

Plainview Jr. – Sr. High School

Vocal Music Handbook

2014-2015

Welcome and thank you for your interest and support of the vocal music program at Plainview Jr. – Sr. High School! The purpose of this handbook is to provide students and parents with the basic rules and expectations for the choir program as well as information about grading procedures. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or e-mail.

Class participation, performance attendance, performance ability and musical knowledge are all important factors contributing to your success in choir. All choir members have the opportunity to earn an “A” each quarter. Your grade will be based on the following criteria:

1.) Daily Class Participation (60%)

*This will be based on the student’s contribution in rehearsal and their effort to display a positive attitude toward choir. Classroom participation includes the following areas:

Class Attitude:

- Following Class Rules
- Punctual to Class
- No Disruptive Talking
- No Disruptive/Disrespectful Behavior
- NO Food or Drink in the Music Room without copy of Doctor’s note
- NO Gum
- NO CELL PHONES!!!
 - The phone will be taken for the day the first time. If they are caught with them twice they will have to turn their phone into me before the start of each class period.

Class Contribution:

- Eagerness to learn
- Class leadership – taking initiative
- Setting a good example of positive self-discipline
- Positive participation
- Having music, folder and pencil – ready to rehearse
- Displaying proper vocal skills
 - Open mouth, relaxed jaw
 - Low correct breathing
 - Good sitting and standing positions
- Taking initiative to achieve class goals

Independent Choir:

- Rehearsal is 7:30 am EVERY Thursday morning in the choir room, unless otherwise noted.
- You will need to be prepared each week for the things you were asked to work on.
- The attendance policy is exactly the same as the performance policy.
 - You will need a written note if you are absent or plan to be absent. If you decide to not show up you will receive a lowered grade. Each time you miss a rehearsal your grade will be lowered further. If you are continually late your grade will also be lowered.

Show Choir:

- Rehearsal is 7:30 am EVERY Tuesday morning in the choir room, unless otherwise noted.
- You will need to be prepared each week for the things you were asked to work on.
- The attendance policy
 - You will need a written note if you are absent or plan to be absent.
 - You will be allowed 3 absences for the year. **** This does not mean you can just decide not to come.**
 - If you have 2 or more unexcused absences throughout the year you will be asked to step down from the group.
 - I hope this will not be the case; however, it is unfair to the rest of the group who came to the rehearsal and worked hard.
 - If it is school related talk to me and we will work something out.

2.) Performances (30%)

*Concerts are an extension of our classroom activities, I expect all students to attend each performance and this will be used as part of their grade for the semester. I do understand that **occasionally** will be absences. There are three types of absences:

*** In order to receive full credit for #1 (Authorized) and #2 (Excused) there must be a signed NOTE given to me. If there is no note the grade will be lowered 20% even if the student completes the make-up work!**

1. Authorized absence with prior notification

- Director will be notified at least 1 week in advance.
 - **I will need a NOTE from parent or guardian in order for them to receive full credit.**
- Make-up work required for grade.

2. **Excused Absence after event with notification**

- Student illness or family emergency (Please contact me ASAP)
 - o **I will expect a NOTE from the doctor stating as to why he/she was unable to come if it is due to illness in order for them to receive full credit.**
- Make-up work required for grade.

3. **Unexcused absence**

- No prior notifications: skipping the concert &/or work conflict.

WORK IS NOT AN EXCUSED ABSENCE!

** Students will have a calendar of scheduled concerts as well as being posted in the classroom for daily viewing. Concert dates are also published on the school calendar and school website.

Concerts & performance times will uphold the same rules for Cellphone usage as in the regular school day. Therefore, please note, **NO CELLPHONES** will be allowed to be used by students during concerts or performances. This will include our performance day at District Music Contest.

CONCERT ATTIRE

JR. HIGH

ALL Jr. High students should wear dress-up attire unless otherwise specified. Please – no jeans &/or tennis shoes. If you decide to wear a dress, it must be long enough to meet school dress code. Also, if it is a tank top/tank top dress you must wear a cover-up.

SR. HIGH

Will be wearing choir robes unless otherwise specified.

- Women will need black flats, tan nylons and black dress pants.
- Men will need black dress shoes, black socks and black dress pants.

*There will be no exceptions to this! If you show up with other things on you will be asked to call someone to bring you something to change into. If you do not have these things or are unable to get them PLEASE contact me ASAP so we can get something lined up for you to wear.

- All students will be responsible for their assigned robe & stole. Please hang it up properly on the hanger – zipped with stole placed properly on top every time you use it. Ladies: minimal use of make-up will help keep the stole clean.

3.) Test/Quizzes (10%)

- This may include singing tests, written tests &/or assignments, etc.

I am very excited to work together to continue building the Plainview Public Schools Music Department!

Sincerely,

Jamie Sehi

E-mail: jsehi@esu8.org

Day time Phone: (402) 582-4993

Emergency Only from 6-8 a.m. & 4-10p.m.: (402) 366-6019

**Again, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not
hesitate to contact me.**

Student Contract

I have read and understand the above expectations regarding participation in Vocal Music ensembles at Plainview Jr. – Sr. High School. I understand that I will be held accountable for the rules and guidelines stated above.

Student Name (Print)_____ **Date**_____

Student Signature_____

Parent/Guardian Contract

I have read and understand the above expectations regarding participation in Vocal Music ensembles at Plainview Jr. – Sr. High School. I understand that my student will be held accountable for the rules and guidelines stated above.

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)_____ **Date**_____

Parent/Guardian Signature_____

Please return this page only to Mrs. Sehi by Friday, August 29, 2014.