

PORTLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Portland Secondary Schools Music Programs-2023-2024 Academic Year
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Choral Ensembles - Grades 7 - 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
- 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:

Students will learn proper instrumental/vocal technique, as well as develop skills in ensemble work, sight-reading, performance, team building, and leadership. This is a performance-based class. Participation in lessons, performance tasks, and performances (live and/or virtual) outside of regular class hours is required. Our goal is to create literate musicians capable of continued independent learning in music.

Attendance, Scheduling and Conflicts

- ~ All PSS Music ensembles and courses are academic classes and all performances are required
- ~ Events, performances and rehearsals always retain scheduling priority over activities (school or outside), work and athletics.
- ~ It is the student's responsibility to inform coaches/employers of required performance dates in advance. (mark calendars now!)
- ~ Performances are part of the grading system.
- ~ Unexcused absence and tardiness will result in a grade reduction.
- ~ All excused absences with the exception of family emergencies and illness must be approved by the director 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.

Materials Needed:

- ~ Headphones with microphone
- ~ Chromebook
- ~ Pencil

Concert Dress: (Financial assistance available- Please see Mr. Tucker for more info.)

- ~HS: Option 1: Concert dress, black close-toed shoes, *sash

- Option 2: Concert tuxedo pants, shirt, tie, black close-toed shoes, *vest. (*A Cappella only)
- ~MS: ALL top: Top half solid white, short sleeves or longer
- Bottoms Option 1: Black pants(no leggings, yoga pants or sweatpants), black socks, solid black shoes
- OR
- Bottoms option 2: Knee-length or longer black skirt with black tights, solid black closed-toe dress shoes (no sandals, flip-flops, no heel higher than 2 inches, please)

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%:** Sightreading 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.

Classroom Rules:

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

1. Come to class on time and ready to play.
2. No food or drink allowed in the classroom!!!
3. Please do not enter either office without director permission.
4. Please respect the rehearsal rooms and their contents.
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.

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 | - parent contact, referral to admin. |

MUSIC PERFORMANCE DATES

Performance Schedule for the Year:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Wed, November 29th | HS Fall Concert
7:00 pm performance DWG Auditorium |
| Thurs, Nov. 30th | MS Fall Concert
7:00 pm performance DWG Auditorium |
| Sat. Nov. 18th | HS Southern Region Fest Auditions-Foran HS(optional) |
| TBD: | HS A Cappella Holiday Performances (Tree Lighting 12/3, etc) |
| Sat. Dec. 2nd | MS Southern Region Auditions-Fair Haven School (optional) |

Fri/Sat Jan 19-20	HS Southern Region Fest (optional)
Tues, Feb. 13th	MS Winter Concert (Snow Date on Wed 2/22) 7:00 pm performance DWG Auditorium
Wednesday, Feb. 14th	HS Winter Concert (Snow date on 2/23) 7:00 pm performance DWG Auditorium
Fri/Sat Mar. 8-9	MS Southern Region Fest (optional, HK MS)
Fri/Sat, Mar. 22-23	PHS Musical
Wed-Sun, Apr 10-14	PHS Music Trip to Florida
Tues, Apr. 23rd	5-12 Band Extravaganza
Wed, Apr. 24th	5-12 Choral Extravaganza
Fri, May 31st	Six Flags Adjudication (MS)
Monday, June 12th	HS Graduation-A Cappella perform(Subject to Change)

*****PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THE HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

OR

COMPLETE COURSE OUTLINE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ON GOOGLE CLASSROOM***

PSS Music Handbook Acknowledgement

I understand that ensembles are performance-based classes. I also understand that the nature of this course requires me to participate in lessons and/or performance tasks outside of regular class hours. I accept responsibility for arranging my schedule so as not to conflict with any mandatory performance task due dates. **I have read and understand all classroom rules for ensembles.** Further, I have read and understand the course requirements and grading procedures. I know that my grade will not be based on technique alone, but on the work I do everyday in class.

Student Name (print)_____

Parent/Guardian Name(s)_____

Parent/Guardian Signature_____