

# Glencoe High School Choir Handbook

2018-2019



Hello & Welcome!

I am very excited about this school year and the incredible opportunities that await us. Participation in choir has the potential to offer so much purpose and beauty in a person's life. It is my hope to foster that experience for every student who enters into this choral program through dedication, discipline, and passion. The most important beginning steps towards that is to be willing and informed. The next few pages are meant to help you better understand what choir is all about. Essentially the most important foundational information in order for you to be successful in choir lies within these pages. So read carefully and ask questions! At the end, you'll be asked to sign on the line, declaring that you understand the expectations of our choral program and are willing to uphold the values of Room 142 (Choir Room). In addition, your parents/guardians will need to sign too, agreeing to support you to their best ability in choir. I am very excited to begin this journey with you!

Here we go!

Ms. Brandenstein

# Glencoe Choir Mission

The Glencoe Choral Program aims to transcend social barriers in a celebration of shared humanity and musical excellence.

## Program Goals

- ★ Develop strong musicianship and cultivate aesthetic awareness in the classroom through the preparation and performance of quality musical literature.
- ★ Create the best possible learning environment for all students.
- ★ Promote community on all levels: within our classrooms, our department, our school building, and our greater community.
- ★ Inspire students to become lifelong learners and intentional musicians.

## Choir Dates for 2018-2019

### September:

- ☐ 14th-15th. Choir Retreat at Camp Adams (Concord Only).

### October:

- ☐ 23rd. Fall Choir Informance. 7:00pm in Auditorium.

### December:

- ☐ 13th. Grotto Performance. 8:20-8:55pm. (Concord Only).
- ☐ 19th. Winter Combined Concert. 7:00pm in Auditorium.

### January:

- ☐ 18th. Choro in Schola + HSD Choirs Festival. Century High School. 5:00pm-7:30pm. (Concord Only).

### February:

- ☐ 14th-17th. OMEA Conference (Audition Only).

### March:

- ☐ TBD. Hillsboro Concert Choir Festival. Glencoe High School. (Concord Only).
- ☐ 14th. Spring Choir Concert. 7:00pm in Auditorium.

### April:

- ☐ 11th. Metro League State Qualifier (Concord Only). Time TBD. Liberty High School.

### May:

- ☐ 1st. OSAA State Choir Competition. TBD. (Concord Only).
- ☐ 16th. Farewell Choir Concert. 7:00pm in Auditorium.

# How Choir is Graded

## **1. Participation-50%**

This course requires students to be active participants through body, mind, and heart, 100% of the time. Due to the importance of our daily rehearsals, participation is the most important grade you will work towards. The following are things you will be graded on during every rehearsal:

- When the bell rings, you are in your spot, ready to sing. *Good start = good rehearsal.*
- Always have your pencil & choir folder with you.
- Maintain eye contact and focus.
- It requires effort to sing. Show it through your voice, eye contact, and body language!
- Mark. Your. Music. (with pencil)
- Posture is part of participation: Position 1 = Standing Tall. Position 2 = Sitting Tall. Position 3 = Relaxed Sitting.

## **2. Performance-40%**

Concerts are a pivotal experience for all students. It is an opportunity to demonstrate mastery of the musical literature and experience accomplishment for their efforts; Therefore, attendance to all choir concerts is *absolutely required*.

### **For pre-arranged absences:**

1. The director must be notified well in advance (2 weeks minimum) via phone call or email stating the conflict.
2. A make-up assignment will be provided and must be completed within 7 days of the excused absence or the student will be unable to receive any credit for the missed performance.

### **For illness or emergency:**

1. In the case of sudden illness or emergency, a parent or doctors note must be submitted to the director upon the students' return. The student has 7 days from their return date to submit an absence note or they will receive a zero for the unexcused concert.
2. Follow-up is the sole responsibility of the student!

### **Performance No-Shows:**

Students will receive a zero for their performance grade if they do not attend a performance.

## **3. Reflection-5%**

Reflection activities are written exercises that happen typically in 2 different ways: concert reflections and weekly listening activities. The purpose of writing in the choir classroom adds academic value while providing an additional/alternative platform for expressing comprehension.

## **4. Vocal Assessment-5%**

In preparation for performances, students will be expected to practice outside of school. In order to support you through those efforts, you will be supplied with practice tracks and other various links to assist you in successful independent rehearsing. There will be formal vocal assessments/part tests, assessing your knowledge of repertoire and/or sight-reading skills every 6 weeks. In between that time, you may be asked to prepare for part tests, which will be announced in advance, to allow time to prepare.

# Student Expectations

## **Entering Class Procedure**

1. Leave it at the door. Be mindful of how you enter into our space and make a conscious effort to let go of what will keep you from joining in the spirit of music-making.
2. Put your personal belongings away in the designated areas.
3. Bring your folder, pencil, and water to the risers; nothing else.
4. Musicians will be ready to sing when the bell rings.

## **Rehearsal Etiquette & Protocol**

- Raise your hand
- No gum
- Sing more than you speak
- Be mindful of your belongings and clean up after yourself
- No cell phones, unless instructed
- If completely incapable of phonating, complete a Sick Bay reflection form and return completed at the end of class

# Uniform Information

All choir students must have black dress shoes, solid black pants/skirt, and black socks/tights. Additional uniform pieces will be purchased/provided in the coming weeks.

# Fair Share Contribution

As with other activities, school district funds alone are not adequate to fund a successful choir program. In lieu of endless fundraisers, parents have requested that a **\$30** optional participation contribution will be *encouraged* of all choir students to allow for reliable budgeting. This contribution supports music costs, uniform expenses, student transportation, clinician fees, etc. Even if you are currently only able to contribute \$10 towards your students' participation in choir, it makes a difference. Families that are unable to commit to this contribution should contact Ms. Brandenstein to make alternative arrangements.

Families may make checks payable to 'Glencoe High School Choir' and **include the singer(s)'s name and student ID#** in the memo line of the check. Please have checks turned into the bookkeeper by **Friday, September 21st**.

# Communication 101

Director Contact: Ms. Mary Brandenstein

Phone: (503) 844-1990

Email: brandenm@hsd.k12.or.us

## Remind 101

**Remind 101** is an approved teacher application used to send reminders and announcements to parents and/or students. It is meant to be a quick and helpful way of conveying reminders for things like upcoming concerts, what to wear on picture day, due dates for field trip permission forms, etc.

### **Here's how you join via text:**

1. Open up a new text message
2. In the "To:" part of the text, where you usually start typing someone's name, enter the number, *81010*
3. After that, go to the body of the text, enter the appropriate code for your class below, and send!

<b>Concord</b>	@8eg7ka
<b>Chamber</b>	@kdhggc
<b>Crimson</b>	@9feffg
<b>Tide</b>	@7ehb3b

### **Here's how you join via email:**

1. Open up a new email
2. In the "To:" part of the email, type the email address below that goes with the correct choir.
3. Type your FULL name in the subject and send!

<b>Concord</b>	8eg7ka@mail.remind.com
<b>Chamber</b>	kdhggc@mail.remind.com
<b>Crimson</b>	9feffg@mail.remind.com
<b>Tide</b>	7ehb3b@mail.remind.com

## Volunteering/Chaperoning

We strongly encourage all parents to get involved in some capacity in our choral program. Volunteering opportunities include but are not limited to:

- Chaperoning field trips, festivals, concerts, etc.
- Passing out programs and/or providing supervision at concerts
- Bringing food for choir celebrations

If you are interested in volunteering/chaperoning at *any* point during the school year, you must complete a volunteer application. You can fill out the application in the link below:

<https://www.hsd.k12.or.us/Page/152>



**IMPORTANT:** *This form is due Friday, September 21st 2018.*

## GHS Choir Contract of Mutual Consent

### Choir Student

Read & initial next to each statement:

\_\_\_\_\_ I have completely read the Glencoe Choir Handbook.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will follow the rules and expectations outlined in this handbook, to the absolute best of my ability.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if I miss a performance, my grade and participation in the ensemble will be affected, unless my absence has been properly excused.

Student Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name (Signature): \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent/Guardian

Read & initial next to each statement:

\_\_\_\_\_ I have completely read the Glencoe Choir Handbook.

\_\_\_\_\_ I give my student permission to participate in all choir functions including but not limited to after-school rehearsals, concerts, field trips, festivals, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if my student misses a performance, their grade and participation in the ensemble will be affected, unless my absence has been properly excused by the director.

*\*\*Please be sure to provide current contact information\*\**

Parent/Guardian First & Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian(s) Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Photo/Video Permission

I give permission for my child to be photographed and/or videotaped for educational purposes, as well as promotional material.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_