

Handbook Crow Choir (5th Period) 2013 - 2014 School Year



I don't sing because I'm happy. I'm happy because I sing.

Welcome back!

It is an honor and a privilege to work with you this year. Many of you are aware of the fine music tradition that we have begun here at Crow High/Middle School. I am very pleased to be a part of this program.

It is better to try and fail than to fail to try . . . Your grade in chorus is an earned one. It will be based upon the contribution you make to the success of the ensemble. Also, remember that your grade will be based on your attitude, your behavior, your attendance in class and at concerts, and how hard you are willing to work for the excellence of our organization. It will not be enough merely to say that you are interested in the group's success; you must demonstrate through your actions that you are dedicated to that goal.

Returning choir members know that we work very hard but try to have some fun along the way. This could be the finest choir that Crow has seen -- it's really up to you.

Are you ready?

MrD

Choir Goals

- To establish a means of self-fulfillment as well as a lifelong recreational outlet through the development of the student's musical and vocal ability.
- To provide a fundamental background in music appreciation, theory, choral thinking and vocal technique, skills and knowledge necessary for independent musicianship□
- To promote responsibility and good citizenship through participation in a choral organization.
- To encourage self-discipline as well as team cooperation through the mutual goal of musical achievement and excellence in performance.
- To give those students who may choose music as a career a positive, encouraging and successful early experience.

Concert Dress

Men

Choir/Band Shirt
Black Slacks
Black Shoes

Women

Choir/Band Shirt
Black slacks or skirt
Black Shoes

Yes! We are getting a choir/band shirt this year, which we will wear at all of our public performances. The shirt fee is \$15. I will be ordering ASAP after school starts, but not before I receive everyone's (HS & MS band, choir, and jazz band) shirt fee.

If you have been in either choir or band in the past (and you still have last year's shirt) then you DO NOT have to order a new one for the year!

Unacceptable concert dress: Other shirts, jeans of any kind, street shoes, tummy shirts (which I think are out of style anyway), teeny little skirts.

Citizenship & Grading Policy

Please see the attached sheets for both citizenship guidelines as well as the grading rubric.

Choir should be an "Easy A," but there are still some general citizenship guidelines that I you must follow in order to get the best mark in this class. Generically speaking, Citizenship is all of your grade, and consists of four parts: Participation, Punctuality, Required Materials, and Attitude. Each part is 25% of your grade. Please see the attached sheet to see how I will break down your grade. You will note that you will not be graded on homework, tests, or practice: It is all strictly classroom behavior.

Concert Attendance

Rule 1: Participate in all performances

If you have an unexcused absence from a concert you will fail this class and be asked to leave this group.

Rule 2: There is no Rule 2

You are expected to attend all performances. Keep calendars on the refrigerator at home so that important dates will not be a surprise! Excused absences from performances include medical emergencies, car accidents, death in the family, or other unavoidable situations. Unexcused absences include hair appointments, athletic events, or "not having a ride." PLEASE plan for our events; they are imperative in achieving our band goals!

Be at all performances at least 30 minutes prior to downbeat! This not only makes me feel better, but it allows most problems to be rectified without panic.

Of course, there are rare instances of legitimate unavoidable conflict. In those cases, you are allowed to make up the work missed at the concert IF I AM NOTIFIED AT LEAST ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE PERFORMANCE. In cases of severe illness, notification in writing should be as soon as possible. These guidelines allow me to make arrangements for a meaningful performance with absent students taken into account. If you tell me you cannot attend a performance, I will call home THAT DAY to confirm your claim.

Winter/Fall Scheduled Performances TBA



Scene from Insurance Salesman of the Opera

This page is to be signed by both you and a parent/guardian and returned to Mr. Dixon by Friday, 9/12.

Crow Choir/Band Conduct Pledge Form 2014 – 2015

By signing this, you are acknowledging that you understand and agree with the following:

- I have received and read the CHS/MS Choir Syllabus, including the citizenship guidelines as well as the grading rubric.
- I am aware of the CHS/MS Choir performance schedule.
- I am aware of the concert attendance policy and dress code.

Conduct Pledge

I, _____, am committed to being an asset to the CHS/MS Choir. I agree to practice excellence every day and act in a way that will benefit my personal musical development as well as the musical development of the group. Furthermore, I have read the syllabus and I understand that I will be graded according to how I adhere to its commitments.

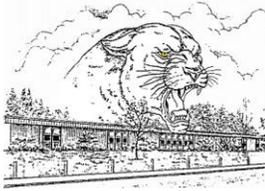
By signing this conduct pledge, I promise to:

- Show respect for others and their opinions.
- Conduct myself as a responsible, cooperative, and respectful member of the Crow Choir.
- Participate in all scheduled choir functions for a grade.
- Be on time for rehearsal.
- Come prepared for rehearsal with my music folder and a pencil every day.
- Follow all Crow School rules and procedures.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

T-Shirt Size _____



Crow Middle/High School Music Dept.

25863 Crow Road
Eugene, OR 97492
(541)935-2227



Student Name: _____

Band and Choir Citizenship Grading Rubric

	A 21-25 points	B 18-20 points	C 17-19 points	D/F <16 points
Punctuality	Comes to class on time every day. All tardies excused.	Comes to class on time most days. Most tardies excused.	Frequently tardy. Many tardies unexcused.	Always tardy. Most, if not all, tardies unexcused.
Required Materials	Has required materials every day.	Has required materials almost every day (forgotten 2 times or less).	Frequently does not have required materials (forgotten more than 3 times).	Rarely has required materials. (forgotten more than 7 times)
Attitude	Exhibits productive, positive, and cooperative attitude at all times.	Exhibits productive, positive, and cooperative attitude most of the time.	Occasionally has a negative attitude.	Frequently has a negative, uncooperative attitude.
Participation	Participates fully at all times. Always follows instructions.	Participates most of the time, and usually follows instructions.	Only participates or follows instructions when reminded.	Never participates or follows directions, even when reminded.

Total Points _____/100 possible points

Citizenship Grade _____

90-100 points = A Exceeds Expectations
 80-89 points = B Meets Expectations
 70-79 points = C Rising to Meet Expectations
 <69 points = D/F Below Expectations – Perhaps you should find something else to do with your time?

Comments _____

Dixon Signatory

