perform for their Holiday and Spring concerts.

## Learning Goals and Objectives:

Learning goals of this course are to prepare middle school children to think independently and perform collaboratively by:

1. Perform various musical theory concepts including homophony, polyphony, and polytextural voicing.
2. Work as a team with choir members through harmonization with other sections as well as listening to their section.
3. Use standard notation to document personal standard rhythmic and melodic ideas.
4. Demonstrate understanding of the structure and elements of music in selected performances.
5. Explain how intent is conveyed through interpretation and expressive musical qualities.
6. Demonstrate proper performance posture and finesse.

## Expectations:

Students will read and take home the "TMS Student Expectations" form. Students and parents will both need to initial and return in order to participate in Chorus.

## Attendance:

Students will forego their Monday enrichment class in order to attend Chorus. Should students miss Chorus for any reason other than being absent or sick, students will be permanently dismissed from Chorus. Parents will be notified and not refunded.

## Cell Phones:

Cell phones must be turned off during Chorus class. If a student is found with their cell phone turned out, it will be confiscated and given to Dr. Stubbs to be reclaimed.

Fees:
All first year Chorus students will need to pay the Chorus fee and purchase a TMS Chorus polo. Second and third year students will only need to pay the Chorus fee. The Chorus fee covers binders, sheet protectors, legally purchased music, accompaniment, and any additional supplies needed. Chorus Spirit shirts are available for purchase but are not mandatory.

In-School Rehearsals:
Students are expected to arrive on-time during their enrichment class every Monday.

## After-School Dress Rehearsals:

It is mandatory for all students to attend the after school dress rehearsal the day before the concert. Rehearsal will begin promptly after school and end no later than 4:30pm. Please be ontime for pick up. If parents do not arrive by $4: 30 \mathrm{pm}$, students will be sent to after care and a $\$ 20$ late fee will be applied.

## Performances:

There will be one Holiday concert and one Spring concert. Dates are listed below under schedule. We will also work on performing a Veterans Day musical piece, participate in a workshop for all feeder schools, and St. Tammany Middle School Vocal festival. Other performance opportunities may arise, which parents will be notified of in advance.

## Field Trips:

There are no field trips scheduled at this time, however should an opportunity arise, parents will be notified immediately. Chorus fees do not cover field trip fees.

Fundraising:
We will be doing a satsuma fundraiser in the Fall prior to Thanksgiving break. All money raised will go towards paying for student fees and polos who cannot afford them, props for concerts, field trips, additional music, etc. We are asking all to help us with our fundraising efforts.

## Concert Attire:

1. Young ladies must wear their black TMS polo with teal embroidery, and either black pants with black socks and black shoes or black skirts with black tights and black flats.
2. Young men must wear their black TMS polo with teal embroidery and black pants with black socks and black shoes.
3. Hair must be neatly pulled out of the face. All long hair (for boys and girls) must be in a ponytail or bun.

## Honor Choir:

Honor Choir is an All-District choir through the Louisiana Music Educators Association (LMEA). Students who are interested in auditioning for Honor Choir will be asked to have parents sign several forms stating they understand all terms, fees, rehearsal, and performances. Once received, students will have the opportunity to audition. If accepted, parents must sign several state and local waivers, pay the All-District fee, and adhere to terms and conditions through the LMEA.

Schedule (tentative):
The tentative performance and rehearsal schedule is as follows:

## August 29- First day of Choir

October 3- forms due for Honor Choir auditions
October 15- Honor Choir Auditions
November 11- Veterans Day performance (details TBD)
November 30- Tentative Community Learning Event (during school hours, concert in the evening at Mandeville High)

December 5- After school Holiday Concert rehearsal
December 6- 6:00 pm December Holiday Concert
December 15- In-school performance, tentative caroling at neighbor schools
March 28- Tentative St. Tammany Parish Choral Festival (during school hours)
April 3- After school Spring Concert rehearsal
April 4- 6:00 pm Spring Concert

