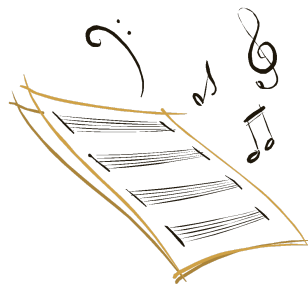




Shippensburg Area Middle School
Music Department

2022 – 2023 CHOIR HANDBOOK



Welcome to another school year! It will be a great year of music activity here at the middle school. Let's work together and make this year a great year!

This Handbook is meant for **parents and students** to use as a reference throughout the school year. Information regarding policies, procedures, and activities of the Choral program will be found in this document.

Please take the time to **read through this Handbook carefully**. The information is changed/updated from year to year so 8th graders need to **read carefully too!**

Please sign, fill out, and return the attached chorus contract, indicating that you have read the information by Monday, Sept. 19, 2022.

Please do not hesitate to contact me anytime if you have any questions or concerns:

Mr. John Piper
Office phone: 530-2750 ext. 5010
E-mail: john.piper@ship.k12.pa.us
www.sasdmusicdepartment.weebly.co

SAMS CHOIRS

The Shippensburg Area Middle School provides students with a 6th grade Choir, a 7th& 8th grade Choir, and a select by audition Jazz Choir – “the Accidentals”. All the Choirs perform at two annual concerts. The Accidentals perform at “The Evening of Jazz” concert, Hershey Music in the Parks Festival and Penn State Mont Alto’s Choral Festival.

I. Responsibilities of the Student

Each student will:

1. **Attend all scheduled rehearsals.**
2. Make a concerted effort to learn and improve daily as a musician.
3. Have your Chromebook, music and a pencil at all rehearsals.
4. Be in their assigned position on risers.
5. Have the proper respect for authority.
6. Be honest and fair with others.
7. Cooperate with fellow choir members and share with them the responsibilities and privileges that are a part of the choral program.
8. Observe and follow the rules and procedures of this manual.
9. Follow all classroom rules, school regulations, and instructions.
10. Accept the consequences of his/her actions.

II. Rehearsals & Procedures

Rehearsals are a scheduled GRADED CLASS, so they are absolutely MANDATORY. CLASS (rehearsal) cannot be missed for making up classroom work, homework, assigned group projects or other activities. Students are strongly encouraged to schedule make-up work or tests with their teachers on another day during a resource that does not conflict with chorus rehearsal.

If a student is involved in band and/or strings and has no other available time in the 6 day cycle to make up missed classwork, the students should have their teacher email Mr. Piper and the other ensembles instructors (Mrs. Enders 7-8 gr. Ms. Neyman 6 gr.) to schedule a day and time during resource to make up work. Mr. Piper and the other instructors should be contacted no less than two days out from the anticipated make up time. SO IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO COMMUNICATE TO THE TEACHER REQUESTING THE MAKE UP TIME FAR ENOUGH IN ADVANCE TO ALL FOR THE TWO DAYS NOTICE TO MR. PIPER.

Additional Dress Rehearsal could be needed prior to a concert and will be scheduled with at least a two-week notice.

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III. Class (rehearsal) Schedule

SAMS Music Ensemble Rehearsal Schedule						
	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
6th Grade	6th Band Ms. Neyman	6th Orchestra Mrs. Enders	6th Chorus Mr. Piper	6th Band Ms. Neyman	6th Orchestra Mrs. Enders 6th Chorus Mr. Piper share time	6th Jazz Band Ms. Neyman
7th-8th Grade	7-8 Orchestra Mrs. Enders	7-8 Chorus Mr. Piper	7-8 Band Enders	7-8 Jazz Hounds Mrs. Enders	7-8 Orchestra Mrs. Enders 7-8 Chorus Mr. Piper share time	7-8 Band Mrs. Enders

SPECIAL NOTE: THE ABOVE SCHEDULE is from 2021-22. This schedule will be tweaked to adjust to the new SAMS schedule for 2022 - 23. The 6 Day rotation for the ensemble will be similar.

IV. Performances

All middle school choirs perform in two concerts per year. All **performances are mandatory** by **ALL** students unless notice is given by a **PARENT note or phone call** to Mr. Piper **AT LEAST TWO (2) WEEKS PRIOR TO THE PERFORMANCE**. It is the Director's discretion whether the absence will be excused or not. The performance dates are in this Handbook, please check it **NOW** and make available arrangements to have students at every performance. If the absence is unexcused, it will count against the **student's grade**. **Parents please call Mr. Piper NOW if you have concerns or questions regarding performance attendance.**

CONCERT DATES:

Thursday, December 1, 2022 in the S.A.M.S. Auditorium. 7:00pm.

Thursday, April 27, 2023 in the S.A.M.S. Auditorium. 7:00pm.

**TBA "An Evening of Jazz" at S.A.H.S Auditorium
Accidentals only**

V. Grading

Each choir member will receive an **individual grade** at the end of every marking period. Each student's grade will be based on their individual points earned.

1. 20 points are earned each rehearsal for participating appropriately.
***An UNEXCUSED absence from a Graded Rehearsal will result in a zero for that day's rehearsal. Missing Choir to make up work for another class is unexcused unless arrangements and approvals have been made with the teacher and Mr. Piper prior to the day of that rehearsal.**
2. 50 points are earned for participating in the performances on Concert night.
***An UNEXCUSED absence from a CONCERT will result in lowering your grade two-letter grades for that marking period grade.**
3. Additional points will be awarded on recorded Individual Performance Assessments and class assignments.

Grace period: If a student who has signed up for choir decides they no longer wish to participate; they have exactly 3 six-day cycles from the first day of school to **submit a written note from a parent/guardian** to their choir director. For this year that date is **Monday, Sept 19, 2022**. **After that date, a parent /teacher conference with Mr. Piper is needed to get approval for dropping the chorus from your schedule. Students are required to attend class until the above meeting occurs.**

VI. Concert Dress

"December Concert Black And White"

Boys – white shirt, black pants, Black socks and shoes. NO blues jeans, no sports shoes, no sweatshirts, sweat pants or tee shirts.

Girls – white top (no shear material), black bottom. You may wear black pants or a skirt. (Your skirt's length should be at your fingertips while your arms are straight down at your sides). No leggings/yoga pants.

"Spring Concert replace white top with a SOLID COLOR TOP"

This policy is to eliminate any possible embarrassment while standing on elevated risers, under bright lights and in front of a live audience. **No jeans, no sports shoes, no sweatshirts, sweatpants, yoga pants or tee shirts. Contact Mr. Piper early in the year if you have concerns or need assistance with the concert dress. If a student does not have the appropriate attire, they will not perform.**

VII. Music

1. Students are responsible for the music and folder that is assigned to them.
2. Students is responsible for replacement of all lost music
(Lost music is music that fails to appear in class 3 consecutive times)
3. All Obligations are due at the end of each marking period.

VIII. Choir Pictures

1. Students will wear concert attire for the annual choir picture. **If a student does not have the appropriate attire, they will not be included in the photo.**
2. Photos are usually scheduled in January or February. Exact date will be announced Two weeks prior to date. Students are not required to purchase photos. Photos will be in the school yearbook.

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