



WOODROW WILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Home of the Presidents

Wilson Chorus Syllabus

Instructor: Mr. Benny Gundlach (Mr. G.) – Bachelor's of Music (Grove City College)
– Teacher Certification (Geneva College)

Email Address: bgundlach@eriesd.org

Course Name: Woodrow Wilson Middle School Chorus

Meeting times: 6th grade – Pd 5; B days for the entire year
7th & 8th grade – Pd 1, 2, or 4; B days for the entire year

Course Materials: Music/folder used at rehearsals, Chromebook, Sight Reading Factory and various sight-singing literature, other on-line resources

Course Description:

This course is designed to broaden students' knowledge of music through choral literature. Emphasis is placed on students' participation in a variety of performance and rehearsal situations. Each student will learn to appreciate not only contemporary styles of music but also holiday, classical, Broadway and standard choral repertoire.

Course Outline:

Students will perform for school concerts and functions. Each student will gain a strong sense of personal responsibility and teamwork in every rehearsal and performance situation. The following will also be addressed:

***Choral Pedagogy:**

- Correct posture, vocal production, embouchure, breathing and support techniques
- Correct warm-up routines
- Diction and basic phrasing
- Harmonization in 2 and 3 parts

***Music Reading Skills:**

- Basic note reading, treble clef, bass clef, note values, rhythms, and meter signatures
- Basic knowledge of musical markings occurring in assigned choral selections
- Basic sight-singing, including solfege, using simple a cappella selections and
Sight Reading Factory

Performance Attire:

Students are expected to dress appropriately at all times when representing Wilson Middle School. Evening concerts are considered formal occasions. Formal concert attire will consist of: dress pants, button down shirts, dress shoes (ties optional) for boys. **Long** skirts or dress pants, dresses, blouses or tops, and dress shoes for girls. **Skirts must be at least fingertip length.** Exact colors/styles (for instance, green and red for the holidays) will be addressed closer to the concert date. Reminders and info will be emailed and sent home with students.

Assessment:

Students will receive a maximum of 4 participation points per rehearsal per day. If the student is present, well-behaved, and participating, the full 4 points will be received. Reasons to lose points include tardiness, misbehavior, lack of participation, loss/destruction of materials, etc.

Excused absences will **not** result in loss of daily participation points and will not need to be made up. **Unexcused absences** (as defined in the WMS handbook) **will** result in a score of zero points for that day and cannot be made up.

Additional grades may be awarded for filling out forms, completing simple worksheets, etc.

Daily Participation Grade: approx. 90 points/quarter

Performance Grade: 50 points/concert

Student Expectations

Each student is expected to give 100% effort, focused attention, and participation in each rehearsal and performance. Failure to adhere to these expectations will result in the loss of points. Students will be made aware of concert dates in advance. Students will receive a maximum of 50 points per performance, using the same criteria as the daily participation score.

Concerts presented during the day, as well as evening concerts, are required attendances/performances.

***Homework assignment: This syllabus must be signed by a parent/guardian by next week and will count as your first grade for the quarter (10 points).**

I have read and understand the expectations and grading procedures in the Wilson MS chorus.

Student Name_____ Signature_____

Parent Name_____ Signature_____

Parent Email(s)_____

Parent Phone Number(s)_____