

# DPMS Choir Disclosure

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**W**elcome to another fantastic year of choir! I am delighted to be working with you. It is my expectation that, with your help, Draper Park Middle will continue to boast one of the top middle school choir programs in the state! Below you will find information which should help make planning for this year easier and more exciting for you.

## **Course Overview:**

**T**his year Draper Park Middle School's choral ensembles continue our goal to stretch, grow, and reach new heights of musical and personal excellence, and we are going to have fun doing it. We will work together to master musical and vocal techniques, work in foreign languages, and experience a wide variety of musical styles and genres. In choir classes you will be exposed to music theory, solfege, and principles of musicality. You will also experience the joy of attaining excellence as an individual, and as an ensemble.

## **Course Objectives:**

1. **I**mprove student's ability to produce beautiful, genuine, independent, and free tone with confidence through both group and individualized instruction and performance opportunities.
2. **H**elp students to develop their understanding of breath, pitch, rhythm, vowel shaping, music theory, and music history.
3. **C**hallenge students to develop their innate creativity through structured activities as well as improvisation and experimentation.

## **Class Expectations:**

**I**n order for us to have a successful experience together and to achieve the level of excellence that we are capable of, it will be important for you and I to commit to being fully engaged in learning, mastering new skills and concepts, team work, and fun. I commit to do these things for you individually, and for your class/ensemble as a whole. By signing this disclaimer, you are committing to me and your classmates that you are also committed to these things.

**T**o help us be successful you and I will be expected to live according to the following standards of excellence in our classroom:

1. I am an exceptional individual with an important contribution to make. I always strive to give my best.
2. My classmates are exceptional individuals with important contributions to make. I always strive to help them be their best.
3. Choir is a safe place. Making mistakes is OK. Keeping mistakes is not OK.

## **Grading Policy**

**A**t Draper Park Middle School, grades are designed to reflect a student's content mastery without the inflation of non-content items. Grades will be based on performances (90% of overall grade) and in-class

assessments including individual and group singing tests, and other verbal and written assessments (10% of overall grade.)

**CONCERT ATTENDENCE IS MANDATORY.** Our performances are our unit final projects.

**Failure to participate in a performance will result in a failing grade.** Exceptions to this policy will be made on an individual basis, with the understanding that if a student misses a concert he/she will be expected to:

- Contact Mr. Crowley 2 WEEKS in advance of concert date about the conflict. In situations when this is impossible, parents must email Mr. Crowley about the conflict.
- The student will be expected to make-up the missed performance before the next concert date by doing the following:
  - o Attending another choir concert and turning in the concert program
  - o Writing a two-page paper reflecting on what they heard at the concert
  - o Performing a song (as approved by Mr. Crowley) in class for their peers (this does not have to be a solo)

Students who miss **two performances** in the same school year will receive a failing grade unless arrangements are made between Mr. Crowley and the parent of the student in question prior the second concert in question.

Students may be excluded from extracurricular activities such as field trips, field day, team activities/assemblies due to poor citizenship.

### **\*\*\*COVID-19 PERFORMING ARTS ADJUSTMENTS\*\*\***

Thank you for your flexibility and support of the entire DPMS staff, and the Performing Arts programs during this time of change and challenge. With things shifting so often over the summer, everyone has felt how difficult planning and preparation has been for this school year. Your classes will look different than ever before, and class structure and expectations may change during the year as restrictions change or lift. Our goal as a performing arts team is to keep you safe, and keep you creating!

To accomplish our goal we have made adjustments to accommodate safe practices, such as distancing and mask wearing, as well as modified concert practices. Students will have an assigned seat in a seating chart. Students are required to wear and sing through their mask. Time spent singing during the period will be reduced to approx. thirty minutes per period. Students will participate in cleaning, and are expected to conform to established procedures for movement within the school and in the classroom.

Canyons District is moving toward a blended learning model. This means that all of your courses this year will have online content to be completed through a CANVAS course. In choir, you will submit short weekly assignments, as well as one project per term. Students who take choir for one semester will submit two projects. Students who have choir all year will submit four projects. Please bring your CSD issued laptop to class. I will give you time in class to work on your CANVAS assignments. It is my hope that you will not need to spend time at home on your choir course.

Some or all performances this year will be virtual concerts; you may receive instructions to access live stream concerts, recordings posted to Canvas or YouTube with copyright permission, etc. pending circumstances around Covid-19. Concert recording may be a mix of audio/visual recordings and audio only. Recording of concerts will take place during the school day. Concert recordings for digital viewing/listening will likely occur over several days. Choir concerts are scheduled in the DPMS School Calendar, which can be found on the school website. These dates should be regarded as tentative, and will only be used if current

government, district, and school restrictions are lifted. If restrictions are lifted, and in person performances become feasible, additional information will be sent to you.

**Concert Dress:**

**Men:**

- Black dress shoes
- Black socks
- Black Slacks
- White collared shirt
- Choir Vest (Provided)

**Women:**

- Black skirt (mid-calf), or Black slacks
- White collared blouse
- Black dress shoes
- Socks, leggings, or tights
- Choir Vest (Provided)

Please sign this page and return it to Mr. Crowley after adding the provided performance dates to your calendar.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and agree to follow the above policies and procedures for the 2019-20 Draper Park Middle School Choir program.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_