

Bath Vocal Music Handbook

2022-2023

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This handbook is designed to inform you of the policies of the Bath Chorus, our goals, and expectations. Please keep it handy so that you can review it throughout the year.

Purpose

This class is designed to provide, through daily good choral singing, a musically educational and rewarding experience. In order for this to happen, we must work together. Teamwork is essential; we must all do our part. Students will learn about vocal music, music theory, and music history through study, rehearsal, and performance. They will strengthen their vocal technique, musicianship, and personal skills. Students can explore their creative talents in a safe space while also identifying themselves as life-long musicians.

Goals

- Learn music reading skills through rehearsal and performance of a variety of repertoire.
- Learn important elements of music through both solo and ensemble singing.
- Develop an understanding of the importance of the physical aspects of singing.
- Learn to sing the text expressively, with feeling and in many different languages.
- Learn how to sing in a variety of languages and styles with a good choral tone.
- Perform in scheduled concerts, showing their knowledge of their classroom instruction.
- Develop an appreciation of singing and performing.
- Develop confidence and pride in yourself, and your ability to sing well.

Grades

Your overall grade will be broken down into four categories.

- Classroom grade: 40% of your final 9 weeks grade
- Performance(s): 40% of your final 9 weeks grade
- Written work: 10% of your final 9 weeks grade
- Sightreading Assignments: 10% of your final 9 weeks grade

All assignments will be posted in Schoology and Progressbook.

In class we will go over how to access Schoology, Sight Reading Factory, and any other online tools that we will be using throughout this school year.

As long as you show up and do the work you will get a good grade in this class!

Daily Routine/Expectations

1. Get your music, be in your assigned seat and ready to go when the bell rings.
2. Keep your folder and music in excellent condition. You are responsible for both. At the end of the year you may be assessed a fee due to damage or missing materials.
3. You must always have your folder, music, and a pencil at all times.
4. Be attentive and listen. You should be prepared to sing at all times.
5. Cell phones are not allowed in class. Put them away or they will be taken away.
6. Be courteous, respectful, and polite. Rudeness will not be tolerated.
7. Please don't talk while I am teaching. Listen and learn!
8. No chewing gum, throwing, running, hitting, or other messing around.
9. Vocalizing is key to our success. It is during this warmup time that we develop vocal technique and create good choral tone. This is not a time for talking but a time to focus.
10. Take care of all of the items in the room (such as music stands, chairs, uniforms, etc.) Make certain that ALL music is properly put away before leaving. Always leave it better than you found it!
11. Rehearsing music is the time to learn our parts, dynamics and other performance techniques. You must pay attention and participate.
12. Absolutely no food or drink in the choir room. Water bottles are encouraged.
13. All Bath school rules and policies for behavior apply at all times.

Practice is key. You must have pride in yourself and in the choir. Expect the best of yourself and the choir will do well. Laziness and apathy are not traits of a good choir member.

Rehearsals are necessary! Choir is a regularly scheduled subject which meets one period a day. We must use all of our rehearsal time as efficiently as possible. Occasionally, additional rehearsal time may be necessary to complete our music goals. Attendance at these rehearsals is required.

Consequences for misbehavior

First offense – warning

Second offense – seats will be moved and a conference with the Director will be held outside of class

Third offense – office referral

Fourth offense – a call to parents will be made

Five or more offenses – possible removal from the group

Performances

Performances are the culmination of everything that we have learned in our class time. It is at our performances that we demonstrate our knowledge of music theory, history, expression, choral tone, and many other important musical aspects. This is an extremely important part of the vocal music program at Bath. Students should be rewarded for their efforts in this area.

All performances are subject to change!

Performance Attire

- Concert Choir – Wear assigned choir robe (provided by school). Men must wear black dress pants. If you don't have a pair of your own BMA will be able to fit you into a pair to use. All students must provide their own black dress shoes.

- Chamber Chorale – Wear outfit assigned (provided by school) - Women are in concert black dresses. Ladies must provide their own black dress shoes and small jewelry is acceptable. (*Chamber continued*) Men are in tuxes and must provide their own black dress shoes, black socks, and white tux shirts. Tux shirts will be ordered through BMA.
- Show Choir – Wear outfit assigned. Both men and women must purchase their own outfit.
- Middle School & Elementary Choirs – Wear dress clothes. Modest skirts, dresses, dress pants, dress shirts, and shoes.
- No tennis shoes or jeans should be worn at any performances unless otherwise told.

Attendance

Attendance at rehearsals and performances is a very important part of a successful choir program. You must understand that attendance governs the quality of the group. When a student misses a rehearsal or performance, the group suffers. As such, there are VERY few excused absences, but they must be cleared in advance with the director. A note or phone call to the director explaining the absence is due BEFORE the absence in order for it to be considered for an excused absence. Please call 419-221-0366 ext. 2169 for emergencies.

Rehearsals: Attendance at rehearsals during school hours is governed by school rules.

Occasionally mandatory rehearsals are scheduled for outside the school day and advance notice will be given.

Athletics: Many choir members participate in sports. We do our best to schedule the choir activities to avoid conflicts. Inevitably, conflicts arise. When they do it is the student's responsibility to notify the director and the coaches as far in advance as possible. This allows both the teachers/coaches to work out an agreeable solution (this is to the student's advantage). It is very possible to be a great musician and athlete, but it takes responsibility and good organizational skills to accomplish this. I will work to the best of my ability to help you and I expect the same in return. Absence from a rehearsal or performance for a sport will be unexcused.

Performances: Attendance at all performances is **MANDATORY.**

Excused absences - Students with excused absences are solely responsible for making up any school work missed. Excused absences usually consist of, but are not limited to one or more of the following conditions: (1) personal illness (2) death or illness in the immediate family (3) observance of a religious holiday and (4) an excused absence from school. Any other excused absence requests must be approved by the director.

If you have an excused absence from a performance, you must bring a written note signed by your parents/guardians prior to the absence. If something comes up suddenly (illness, death, etc.) contact the director by phone immediately and bring a signed note the next time you return to school. Students with excused absences will be able to make up the work for full credit.

Unexcused absences - Students with unexcused absences will be given a makeup assignment but can only be given up to 70% of the full score. Unexcused absences usually consist of, but are not limited to one or more of the following conditions: (1) truancy-no note (2) needed at home (3) gainful employment (4) oversleeping and/or missing the bus (5) car trouble of any kind (6) running non-emergency errands of any kind and (7) personal reasons unless the reason is specifically identified and prior approval given. Students with unexcused absences will be able to make up the work for up to 70% credit.

Repeated unexcused absences will result in removal from the choir.

Snow/Fog on Concert or Performance Days –

- When we have a 1, 2, or 3 hour delay, we may still have the concert!
- When school is cancelled on a performance day for fog we may still have the concert!

- Make sure you are signed up for the choir's School Messenger to get updates and info!
- When school is back in session, a decision will be made as to whether the concert will be rescheduled.

Choir Text Alerts: Choir will be using School Messenger to send out important reminders and information. Test text alerts should be going out soon.

To add a Music Google Calendar to your phone/tablet:

- Choose which calendar you would like to add.
- Using a computer, click on the link below the chosen calendar.
- In order to get the calendar to sync to your phone/tablet you must first access the calendar through a computer.
 - **MUSIC MASTER CALENDAR:**
<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/3?cid=YmF0aHdpcGRjYXRzLm9yZ180cTNvc3AwdnBjNnAyY2ZoNm5waXZiOTMzOEBncm91cC5jYWxlbnRhci5nb29nbGUuY29t>
 - **HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR:**
<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/3?cid=YmF0aHdpcGRjYXRzLm9yZ19va2VsZjMzdDhsa2c5dWF0aG83aTVuN2ZINEBncm91cC5jYWxlbnRhci5nb29nbGUuY29t>
 - **HIGH SCHOOL BAND:**
<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/3?cid=YmF0aHdpcGRjYXRzLm9yZ18wczRucTJ1djF1a3JyZzhkZnZkcDE0cjV0Y0Bncm91cC5jYWxlbnRhci5nb29nbGUuY29t>
 - **MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND & CHOIR:**
<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/3?cid=YmF0aHdpcGRjYXRzLm9yZ19kcGt1aGtzcjVrZDNxM2g3YXFmNTRqcW5za0Bncm91cC5jYWxlbnRhci5nb29nbGUuY29t>

Follow our social media pages for additional information:

Facebook: Bath Local Schools Band & Choir <https://www.facebook.com/bathbandchoir/>

Youtube: Bath Choirs www.tinyurl.com/BathChoirs

Twitter: @bathbandandchoir

Instagram: @bathtraditionofexcellence

Please join us at this year's Bath Music Association Meetings!
 The second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the High School
 Band room

September 13

October 11

November 8

December 13

January 10

February 14

March 14

April 11

May 9