Plainview Pirate Junior High School Choir Handbook 2026-2027

Ms. Beegle
Bbeegle@plainviewschools.org

Welcome! I am so excited to have all of you participate in the Plainview Choir program! I look forward to working with you this year. Vocal music at Plainview is one of the many ways students can learn to express themselves individually and, in an ensemble, setting. Our Vocal ensembles will not only enable students to preform selected literature but will also give a general understanding of music as a performer, listener, and intelligent consumer of the fine arts. There will be some out of class assignments. The Vocal music course will require a great amount of daily attendance, class and concert participation, positive attitude, attentiveness, adherence to class expectations, proper use of social skills, and respect toward individuals and themselves.

This handbook has been put together to assist both the student and the parent. As will all great music programs, there is a lot of preparation and support required to make this a rewarding experience for everyone involved. This handbook has been designed as a tool to help answer any questions that may arise. If you are unable to find an answer to your question, please contact Ms. Beegle.

I am so excited to start making music with everyone!

Philosophy

My teaching philosophy for the Vocal program is to provide a safe and encouraging space for students to grow. I want to provide the tools necessary for students to grow in musicianship, performance, and overall growth as a person. Being in choir not only helps you become a better musician, but also a better person. This program will help you with several life skills that students will take with them long after high school is over. Including: citizenship, integrity, character, respect, responsibility, dedication, time management, teamwork, focus, leadership, motivation, competition, persistence, independence, creativity, goal setting, and a sense of pride in one's school and community.

Financial Responsibilities

We will also be taking quite a few trips this year for honor choirs. It is the responsibility of the student to bring their own lunch money or lunch to eat while we are at these events if lunch is not provided.

Equipment Responsibilities

Students will be given original copies of music for practice and occasionally performances. Sets of music can be very expensive. It is the responsibility of the student to keep their music well organized and in good condition. The cost to replace lost/destroyed music will be the responsibility of the student.

Sometimes I must purchase a whole set of music, so one copy destroyed can cost you 10copies worth of Music

Travel Attire

As stated previously the choir will be taking trips to different honor choirs this year. In order to represent our school and community the best we can students will be required to bring dress clothes with them to change into for honor choir concerts. These outfits must be school appropriate. If you do not know whether your outfits will be okay, please ask Ms. Beegle. During rehearsals students may wear leggings, shorts, or pants, with Plainview Pirate shirts.

Travel

Travel to and from school events will be done by school bus or school van. The only expectation is if the student leaves with a parent I have written documentation of this and talk to the student and parent before they leave. ONLY PARENT/GUARDIAN IS ALLOWED TO TAKE A STUDENT HOME UNLESS TALKED TO WITH MR. SHMIDT AND MS. BEEGLE.

While we are at events it is expected that the student be on their best behavior. If we are at a school event and any type of contraband is found (Example: Alcohol, Vapes, Cigarettes, ext.) parents

will be contacted to immediately come pick up their child to take them home, and that student will not be allowed to participate in any out-of-town events for the rest of the school year.

Fundraiser

There are going to be a few opportunities this school year to fundraise. All fundraising money will be placed in the music account to put toward any activities or needs that the music program will be having.

Grading

The goal of our vocal program is to help students become literate, critical, and comprehensive musicians. There will be a range of activities and evaluations to help achieve this goal. The grading system will go as follows:

Musical skills 25% and Tests 25% of TOTAL grade

Throughout the semester, student progress will be monitored through written and verbal tests: Some examples include:

- Memorizing Vocal Music
- Semester tests
- Sight Singing tests

Performance Attendance 30% of the TOTAL grade

Students will receive full credit for attending and actively participating in a performance. These graded performances include those for any Concert Choir performance.

- Any unexcused absence WILL result in a zero for that performance. Work and homework is NEVER and excuse for missing a performance!
- If you must miss a concert if you know you will be gone you need to get a make-up assignment BEFORE you leave and will need to make it up BEFORE you leave.
- If you are gone for unforeseen reason you will have one week to get a make up assignment

and make up the concert.

Rehearsal Techniques/Assignments 20% of the TOTAL Grade

All students receive 5 points per rehearsal in this category if expectations are met. Points will be deducted as follows at the discretion of the director:

- Tardy to class
- Absence from class
- Not being prepared for class (Music, pencil, ect.)
- Attitude

Throughout the semester we will also have homework assignments that will be assigned. There will be PLENTY of time given to students to complete the assignment.

Communication

Students will be added to Canvas where they will find a copy of this handbook, assignments, and any other information I share with them throughout the year.

Power Hub: All communication will be sent out through Power Hub.

2025-2026 Choir Schedule

**Event changes and Schedule updates will be announced in class. Second Semester dates are still being added. An updated schedule will be sent out to students before the end of the semester. **

Up Coming Music Dates:

October 29th - JH Vocal @ EV (optional)
November 11 - Veterans Day Program (required)
November 18-20th: All State (Optional)
December 17 - 7-12 Concert 6:00 (Required)
February 6th- Stanton Honor Choir (Optional)
March (TBA) - JH Wayne State Competition (Required)
March 9th - PK-8 Concert (Required)
May 12 - Variety Show (Optional)