PORTLAND HIGH SCHOOL

95 High Street, Portland, Connecticut 06480

Phone: (860) 342-1720 Fax: (860) 342-4108

Portland Middle School Choral Programs-2019-2020 Academic Year

Samuel Tucker, Choral Director-stucker@portlandct.us

Music Department Website: [www.pssmusic.weebly.com](http://www.pssmusic.weebly.com)

Follow Portland Chorus on Twitter: @PSSChorus, A Cappella: @PHSCTACappella, Band: @PortlandHSBand

**Concert Choir-Grade 9, Chorale-Grade 10-12**

Course Description, Policies, Procedures, and Requirements

**Core Values and Beliefs:**

 -Demonstrate growth and proficiency in critical thinking and creative problem solving

 -Utilize technology to obtain, process, and evaluate information

 -Communicate expressively through oral, written, visual, artistic, and technical modes of expression

 -Work cooperatively with others, recognize individual differences, and respect the rights of others

 -Exhibit an understanding of the value of physical fitness and healthy lifestyle choices

 -Demonstrate responsibility in self-discipline, self-reliance, time management, and personal behavior

 -Demonstrate an understanding of the value of leadership and service to the school and community

 -Demonstrate an understanding of cultural and political factors necessary for active citizenship

**Course Description:**

 Chorale and Concert Choir are performance based classes in which students will learn proper vocal production and technique. Students will also focus on skill development in music reading, sight-singing, performance, team building, and leadership. Participation in dress rehearsals and concerts outside of regular class hours is required.

**Materials Needed:**

-**Black ½-1” 3-ring binder**, with inside pockets will be provided. If damaged or lost, student must replace.

-**Pencil** – you must have a pencil that “lives” in your choral folder

-**Chorus Uniform** – more information will follow, but there is a required uniform for all chorus students.

(Financial assistance available- Please see Mr. Tucker for more information.)

***Please Note:*** *Students will be charged for music replacement. Please write on music in* ***pencil*** *only.*

**Grading Procedures:**

Each student will be graded in the following areas:

* **Concert Attendance (CA) 30%: \*SEE CONCERT GRADING RUBRIC ON GOOGLE CLASSROOM.** Arrive on time with correct concert dress ready to perform!
* **Rehearsal Technique (RT) 40%:** **\*SEE REHEARSAL GRADING RUBRIC ON GOOGLE CLASSROOM.** Includes attendance, arriving on time, following instructions and rehearsal procedures, being “on task”, taking notes, marking music, maintaining proper singing posture, working hard, and maintaining a positive attitude.
* **Sight-Singing/Performance Tasks (SS) 15%:** Smart music/Sight Reading Factory will be used for SS assessment throughout the year. Google Classroom will be used for Performance Task assignments (sing a section of a song, etc…)
* **Theory and Aural Skills (TAS) 15%:** Written theory and aural skills assignments/sub work.

*\*Any late assignments will lose 10 points initially, and an additional 10 points per week after due date!*

**Dress Rehearsal and Performance Participation:**

Chorus is a performance-based class and all performances are mandatory. All PHS performing arts classes (chorus, band) are academic classes and performances are part of the grading system. Therefore, events and performances must take priority over activities and sports when schedule conflicts arise. Please mark your calendar now and plan accordingly! It is the student’s responsibility to inform coaches of required chorus dates in advance. All excused absences with the exception of family emergencies and illness must be ok’d by me AT LEAST TWO WEEKS prior to the event and must be accompanied by a note from a parent/guardian. In these cases, an alternative assignment will be provided. Unexcused absences will result in a zero for a concert grade.

**Fundraising:**

Students will be given opportunities to participate in candle sales, pie sales, and other fundraising activities. Participation is optional, but students will not be eligible for financial assistance if they do not participate in the fundraising activities.

**Classroom Rules:**

Students are responsible for the PHS student handbook rules at all times, as well as:

1. Come to class ON TIME and ready to sing, find your folder, and take your seat.
2. NO FOOD OR DRINK allowed in the chorus room!!!
3. Please do not enter the chorus office without my permission.
4. Please respect the music room and its contents. Do not touch the piano, stereo, TV, or classroom computers without specific permission.
5. Please respect each other. Teasing, bullying, and other acts of meanness will not be tolerated, and will be reported to administration when appropriate.
6. Raise your hand if you want to be heard! Otherwise, there is NO TALKING. Especially in larger ensembles, this will help us stay on task.
7. PUT YOUR FOLDER AWAY in the correct spot before leaving the room!

**Discipline Procedures (in addition to loss of points/grade reduction at all levels):**

* 1st offense - verbal warning
* 2nd offense - student/teacher conference, parent contact
* 3rd offense - after school detention, parent contact, referral to admin.

**Performance Dates for PHS Chorus 2019/2020**

***These are required performance dates for Concert Choir and Chorale.***

**Fri, Oct. 25th** Hartford Wolfpack Hockey Game

**Wed, Nov. 20th** HS Fall Concert-7PM

**Thurs, Feb. 13th** HS Winter Concert-7PM(Snow date Thurs, 2/20)

**Wed, Apr. 1st** Choral Extravaganza-7PM, PHS gym

***Other Music Dates:***

**Wed, Thurs, Oct 2, 10** Shorelines Rehearsal and Concert-Coginchaug

**Mon, Wed, November 4, 6** COMF Rehearsals and Concert–Coventry

**Sat, Nov. 23** Southern Region Auditions-Foran HS

**Thurs, Nov. 21** MS Fall Concert

**Sun, Dec. 1** Tree Lighting and Light Parade for Town of Portland

**Fri, Sat, Jan. 10-11**  Southern Region Festival-Maloney HS, Middletown

**Sat, Feb. 8**  All State Auditions-North Haven

**Wed. Feb. 12**  MS Winter Concert (Snow Date 19th)

**Fri-Sat, Mar. 20, 21** HS Musical

**Tues, Mar. 31** Band Extravaganza-PHS gym

**Thurs-Sat, Apr. 2-4** All State Music Festival-CT Convention Ctr. Hartford, CT

**Tues-Sat, Apr. 14-18** PHS Music Department Trip-Disney, FL.

**TBD**  Portland Secondary School’s Jazz Night

**Fri, June 12** HS Graduation (Subject to change!)

STUDENT LAST NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_FIRST NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please sign and return this entire form to Mr. Tucker.

**STUDENT:**

I understand that Chorus is a performance-based class. I also understand that the nature of this course requires me to participate in dress rehearsals and concerts outside of regular class hours. I accept responsibility for arranging my schedule so as not to conflict with any mandatory performance dates. **I have read and marked all concert dates on a calendar**. I further understand that I cannot pass Chorus without attending all required performances.

I have read and understand the course requirements and grading procedures. I know that my grade will not be based on an inherent musical talent, but on the work I do everyday in class.

I know that the only excuse for missing a rehearsal is a doctor’s excused illness or family emergency. Student absences for vacation are considered unauthorized in accordance with the B.O.E. I understand that, if at all possible, it is my responsibility to communicate with Mr. Tucker about the problem before the rehearsal. It is also my responsibility to obtain the make-up assignment when an absence is excused.

Student Name (print)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grad. Year\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Voice Part\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Ensemble\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Questions or comments can be directed to Mr. Tucker at stucker@portlandct.us