

Syllabus 2018-19

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Jackson's choral program is dedicated to helping all students achieve their highest musical potential. Students will be exposed to music theory, sight singing, music of other cultures, musical theater, folk music, music history, and the fundamentals of quality singing through a wide variety of choral literature. We want choir to be fun and lead the students toward an appreciation of how and why music and singing are important.

Course Outline

Trimester 1 - Pitch identification and accuracy, Technique (Elements of Quality Singing – breath control, mouth shape, clear diction, projection, posture) and Choral Score Reading.

Trimester 2 – Presentation (facial expression, confidence, body language and musicianship), Concert Etiquette (including written evaluation) and Rhythm.

Trimester 3 - Interpretation (music vocabulary) and Musical Styles

Grading

I. Formative Assessment

A. Choir Standards 25%

1. Fully Engaged
2. Posture
3. Mouth Shape
4. Projection
5. Breath Control
6. Diction
7. Accuracy of Music
8. Expression

B. Classwork 20%

Sight singing book, trimester study guides, quizzes, concert evaluations, worksheets.

II. Summative Assessment

A. Singing Assessments 20%

Skills will be assessed during each singing exam from the Choir Standards list. This should be a non-threatening experience. Most singing assessments will be done in small groups.

B. Rehearsal and Performance Attendance 25%

Attendance at choir concerts and rehearsals is mandatory. Please read the Jackson Middle School Performance Attendance Policy carefully (found on the last page). Information on which group your child is in will be sent home in November.

C. District Common Assessments 10%

Common Summative Assessments are given at the end of each trimester.

One of the most exciting things about being in choir is singing in the concerts. Students will have after school rehearsals to prepare for these performances. They are scheduled from 3:15 to 4:15. Activity busses are available at 4:30 on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and 5:05 on Mondays and Thursdays. Students who do not get picked up will be supervised until activity busses arrive. Parents are encouraged to pick their children up at 4:15 in the East parking lot. 6th and 7th grade students have two evening concerts and 8th grade students have three. Attendance at rehearsals and concerts is required. **All choir students will wear black pants and a JMS Choir shirt to all performances.** Also, please mark the concert dates on your calendar - then come and enjoy the music! Invite your relatives and friends also. It is extremely motivating to have people you know in the audience lending support.

Rehearsal and Concert Dates for Choir 6

Tuesday, December 11	3:15-4:15	Morgan Group 1	Rehearsal P702
Wednesday, December 12	3:15-4:15	Morgan Group 2	Rehearsal P702
Thursday, December 13	3:15-4:15	Lace	Rehearsal P702
Tuesday, December 18	6:30 pm	Morgan Group 1	Concert Jaguar Gym
	7:45 pm	Morgan Group 2	Concert Jaguar Gym
Thursday, December 20	7:00 pm	Lace	Concert Jaguar Gym
Tuesday, May 14	3:15-4:15	Morgan Group 1	Rehearsal P702
Wednesday, May 15	3:15-4:15	Morgan Group 2	Rehearsal P702
Tuesday, May 21	3:15-4:15	Lace	Rehearsal P702
Thursday, May 23	6:30 pm	Morgan Group 1	Concert Jaguar Gym
	7:45 pm	Morgan Group 2	Concert Jaguar Gym
Tuesday, May 28	7:00 pm	Lace	Concert Jaguar Gym

Rehearsal and Concert Dates for Choir 7

Wednesday, November 28	3:15-4:15	Group 1	Rehearsal P702
Thursday, November 29	3:15-4:15	Group 2	Rehearsal P702
Thursday, December 6	6:30 pm	Group 1	Concert Jaguar Gym
	7:45 pm	Group 2	Concert Jaguar Gym
Tuesday, April 30	3:15-4:15	Group 1	Rehearsal P702
Wednesday, May 1	3:15-4:15	Group 2	Rehearsal P702
Thursday, May 9	6:30 pm	Group 1	Concert Jaguar Gym
	7:45 pm	Group 2	Concert Jaguar Gym

Rehearsal and Concert Dates for Choir 8

Tuesday, November 27	3:15-4:15	All Classes	Rehearsal P702
Thursday, November 29	7:00 pm	All Classes	Concert CPHS Auditorium
Tuesday, April 2	3:15-4:15	All Classes	Rehearsal P702
Thursday, April 4	7:00 pm	All Classes	Concert Jaguar Gym
Wednesday, May 29	3:15-4:15	All Classes	Rehearsal P702
Tuesday, June 4	7:30	All Classes	Pop Concert CPHS Field House

Exchange Concert for Grades 6, 7 & 8 with CPHS – Thursday, December 20, 2018 during school hours.

Jackson Middle School Performance Attendance Policy

Band, Choir and Orchestra are performance-oriented subjects. These classes require after school involvement, which include after school rehearsals and evening concerts. Attendance at concerts and rehearsals is an integral part of the curriculum. Each student is an important part of the ensemble and their participation is essential for academic and personal achievement, also for the success of the group as a whole. Because of this, the following is a guideline for excused and unexcused absences. **Notification of excused absences must be received by the student's teacher two weeks prior to the concert date. Please call, email, or send a written note.**

Excused absences may include:

Confirmed illness
Family emergency
Dance recital/Athletic tryout
Religious commitments

Unexcused absences may include:

Dance, karate class, etc.
Regular season game or practice
No ride - Director will try to help if necessary

Penalty

Unexcused absences will result in minimum drop of two letter grades, such as A to C.
Unexcused absences cannot be made up.

- **Please sign below indicating your understanding of the choral handbook/syllabus.**
- **Also indicate your desired t-shirt size (adult sizes) and include \$7.00.**
- **Please return this form in an envelope with your check or cash.** (Checks made out to JMS)

PLEASE WRITE NEATLY – Thank you!

Student Name _____

Day ____ Hour ____ Grade ____ (circle one) Ms. Biljan Mrs. Lace Mrs. Morgan

T-Shirt Size – Adult Sizes (circle one) Small Medium Large Extra Large XXLlarge

____ Please check indicating that you have found your choir t-shirt and it still fits.

Parent Signature _____

for teacher use only

Paid ____ Check # ____ Cash ____ Date returned ____

The choir t-shirts are black, short sleeved and have the logo that is pictured on the front page of the handbook. The logo is red, white and black.

Please return this form by Friday, September 28, 2018 Thank you!!