

Department: Music

Course Title: 8th Grade Chorus

Grade Level: 8

Length of Course: All Year unless there are scheduling issues, a semester course is available.

Primary Resources: Repertoire changes yearly, and seasonally, Choir Karate: A Sequential Assessment Program for Middle School Singers – Lisa Owens, Building Beautiful Voices – Weston Noble, Group Vocal Technique – Frauke Hasseman

Units of Study:

Unit 1: Choir Karate (All Year, concurrently with other units) – Students learn the basics of musical construction, literacy, and tonal memory

Unit 2: Vocal Technique, Canons and Part-songs, Unison Singing – September

Unit 3: Holiday Concert - October - December

Unit 4: Spring Choral Concert – January – May

Unit 5: Advanced Vocal Technique – May - June

Curriculum-Based Assessments: Students will be given an individual voice assessment at the beginning of the year to determine progress through the voice change, and current state of vocal technique. Students will perform a concert in two of the four nine weeks during the year. In one of the grading periods that does not have a performance, students will submit a live or recorded singing sample for assessment. Students will complete music theory assignments throughout the year for grading. This will comprise their final exam for the course.

Standardized Assessments: N/A

Description of Course:

The Eighth Grade Choruses is designed for those students who wish to explore singing beyond the general music classroom. Content emphasis will be placed on group vocal development, basic musicianship reinforcement, confidence in the singing voice, and dealing with the vocal change in middle school singers. In addition, students will be exposed to unison, two, three, and four-part singing in a large group atmosphere. Students will perform in a minimum of two concerts per year.