

HMS 7th/8th Choir



Mrs. Daggett-- Director

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TEACHER WEBSITE: www.hartley-ms.k12.ia.us

Middle School; Teacher Pages; Mrs. Daggett

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Choir is a unique opportunity where students perform as a part of their music educational experience. Rehearsals will consist of singing music from many genres, styles, and time periods. This includes a healthy balance of sacred and secular pieces. Beyond the rehearsal, we have three performances. Extra opportunities include OPUS, NW Iowa Honor Choir, and a 7th grade honor choir

CLASS SCHEDULE

Class meets 5th(AB) period on Days 1-3-5

REHEARSAL AGENDA

1. Bell-ringer, Warm-ups
2. Announcements
3. Conversational Solfege
4. Music rehearsal on varied pieces

MATERIALS

1/2 inch black binder and pencil (students provide)

- Literature selection is based on voicing, style variety, and difficulty level
- Music Literacy materials
- Other handouts distributed as necessary
- Chromebooks - Bring to class when asked via announcements & Google Classroom

MUSIC SKILLS and CONCEPTS

Proper alignment and breathing

Vowel unification (blending); vowel modification

Ensemble awareness: pitch balance, blend, timbre (tone color)

Vocal production, technique

Vocal Health

Solfege

Music literacy - Conversational Solfege Curriculum

Articulation and diction

Intonation (pitch matching)

Committed facial expression reflecting song text

Review and refine musicianship (dynamics, phrasing)

Concert etiquette

Excellence
is not being
the best; it is
doing your
best.

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EXPECTATIONS: Step Up. Show up. Soar!

Daily Procedures:

1. When you enter the room, get your folder, and sit in your assigned seat.
2. Your folder must have your music and a sharpened pencil.
3. SILENTLY Complete BELL RINGER and wait for further instructions.
4. Bell ringer will be located on the TV.
5. Read announcements/agenda on the TV.
6. Cell Phones: If I see or hear them, I will collect and turn into the office. **Iowa Law has a NO CELL PHONE policy. THIS INCLUDES SMARTWATCHES AND EARBUDS.**
7. Bathroom should be taken care of BEFORE class. If you don't think you'll make it without being late, you will need to ask for permission and take a hall pass. Return it to me. I will keep track of the sign-out sheet.
8. Emergencies: If you are ill or have some sort of emergency and need to go to the bathroom or office during class, please let me know.
9. If you are late, bring a signed pass by your teacher or the office.
10. If you do not have a pass, the tardy is unexcused and will be reported to the office.
11. **No gum, food, or drinks are allowed. Water only, please!**
12. You are responsible for your music. All music should be kept neatly in your folder. A fee will be assessed for any lost or damaged music.
13. Only music marking permitted in your music.
14. WAIT to be dismissed, put folders away, and leave the room how you found it (or better).

CONSEQUENCES OF MISBEHAVIORS

- 1) Verbal warning
- 2) One-on-one discussion
- 3) Communication sent home to parents
- 4) Office referral

*Consequences of persistent failure to accept and implement responsibilities will comply with the rules in the HMS M.S. Handbook.

TASKS and ASSESSMENTS

*Please note that definitions may be added/edited/changed at any time.

Concert Participation - 35%
Lessons - 20%
Rehearsal Skills - 25%
Assessments - 20%

Concert Participation

Attendance is REQUIRED for all concerts. This grade includes promptness, appropriate attire, etiquette, and musicianship. (100 points)

Lessons

Each student is responsible for attending lessons. Lessons will be scheduled with small groups for fifteen minutes, once per cycle. (15 points per lesson). Grade is based on attendance and progress towards skills.

Ensemble Skills

Students can earn up to 10 points daily

- +Proper body alignment/vocal technique
- +Rehearsal markings in score
- +Role of sound/silence
- +Engaged in rehearsal

Assessments

*Including, but not limiting to...

Music literacy including sight-singing (20 points)

Singing a music excerpt (30 points)

Post-concert critiques (20 points)

Music theory concepts

Conversational Solfege Steps

ASSIGNMENT POLICY

All assignments are to be turned in on time. Assignments could be given on rare occasions.

Each day late, your grade will be reduced by 10%, with a maximum of 50%.

Extra Credit

Available upon request. Students may have an extra voice lesson, papers on pre-approved topics relevant to the music being studied, worksheets, etc.

***No extra credit will be allowed for unexcused absences, tardies, or late assignments.

H-M-S MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADING SCALE

A	95-100	C	76-80
A-	92-94	C-	73-75
B+	90-91	D+	71-72
B	86-89	D	67-70
B-	84-85	D-	65-66
C+	81-83	F	Below 65

****PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS****

Everything we do on a daily basis in rehearsals is based on an educational standard that is reflected in our performances. These performances are a unique experience that cannot be duplicated, therefore, it is critical to attend all concerts.

CONCERT ATTIRE- Please READ and plan ahead. First concert is November 18, 2025.

All: Formal black/white

Looking our BEST and like a unified group is part of our performance etiquette.

The band and choir will be dressing in **formal concert BLACK**.

+LADIES= Black or white dressy shirt; Black dress pants (no leggings, jeans, or jeggings)

OR Dresses/Skirts should be black or mostly black and down to the knees. Shoulder straps on dresses must be at least one inch or shoulders covered. Black panty hose if wearing a dress or skirt.

+MEN= black dress pants; white or black collared shirt & tie

Black dress closed-toe shoes

If you need black pants, the school has some, but do not wait until the day of the concert.

If you have questions or need assistance, please reach out to me.

PERFORMANCE ABSENCE

***Excused:**

Illness/Family Emergency: Parents/Guardians (not the student) must contact the office in the event of illness or family emergency as soon as possible, or upon returning to school.

Family Commitment: A family vacation or other similar commitment must be cleared through parent/guardian contact with the director as soon as possible. If contact has not been made at least 24 hours before the concert, the absence will result in an unexcused.

The sooner the communication, the better. Thank you!

Make-up work:

- Excused concert absences will watch the performance video and complete an evaluation.
- Students will also demonstrate mastery of individual voice part for the teacher. **Please talk to Mrs. Daggett immediately upon returning to school.**

***Unexcused:**

Anything not cleared through the director will be counted as unexcused. For example, no ride or not showing up is unexcused.

2025-2026 7th/8th CHOIR CALENDAR

Keep this page and post in a prominent place and put into your calendar

EVENT	DAY	DATE	TIME
Opus Auditions		Sept 5-22	Lesson with Mrs. Daggett
Northwest ICDA Honor Choir 7th/8th	Tuesday	November 4	All day @ Storm Lake
Veteran's Day	Tuesday	November 11	10:30am HMS MS
OPUS FESTIVAL	Thursday	November 20	ISU - Ames
WINTER CONCERT	Monday	November 18	7:00pm; Call time 6:30
LATE WINTER CONCERT	Tuesday	March 3	7:00pm; Call time 6:30
7th Honor Choir	Tuesday	April 21	MOC-Floyd Valley
SPRING CONCERT	Tuesday	May 1	7:00pm; Call time 6:30

Please mark your calendars!

Students are required to participate in all THREE concerts (bolded on the calendar-35% performance grade.) Students will need to be at the school @ 6:30 for warm-ups. If they are in band, they will report sooner per Mr. Yenser's information. Student promptness and attire is part of the performance grade.

(Extra credit: Parent signature on a high school concert program can be turned into Mrs. Daggett!)

***Check out more Music Booster information on my Teacher Page.**

Our next meeting will be **September 22 @ 6:00pm ~ Hartley Legion.**

We are looking for more members, especially middle school parents. Start planning for family accounts and how you can earn credit for the next music trip in 2030.

*Please return this slip to Mrs. Daggett by
Friday, August 29th (10 Points)*

Choir Handbook Acknowledgment Form

To access the handbook online, please go to the HMS
school website.

Click Middle School: Teacher Pages: Mrs. Daggett

We have read the contents of this vocal handbook and understand what
is expected in the H-M-S Middle School Choral program. We realize
these expectations are important in order to help our students grow.
We pledge to help make this a successful and rewarding year!

Student Name (Please Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

I am thrilled for another year of making awesome music together!!
~Mrs. Daggett