

**Community High School District 99  
South High School  
Choir Program**

**INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to choir! It is rewarding to be part of a musical ensemble, and we are excited to guide you in exceptional music-making this year. This syllabus contains vital information for making the journey from first rehearsal to concert performance a smooth one, so please read carefully. Below you will find the following:

- **General information:** this section describes day-to-day logistics of the choir program.
- **Grading policy:** what counts towards what, and for how much.
- **Calendar of important dates:** in an ensemble each singer's presence is essential. Mark concert and dress rehearsal dates on your family calendar now to avoid surprises later.

As always, clear and early communication can prevent many conflicts. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the choral faculty with questions or concerns. We look forward to a great year of choral music!

**Joy Belt-Roselieb**  
Choral Director  
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**Margaret Winchell**  
Choral Director  
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Collaborative Pianist/Choral Director  
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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Rehearsal Protocol**

Behavior in rehearsal should be geared towards the Mustang Way - being respectful, responsible, and engaged for the sake of the group. Among other things, this includes punctuality. On-time behavior includes being in the room when the bell rings and being in your chair and ready to sing one minute after the bell. At your seat, you should have your choir folder, a pencil, and water if desired. All other belongings should be in your assigned cubby.

**Google Classroom**

The majority of your class materials will be distributed to you via the Google Classroom page specific to your choir. All assignments and announcements will be posted to the stream, and all important documents such as this syllabus can be found under the "about" tab. All sheet music, assignments, and listening examples can be found using this online reference.

**Late Work**

Most of our work will be in-person rehearsal, but there are some written or electronically submitted assignments. Extensions may be given, but late work will lose 10% of the earned score for each school day it is late, up to 50%. No work will be accepted the week before semester exams unless otherwise specified by the teacher.

**Sheet Music**

You will be provided with one copy of the music we sing in choir. If for any reason you need a new copy, it is your responsibility to print it from Google Classroom promptly. You must have your music, binder and pencil every day in class.

## Binders

You will need a binder for this class by Tuesday, August 22. See below for color and size.

Freshman Girls - ½" Green

Treble Choir - 1" White

Concert Choir - 1" Blue

A Cappella Choir - 1" Black

## Concert Dress

Students will wear different outfits for different ensembles. All students will need a concert black outfit. This should be black dress pants or a black skirt with a black dress shirt (no tees). **Yoga pants, leggings, jeggings, athletic wear, sweat pants, and black jeans do not qualify as black dress pants.** Shoes should be black, close-toed dress shoes with no more than a 1" heel. Hair needs to be pulled back from your face - we want to see you!

For the choir show in March, all students in Freshman Girls, Treble Choir, and Concert Choir will wear a choir show t-shirt, which will cost each student \$10.

## Voice Lessons

All singers are encouraged to study voice privately with a voice teacher. We are very fortunate to have a staff of three highly qualified private voice teachers at South. Some of the benefits include:

- Improve your vocal technique
- Strengthen music reading and theory skills
- Increased musicianship and independence
- Personal achievement and goal-setting
- Performing diverse repertoire for recitals and solo festivals
- Assistance in preparing for auditions and festival competitions
- Individualized attention from a trained professional
- Greater confidence and stronger contribution to the choir
- Improved stage presence and expression which benefit communication, presentation and interpersonal skills

Private lessons are 25 minutes and cost on average of \$25. This year, scholarships will be available through the DGS Choir Boosters. (See Ms. Belt if interested in a scholarship.) Lessons can be scheduled during a student's lunch hour, study hall, before or after school and during choir rehearsal. Singers will have the opportunity to sign up for lessons in the fall and spring and should contact Ms. Belt if interested in studying at any point during the year.

### South High Voice Teachers

Todd Diehl: [steinweg9@sbcglobal.net](mailto:steinweg9@sbcglobal.net)

Colleen Lingenfelter: [naima728@comcast.net](mailto:naima728@comcast.net)

Holley McKee: [holleymckee@yahoo.com](mailto:holleymckee@yahoo.com)

## ILMEA Festivals

The Illinois Music Educators Association is the professional organization formed by music educators across the state. Divided into nine geographic districts, each district has an elite ensemble chosen by audition within that district. Downers Grove South resides in District 1. After a school audition, students prepare for the District Audition, which takes place in October. If students score well, they are selected for the District Chorus Festival in November. Based on their placement at District Chorus, students could be selected for All-State Chorus which takes place in Peoria at the end of January. Being an All-State musician is a distinct honor and is reserved for only the best musicians. All students in advanced groups are encouraged to audition. These students have the opportunity to sing with students from other programs and work with excellent guest conductors.

## GRADING POLICY

Participation in a musical ensemble is a privilege and a responsibility. Preparing music and learning skills for public performance is an exciting opportunity. To do our best as a choir there is individual responsibility and group responsibility that will be needed daily in rehearsal so that our goals of excellence may be achieved. All daily rehearsals, extra rehearsals, tests, quizzes, homework, and concerts are assigned a point value. At the end of a marking period, each student's accumulated points will determine academic grade.

### Concert Attendance Policy

Attendance at the concert:

- Punctual arrival at given call time.
- Remain at concert until the last song of the evening has been sung.
- Proper concert attire (see concert attire section above); set-up and clean-up obligations fulfilled; behavior on stage and in audience

Excused absences:

- Serious personal illness or death of a close family member.
- Must provide note from a parent explaining the reason for absence.
- Student schedules an after-school appointment to sing the concert music for us for a grade. This must be done within 5 school days of the concert or the singer's return to school, whichever comes first. Failure to comply with these guidelines will mean a grade of "zero" for the concert.
- Conflicts with other school activities and events will be managed on an individual basis.

Unexcused absences:

- Having to work, not having a ride, forgetting about the concert
- Will be managed on an individual basis
- Could result in a grade reduction

### SEMESTER COURSE GRADE:

|                         |            |
|-------------------------|------------|
| <b>SEMESTER CONTENT</b> | <b>90%</b> |
| <b>FINAL EXAM</b>       | <b>10%</b> |

### CATEGORIES/POINT DISTRIBUTION

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>Performance Assessments (ASOL - Assessments OF Learning)</b>   | <b>60%</b> |
| Concerts: Punctuality, Attitude, Participation (entire concert), Behavior<br>Singing or Written Quizzes   |            |
| <b>ASFL - Assessments FOR Learning</b>  | <b>0%</b>  |
| Progress grades<br>Does not contribute to overall grade average   |            |
| <b>Listening</b>  | <b>10%</b> |
| Rehearsal reflections<br>Concert reflections<br>Other listening activities                                |            |
| <b>Writing</b>  | <b>20%</b> |
| Theory assignments<br>Written reflections   |            |
| <b>Mustang Way (Respectful, Responsible, Engaged) Daily expectations</b>                                  | <b>10%</b> |
| Rehearsal etiquette<br>Preparedness<br>On task, Punctuality, Attitude, Participation, Materials, Behavior |            |

## CALENDAR

### August

|    |            |         |            |            |
|----|------------|---------|------------|------------|
| 31 | Open House | 6:15 PM | All School | All School |
|----|------------|---------|------------|------------|

### September

|    |                          |           |                      |                 |
|----|--------------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------------|
| 11 | Choir/Band Boosters/FOFA | 7 PM      | Choir Room/B124/D180 | Parents         |
| 28 | Homecoming Show          | 7-8:30 PM |                      | Select students |

### October

|     |                            |        |                      |                 |
|-----|----------------------------|--------|----------------------|-----------------|
| 2   | Choir/Band Boosters/FOFA   | 7 PM   | Choir Room/B124/D180 | Parents         |
| 11  | ILMEA Auditions            | 4 PM   | Sandburg HS          | Select students |
| *12 | Choirs Concert             | 7 PM   | Auditorium           | All choirs      |
| 18  | Parent/Teacher Conferences | 6-9 PM | DGS                  | All school      |

### November

|    |                          |         |                      |                 |
|----|--------------------------|---------|----------------------|-----------------|
| 7  | Choir/Band Boosters/FOFA | 7 PM    | Choir Room/B124/D180 | Parents         |
| 18 | ILMEA Senior Festival    | All day | Elmhurst College     | Select students |

### December

|    |                            |         |                      |                |
|----|----------------------------|---------|----------------------|----------------|
| 4  | Choir/Band Boosters/FOFA   | 7 PM    | Choir Room/B124/D180 | Parents        |
| 6  | Holiday Concert Rehearsal  | 8AM-3PM | DGS Gymnasium        | Choirs/WE/WS/O |
| *7 | Holiday Concert            | 7 PM    | DGS Gymnasium        | Choirs/WE/WS/O |
| 8  | Holiday Concert Assemblies | 9 AM    | DGS Gymnasium        | Choirs/WE/WS/O |

### January

|       |                              |             |                      |                   |
|-------|------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 8     | Choir/Band Boosters/FOFA     | 7 PM        | Choir Room/B124/D180 | Parents           |
| 9     | Middle School Choir Festival | 3:30-7:30PM | Aud/Cafe             | MS/TE/CS          |
| 15    | "All Shook Up" Auditions     | All day     | DGS                  | Any choir student |
| 24-27 | IMEC All-State               | All day     | Peoria, IL           | Select students   |
| 29    | Class of 2022 Open House     | 6-9 PM      | DGS                  | Select students   |

### February

|    |                                   |        |                      |             |
|----|-----------------------------------|--------|----------------------|-------------|
| 5  | Choir/Band Boosters/FOFA          | 7 PM   | Choir Room/B124/D180 | Parents     |
| 13 | 2018/19 Music Ensembles Auditions | 7-9 PM | DGS                  | Non-seniors |

### March

|    |                               |            |                      |                        |
|----|-------------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 5  | Choir/Band Boosters/FOFA      | 7 PM       | Choir Room/B124/D180 | Parents                |
| *6 | Choir Show Dress Rehearsal    | 6-9 PM     | DGS Auditorium       | FG/TC/CC/CS/FGS        |
| *8 | Choir Show for Sender Schools | 8-11:30 AM | DGS Auditorium       | FG/TC/CC/CS/FGS        |
| *9 | Choir Show                    | 7 PM       | DGS Auditorium       | FG/TC/CC/CS/FGS        |
| 15 | Vocal Festival                | All day    | Music Suite          | Private Vocal Students |
| 19 | D99 Honors Vocal Recital      | 7-9 PM     | Gloria Dei Lutheran  | Select students/MS     |

### April

|        |                             |      |                      |                    |
|--------|-----------------------------|------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 9      | Choir/Band Boosters/FOFA    | 7 PM | Choir Room/B124/D180 | Parents            |
| *19-21 | “All Shook Up” Performances | 7 PM | DGS Auditorium       | PO/Select students |
| *22    | “All Shook Up” Performance  | 2 PM | DGS Auditorium       | PO/Select students |

**May**

|     |                             |        |                      |                       |
|-----|-----------------------------|--------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 7   | Choir/Band Boosters/FOFA    | 7 PM   | Choir Room/B124/D180 | Parents               |
| *10 | Choirs Concert              | 7-9 PM | DGS Auditorium       | FG/FGS/CC/CS/TC/TE/MS |
| *17 | A Cappella/Wind Ensemble    | 7-9 PM | DGS Auditorium       | AC/WE                 |
| 22  | Madrigal Graduation Concert | 7-9 PM | DGS Auditorium       | Madrigals             |
| 25  | Graduation                  | 5 PM   | Stadium              | AC/MS                 |

**Notes:**

- 1) Dates marked with an asterisk (\*) are required events for the course grade.
- 2) Choir Show in March only applies to the grade for Freshman Girls, Treble Choir, and Concert Choir.
- 3) Musical in April applies only to the grade for A Cappella Choir.

**KEY:**

FG = Freshman Girls  
FGS = Freshman Girls Select  
CC = Concert Choir  
CS = Chamber Singers  
TC = Treble Choir  
TE = Treble Ensemble  
AC = A Cappella Choir  
MS = Madrigal Singers  
OT = Overtones  
O = Orchestra  
WE = Wind Ensemble  
WS = Wind Symphony  
PO = Pit Orchestra