

Fruita Middle School

2017-2018 Choir Syllabus/Handbook
Ms. Teri Bohl Director of Choirs

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

6th grade Choir & 7th grade Choir: Students will study proper vocal production (individual & ensemble), musical elements (symbols, history and culture, etc.), perform at four concerts throughout the year, participate in CO West Festival (@ CMU), and make other trips/appearances. Choir students will have the opportunity to audition for:

- CO MS All-State Choir Festival—7th grade only (auditions before Oct. 5th; concert Feb 1-2)
- District 51 Honor Choir—7th grade only (auditions Nov. 7th; concert January 18th)
- District 51 Solo & Ensemble Festival (\$6/student/entry due January 12th, festival Feb 23-24)

Learning Behavior Categories (Choir):

CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY—*Respects the rights of others and follows classroom rules (PRIDE).*

COLLABORATION—*Works well others and in groups.*

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY—*Prepared for class (pencil, music), on time, attendance.*

WORK ETHIC—*Homework, in-class work, effort, and all practice completed in a timely manner.*

GRADING POLICY:

Students ARE NOT graded on their musical ability, but on their everyday participation and contribution to the ensemble—if you don't do the work, you don't get the points.

1. Performances

**** Choir is a CO-CURRICULAR class (students are required to attend activities—[concerts]—outside the school day and these activities affect a student's grade), NOT to be confused with extra-curricular (activities that are held outside the school day and they do not affect a student's grade).**

Also see MCVSD 51 Performance Contract. **

- a. **As stated above, choir is a Co-Curricular class and students are required to be at the designated concerts.** *Standard 1 = Expression of Music* You are provided a list of concert dates in August. Please make appropriate arrangements (events & transportation) ahead of time.
- b. Any performance that you know you will be unable to attend EXCUSED or UNEXCUSED, you MUST provide an explanation with parent verification IN WRITING at least five school days before the performance date and you may make up the concert (see "c, d").
By providing a note, you secure the opportunity to make up those performance points.
- c. If you are unable to attend a performance due to a family emergency or illness (EXCUSED), you will have the opportunity to make-up the majority of the points, by singing 'the concert'. Because this is a 'performance' based class and you have missed the concert, you will not receive the full points (only receive a 3 instead of a 4).
- d. If your absence is UNEXCUSED (does not fall into the "EX" category, and/or you have chosen to participate in/attend a non-district event) but you HAVE notified Ms. Bohl prior to the performance date, you DO have the opportunity to make-up half of the points (max of 2).

GRADING POLICY, CONT.

- e. **YOU are responsible for making arrangements with Ms. Bohl to make up the concert. If you have not come in within 4 days of the concert, it will be entered as a zero (missing).**
- f. If you miss a performance for any other reason (missed ride, forgot), it is also considered UNEXCUSED and you can only make-up 1 out of the 4 possible points.

2. Participation

- a. If you are ill or have suffered an injury whereby you can still attend school, but you are unable to sing, notify the director as soon as you can as to the nature of your situation. After notification, you will be asked to sit in your normal chair and follow along and participate in any way possible.
- b. Students who miss a week or more of school due to illness, should consider coming in to catch up on what they missed (attendance points can be made up).
- c. Reading a book or drawing during class is unacceptable behavior and it will affect the WORK ETHIC portion of your LB grade. It could also result in detention time or an office referral.

***** Because of the learning and growth that occurs during each rehearsal, it is vitally important that you attend everyday so that you contribute to and are a part of the ensemble's success. *****

3. Absences & Tardies

- a. All tardies are unexcused unless you have a pass saying "EXCUSED" from a teacher/the office. You are to be in your seat and ready to begin at the bell.
- b. Multiple absences and tardies will affect the 'Personal Responsibility' portion of your LB grade.

4. Paperwork & Other

The following items are used to create formative and summative assessments in choir. Choir is a performance based class, but you WILL receive a failing grade if you do not perform the required task(s) OR neglect to turn your 'paperwork' in!

- a. Singing tests—For correct rhythms and pitches on current concert music. Students will perform in groups of two (Sop, Alto) or three (Sop/Sop/Alto)
- b. Concert Critique—Students will listen to and evaluate their concert performance(s) and write a reflective paragraph.
- c. Solfege/sight-reading quizzes—Sing/count aloud a rhythm or melody (using solfege).
- d. In class assignment—Oral/Written; on theory, history, singing execution, etc.
- e. Musical Study Guides—Students will answer questions pertaining to the musical we are watching and write a reflective paragraph. ***** SEE 'standards' for the list of musicals *****
- f. Numbering Measures—All students need to have the measures in their music numbered so that rehearsal can move along quickly and smoothly. Music will be checked quarterly for their current selections. Students sharing a folder will need to split the numbering/work evenly to receive the full points for this assignment.

MCVSD51 PERFORMANCE CONTRACT:

It is your right to participate in the **Fruita Middle School Choir**, but it is a privilege to be a part of the performing ensemble. This performing ensemble will be representing our school in evening performances and at festivals, so the ensemble needs to be the best that we have to offer.

Students may earn their way into this special group by fulfilling the following:

1. Demonstrate positive effort during class time.
2. Be prepared when you come to class and to performances. This includes:
 - a. Having the materials that you need like your music, pencil, etc.
 - b. Handing in assignments or take your tests on the assigned day
 - c. Meeting deadlines
 - d. Complying to concert dress and etiquette
3. The signed form and returned by both student and parent (page at end of handbook).

Because performances are a part of our music standards we do use them as a part of our summative grading process. If you choose not to be a part of the performance ensemble then you will be graded upon your performance portion of **standard 4.1** during class time. A decision as to who will be selected to participate in the performing ensemble will be made approximately two weeks before the performance. The date will be determined by the director. Students not performing in the concerts will not be allowed to participate in the festivals. By signing the **FMS Choir Handbook Contract**, I understand that I need to fulfill the above requirements in order to be a member of the performing ensemble.

STANDARD PERTAINING TO MUSICALS SHOWN DURING CHOIR:

4.2 Articulation of music's role and cultural tradition in American history and society.

- a. *Describe various ways music is used and enjoyed in different societal backgrounds and cultural influences*
- b. *Create and defend a personal listening repertoire representing various styles and cultures from a span of musical eras and time periods*

each class will be presented a list and will select from the following musicals:

6 th gr:	The Music Man	7 th gr:	Annie Get Your Gun
	The Sound of Music		White Christmas
	The Wizard of Oz		Seven Brides for Seven Brothers
	Mary Poppins		The Hunchback of Notre Dame
	R & H Cinderella		Newsies

FMS CHOIR GOALS:

Students will:

- ✓ be exposed to a variety of musical styles and cultures.
- ✓ learn to work as a member of an ensemble.
- ✓ learn correct vocal production.
- ✓ learn to read music and sight-sing.
- ✓ gain poise and self-confidence through performance.
- ✓ be allowed to audition/participate in various music festivals as individuals or within an ensemble.
- ✓ become music makers; fostering and encouraging a life-long interest in music.
- ✓ utilize the choir setting as a medium for human expression which helps to develop personality and good citizenship.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

*****For faster response time, please use email instead of calling*****

teri.bohl@d51schools.org

Please include the STUDENT'S FULL NAME
when corresponding (duplicate first names, etc.) and update any
address changes to your email on ParentVue as soon as you can.

FRUITA MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR CONCERT DATES:

***** Events in BOLD are required *****

** Events in parenthesis and italics are optional **

Date	Event	Location/Time
<i>(Thurs, 24th Aug.</i>	<i>Rock-a-Thon Fundraiser Parent Meeting</i>	<i>FMS Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.)</i>
<i>(Thurs, Oct. 5th</i>	<i>CO MS All-State Choir Auditions (7th gr)</i>	<i>record w/Ms. Bohl PM that week)</i>
Mon, Oct. 9th	Fall Choir Concert w/F 8/9	FMS Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
<i>(Mon, Oct. 16th</i>	<i>FMS Rock-a-Thon Fundraiser</i>	<i>FMS Gym, 8-3:00 p.m.)</i>
<i>(Tues, Nov. 7th</i>	<i>7th gr.—D51 Honor Choir Auditions</i>	<i>after school, F 8/9 choir room)</i>
<i>(Mon, Nov. 13th</i>	<i>D51 Honor Choir results published</i>	<i>choir class)</i>
Mon, Dec. 18th	Holiday Choir Concert w/F 8/9	FMS Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
<i>(Fri, Jan. 12th</i>	<i>D51 Solo/Ensemble \$\$\$ and Entries due)</i>	
<i>(Thurs, Jan. 18th</i>	<i>D51 7th & 8th grade Honor Choir</i>	<i>all day/evening, FMS 7:00 p.m.)</i>
<i>(Th/Fri, Feb. 1-2</i>	<i>CO MS All-State Choir Festival</i>	<i>Denver; all day)</i>
<i>(Fri/Sat, Feb. 23-24</i>	<i>D51 Choir & Orchestra Solo/Ensemble</i>	<i>Grand Mesa MS, evening & all day)</i>
Mon, Mar. 5th	Pre-Spring Choir Concert w/F 8/9	FMS Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
Thurs, Apr. 19th	CO West Festival	CMU campus, times TBA
Mon, Apr. 23rd	(6th gr ONLY) 5th grade Assembly	FMS Auditorium, ~9:00 a.m.
TBA Apr.	(7th gr ONLY) Elementary Tour	all day, Fruita feeder elem's
Wed, May 16th	FMS Pops Choir Concert	FMS Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

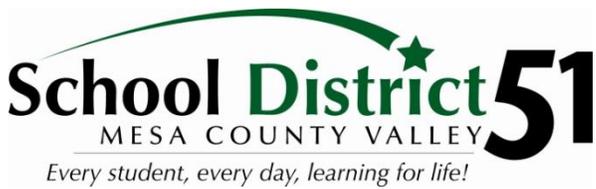
**** All students will need to report to the designated warm-up room NO LATER than 6:30 p.m. ****

Please write these dates on family calendars, in planners, and on work schedules; email me any photos taken at our concerts—they can be shown/displayed on the TVs around FMS. We also would love to watch any video of ourselves!!

CONCERT ATTIRE:

All choir members will wear the FMS music shirt for all performances. These shirts are purchased by the student (\$15.00 exact cash or ✓ written to FMS) and can/will be worn during 6th & 7th grade. Ms. Bohl will collect the students' sizes and fee/money during class.

- Students need to wear black pants/slacks or skirts (must be knee length or longer!!!)
- Students need to wear black shoes. ABSOLUTELY NO FLIP-FLOPS!!!! Dressy sandals are fine.
- Simple jewelry only.....silver or gold preferred, no multi-colored pieces.
- Hair accessories must be black, silver, gold, purple or white
- Camisole/under shirts must be white, purple, or black
- Wearing inappropriate concert attire will deduct your concert grade from a 4 to a 3.



MUSIC FIELD TRIP PERMISSION FORM

Parental Consent Form/Responsibility Clause
Medical Permit

Please fill out both sides of the form completely

I hereby give permission for _____ to participate in
Print Student Name

any music field trip/event sponsored by the **Choir Dept** at **FMS** during the entire **2017—2018** school year. I understand that there may be risks involved in any activity. District 51 staff will do its best to help ensure a safe experience for my child.

In case of an emergency, I hereby give my consent for a District 51 representative to act in my child's best interest and I also give my consent for a qualified physician to perform any medical or surgical procedures deemed necessary to the welfare of this applicant while participating in any sponsored event. It is understood that a school representative will make every attempt to contact parents, guardians or relatives listed on the Emergency Medical Information form prior to taking such actions. Further, this authorization permits said physician to hospitalize, secure appropriate consultation, order injections, anesthesia (local, general or both) or surgery for this applicant if such emergency conditions warrant. The undersigned does hereby assume and agree to pay any indebtedness of physicians or surgeon's fees and hospital charges for such services.

Adult Signature: _____

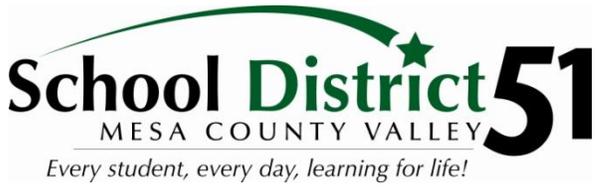
Printed Name: _____

Relationship to Student: _____

Date: _____

Please return this completed form to:

Teri Bohl
Director of Choirs
Fruita Middle School
Fruita 8/9 School



Emergency Medical Information

IMPORTANT: No student will be allowed to travel with the music group until this form is on file with the Music Director

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Person to Contact in Case of an Emergency (if other than parent): _____

Relationship to Student: _____ Phone: _____

Does this student take Medication(s) during the day? (circle) YES NO

Acute or Chronic Medical Condition(s): _____

Physical Condition(s) that Limit Music Activities: _____

Special Dietary Needs/Allergies: _____

Fruita Middle School -- Choir Contract

By signing this document, you and your parent(s) acknowledge and understand all the procedures, requirements, and expectations of an FMS choir member. If you have and questions, conflicts, issues, or simply want to know how things are going, please feel free to contact me through Parent Vue (preferred) or call 254-6570 ext. 35146 and leave a message for me. **Parent involvement is critical to any music program, so please sign up below and volunteer for chaperoning duties or helping w/the Rock-a-Thon.** I'm looking forward to a great year and I hope to see everyone at the concerts!!!

Ms. Teri Bohl
Director of Choral Activities

Mr. Brig Leane
Principal, Fruita Middle School

I, _____, have read the FMS Choir Syllabus and hereby accept the
[print student name]
procedures, requirements, and expectations as a choir member for the 2017-2018 school year. I understand the consequences if I do not meet these expectations.

[student signature]

[grade]

[date]

[parent/guardian signature]

[date]

Please, Please, Please, I need your help!!!
In order to have a successful choir program, it is imperative that there is help and support from you, the parents. Most often, assistance is needed in a "chaperone" capacity. It is extremely helpful (to me) to know that I have an adult(s) assisting students while I am performing with other ensembles. Our fundraiser requires one day to multiple days of assistance. Please consider volunteering a little of your time. ☺

I/my family would be willing to help out with:

Fundraising...Rock-a-Thon [Oct. 16th] (*assistance during our fundraising event*)
_____ event day—2 hour shift _____ solicit prizes from the community

Chaperone for concerts (*monitor appropriate concert behavior ~2 hrs*)
(please indicate order of preference: i.e. 1st choice, 2nd choice, etc., not 'X')

_____ Fall _____ Holiday _____ Pre-Spring _____ CO West (during day) _____ Elem Tour (7th only) _____ Pops

Name of parent/guardian helping: _____

***** PLEASE SIGN BOTH OF THESE PAPERS (Choir Contract & Field Trip Permission Form/Emergency Medical Info) AND RETURN THEM TO MS. BOHL *****