

Fruita 8/9 School

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

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

9th Choir (4th hr) & 8th Choir (5th hr): 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). **ANY** choir student has the opportunity to participate in:

- CO MS All-State Choir Festival—8th grade only (auditions before Oct. 5th; concert Feb 1-2)
- District 51 Honor Choir—8th grade only (auditions Nov. 7th; concert January 18th)
- District 51 Solo & Ensemble Festival (\$\$ due January 11th, festival is Feb 23-24)

GRADING POLICY:

Because of the concert dates and the varied number of worksheets/quizzes/tests/study guides given each quarter, the student's points (per term) will change accordingly. 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. **ALL "ASSIGNMENTS" ARE WEIGHTED GRADES!!!!**

1. Performances—100 pts/each (40% of total grade)

**** 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). ****

- 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 85 of the 100 points by singing 'the concert'. Because this is a 'performance' based class and you have missed the concert, you do not receive the full points.
- 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 50 of the 100 points.
- e. **YOU are responsible for making arrangements with Ms. Bohl to make up the concert. If you have not come in within 2 WEEKS of the concert, it will be entered as a zero.**
- f. If you miss a performance for any other reason (missed ride, forgot), it is considered UNEXCUSED and you cannot make-up any points.

GRADING POLICY, CONT.

2. Participation/Tardies—2 pts/day (~80 pts/qtr.) (5% of total grade)

- 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. *Students who miss a week or more of school due to illness, should consider coming in to catch up on what they missed (attendance pts can be made up).*

***** 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. *****

- b. 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.
- c. Every TWO tardies will equal an absence for your participation grade.
- d. As per school policy, after your 3rd tardy (each quarter), you will receive a lunch detention and another detention for each tardy thereafter.

3. Paperwork & Other

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! Sometimes the difference between an 'A' and a 'B', or a 'B' and a 'C', is a 20 pt assignment.

In Class Assignments/Wkshts	=	15% of total grade
Tests/Final/Writing Assignments	=	20% of total grade
Rubric (see below)	=	20% of total grade

- a. Singing tests—(10 pts/song). For correct rhythms and pitches on current concert music. Students will perform in groups of two (Sop, Alto) or three (Sop/Alto/Bari)(Sop/Sop/Alto)
- b. Concert Critique—(15 pts/30 pts). Students will listen and evaluate their concert performance(s) and write a reflective paragraph.
- c. Solfege/sight-reading quizzes—(10-20 pts). Sing/count aloud a rhythm or melody (in solfege).
- d. Choir Rubric—(100 pts/quarter). Students are given points based on the following classroom observations of: attention, talking, attitude, participation, posture, using appropriate behavior/manners, gum chewing, and physical disturbances.
- e. In class assignment—(various pts). Aural or written, on theory, history, singing execution, etc.
- f. Musical Study Guides—(minimum 15 pts). Students will answer questions pertaining to the musical we are watching. *****SEE 'standards' for musical list*****
- g. Numbering Measures—(5 pts/song). 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 must split the work evenly to receive the full points.
- h. Listening Journals—(5 pts/entry). Students will listen to a musical example twice a week and write a paragraph describing the selection using music terms and evaluation techniques. *With a "word wall" provided, 1 pt will be deducted for each spelling error on the list.*

COLORADO MUSIC STANDARDS:

- 1. Expression of Music:** The expression of music is the demonstration of human thought and emotion through the medium of performance, which is a product of knowledge and skills gained in the study of music.
- 2. Creation of Music:** The creation of music is the demonstration of learned skills in the composition, improvisation, and arranging of music. Creating music involved writing music, fashioning new music from an existing piece of music, or forming an entirely new piece of music.
- 3. Theory of Music:** The theory of music is the understanding of the distinctive language, conventions, mechanics, and structure of organized sound. Investigation of music theory allows for a more complete understanding of all aspects of the musical process, including musical performance and composition.
- 4. Aesthetic Valuation of Music:** The value of music focuses on the knowledge needed to make an informed evaluation and to provide a well-thought-out critique about a musical piece. It also addresses the beauty, heart, and soul: the aesthetics of music. Valuing music will permit individuals to distinguish between a scholarly and an individual judgment of music.

Standard pertaining to musicals shown during choir:

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

- Describe various ways music is used and enjoyed in different societal backgrounds and cultural influences*
- 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:

8 th gr:	Once Upon a Mattress	9 th gr:	West Side Story
	Guys and Dolls		Into the Woods (movie version)
	Bye Bye Birdie		Fiddler on the Roof
	My Fair Lady		South Pacific
	Singin' in the Rain		Hairspray
	Hello, Dolly!		The King and I

9TH GRADERS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO "LETTER" IN CHOIR. LETTERING INFORMATION WILL BE SHARED WITH THEM IN SEPTEMBER. TWO MEMBERS OF THE 9TH GR CHOIR WILL BE SELECTED AS REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE FMHS CHOIR COUNCIL.

F 8/9 CHOIR AREAS OF FOCUS:

- Musical literacy—reading pitch and rhythm
- Knowledge of musical styles and related world/music history
- Performance skills—vocal techniques, diction, ear-training, sight-singing

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 8/9 CHOIR CONCERT DATES:

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

** Events in parenthesis and italics are optional **

Date	Event	Location/Time
<i>(Thur, Oct. 5th</i>	<i>CO MS All-State Choir Auditions (8th gr)</i>	<i>record w/Ms. Bohl PM that week)</i>
Mon, Oct. 9th	Fall Choir Concert w/FMS	FMS Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
<i>(Tues, Nov. 7th</i>	<i>8th gr.—D51 Honor Choir Auditions</i>	<i>after school, F 8/9 choir room)</i>
<i>(Wed, Nov. 8th</i>	<i>F 8/9 Talent Show auditions</i>	<i>after school, F 8/9 choir room)</i>
<i>(TBA mid-Nov.</i>	<i>F 8/9 “Butter Braid” Fundraiser begins</i>	<i>orders & \$\$ due Dec; delivered Dec)</i>
<i>(Mon, Nov. 13th</i>	<i>D51 Honor Choir results published</i>	<i>choir class)</i>
<i>(Wed, Nov. 29th</i>	<i>F 8/9 Talent Show</i>	<i>F 8/9 cafeteria, 7:00 p.m.)</i>
Mon, Dec. 18th	Holiday Choir Concert w/FMS	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/FMS	FMS Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
Th-Fr, Apr. 19-20	CO West Festival	CMU campus, times TBA
Thurs, May 17th	F 8/9 Pops Concert (all music ensembles)	Fruita 8/9 Gym, 6:30 p.m.

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

Please write these dates on family calendars, in planners, and on work schedules.

CONCERT ATTIRE:

All choir members will wear the F 8/9 music shirt for all performances. These shirts are checked out to you like a textbook, so they need to be returned at the end of the school year in good condition (please wash them before you turn them in).

- 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.
- If you choose to wear an ‘undershirt’, it can only be white, black, or gray.
- Simple jewelry only.....silver or gold preferred, no multi-colored pieces.

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 **Fruita 8/9** 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 8/9 -- Choir Contract

By signing this document, you and your parent(s) acknowledge and understand all the procedures, requirements, and expectations of an F 8/9 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 254-6720 ext. 34129 and leave a message for me. **Parent involvement is critical to any music program. Please sign up below and volunteer for chaperoning duties.** 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. Jason Plantiko
Principal, Fruita 8/9

I, _____, have read the F-8/9 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]

[date]

[parent/guardian signature]

[date]

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 there is an adult(s) assisting students while I am performing with another ensemble. Please consider volunteering a little of your time. ☺

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

- Chaperone for concerts (monitor appropriate concert behavior—approx. 1 hr of your time)
(please indicate order of preference...1st choice, 2nd choice, etc., not an 'X')

_____ Fall _____ Holiday _____ Pre-Spring _____ Pops

- CO West (during day) (monitor choir while Ms. Bohl is performing w/another choir)

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 *****