



Dear Tigers,

Congratulations on your decision to be a part of the SSAS Chorus! This handbook is designed to describe the program and to clearly lay out the policies and procedures. I believe in being clear and upfront about all expectations. Please understand that being a member of this chorus is an elective. You are involved in something you choose to do and not something you have to do. You are expected to be positive role models in our school and in our community.

Choral music instills discipline, stirs natural curiosity and creativity, and develops critical thinking and character.

Being a member of chorus is just like being on a sports team. Your individual efforts contribute to everyone's success. The best part of this team is that everyone is a starting player!

My goal is to help each student realize his or her full potential and find enjoyment in making music. Some may adapt more quickly than others, but everyone can succeed. It does take DEDICATION and PRACTICE. As with anything in life, the only way to get better at something is to keep doing it until you get it right. That boils down to one word: PRACTICE! That is the key to success in chorus.

There are many exciting and rewarding musical experiences ahead for this year. Opportunities such as concerts, festivals, making great friends, and maybe even some fun trips! But above all, you will gain knowledge, skill, and an appreciation that will continue to enrich your lives for many years to come.

Musically,

Ms. Holland

HOW TO REACH ME:

- ShannaHolland@ssas.org
- 941-330-1855 ext 1118

Give Me Five:

1. Eyes on Speaker
2. Quiet
3. Be Still
4. Hands Free
5. Listen



COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a year-long course that explores choral music from a wide variety of cultures and time periods through study and performance. We will look at the basics of vocal technique, sight-reading, and music theory. Students in chorus are expected to participate in at least 3 concerts each year as a major part of their grade.



RULES & CONSEQUENCES

Rules

- Show respect to teachers, students, and other's property.
- Follow all directions.
- Raise your hand to be called upon.
- Be prepared to learn every day.

Consequences

1. Warning (silent look or verbal)
2. Write the Rules
3. Behavior Essay w/ Connect Ed
4. Morning Detention w/ Connect



Did you write your name on your paper?

	First Name Last Name
	Period
Assignment Title	Date

RESTROOM/ POTTY / TOILET

How to Leave the Classroom

1. Write a pass in your agenda, on today's date.
2. Write destination and time.
3. Raise hand and ask for permission to go.
4. Bring agenda to me so I can stamp it.
5. Leave quietly.
6. DO NOT INTERRUPT REHEARAL IF

Rehearsal Etiquette

Be on Time-

- Be on time for class. All students should be in their assigned seats with all materials ready to warm up BEFORE the bells rings. (daily bellwork)
- Be on time for performances. All students should be dressed and ready to sing with all assigned materials and in the assigned location at the performance call time.

Be prepared-

- Have all necessary materials (music folder with all music, music theory, sight singing, pencil, etc.) ready to go during class and for performances.
- Be ready to stand for the entire class.
- If we are using risers that day, please help set up and tear down.

Respect the room-

- Clean up around you before you leave class, even if it is not your mess.
- Take all belongings with you at the end of class. If something is left, it will be thrown away.
- The practice room is off limits unless you have permission or have signed up to use it.
- NO FOOD. NO FOOD. NO FOOD. NO DRINKS. WATER IS OK. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Respect property-

- If it is not yours don't touch it. Period.
- If you do not play percussion, don't touch the percussion equipment!
- Do not touch the piano unless you have permission from me.
- Don't fold your music.
- Leave your belongings under your seat.

MY PET PEEVES-

- 1.DON'T TALK WHILE I'M TALKING
- 2.I HATE TO REPEAT MYSELF
- 3.IF IT'S NOT YOURS, DON'T TOUCH IT

If you follow these easy steps we will accomplish great things!

Daily Procedures

Before the late bell:

1. Check board for daily agenda.
2. Get music folder. This will include all songs, theory and sight singing exercises.
3. Have all necessary materials at seat before the bell rings.

During class:

1. Follow all podium etiquette rules.

Packing up and end of class:

1. You will be able to pack up about 5 minutes before the bell. You should clean up your area, check for all of your belongings, and be back in your seat before the dismissal bell.
2. THE BELL DOES NOT DISMISS YOU. I DO. You will not be able to leave until everyone is seated and the room is clean.

Podium Procedures

1. When I step up onto the podium and give you 5, that is the signal that I am ready to start class. Stop playing, talking etc and be ready to learn.
2. When my hands go up, ready to conduct, your eyes are on me ready to sing.
3. When I stop conducting, you stop singing. The faster this is done, the more we will accomplish.

I'm not singing...what can I do?

Being in chorus take a lot of patience. There will be times when you will be waiting for your turn to sing. What can you do during those times to be productive?

1. Don't talk
2. Look over the parts in the music that are giving you trouble
3. Look ahead to other songs that you might need to work on
4. Don't talk
5. Read a book
6. Don't talk
7. Listen and learn

GRADING

- **Daily Bellwork– 15%**
 - ⇒ In seat with all materials for the day before the bell rings.
- **Classwork– 50%**
 - ⇒ Participation
 - ⇒ Music Theory
- **Homework– 10%**
 - ⇒ Smart Music and Practice Logs
- **Tests/Performances– 25%**
 - ⇒ Concerts, Sight Singing, Memorization
Singing Test, Written Tests, etc.



LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Students will have the opportunity to become librarian, historian or chorus captain. These positions will be determined by Ms. Holland.

Librarian– This person is responsible for passing out and collecting music throughout the year. He or she is also responsible for making sure the chorus library is kept in order and each song is kept in order. He or she will also assist Ms. Holland with pulling songs for those that lose their music.

Historian– This person is responsible for taking pictures at all events and concerts. The pictures will be featured in the school yearbook. He or she is also responsible for helping maintain the yearly chorus scrapbook.

Chorus Captains– These students will be the representatives of the chorus. They will be responsible for communication between the chorus and Ms. Holland, as well as being the voice for the chorus in the community. They will also be responsible in assisting Ms. Holland in rehearsals with warmups, daily stretching and other duties. This position will be by audition only.

MAKE UP WORK

The student has one school day to make up work for each school day excused absence (day for a day). For example, the student is out for 4 school days then the student has 4 school days to turn in the make-up work. Work can be made up for excused absences, out-of-school suspension, religious holidays, and excused tardies.

Students should use the assignment calendar in the classroom to find missing work/ make up work.

Planned trips and holidays may not apply—try to do make up work BEFORE your trip. Remember to email the principal for approval of trips.

Parents may call the front desk to request make up work for any absences over two days.

Long term projects and tests scheduled before the absence do NOT apply. Students will sit for a test the day that they return.

LATE WORK

Students must turn in work when it is due so that they do not lose points.

Late work will lose 10% each day that it is late.

Long-term Projects will receive harsher penalties for tardiness. They will be accepted, however, for at least a 50% before the quarter ends.

Plagiarism or copying work will result in a zero and a detention.

MATERIALS

All chorus students are expected to have the following materials daily:

1. Pencil– Students may not use pen in chorus at all!
2. Music Folder– Students will be provided a music folder that will contain all sheet music that will be working on in class. They will have a designated slot in the class to leave it, however they are encouraged to take this home to practice.
3. Theory Workbook– This is a provided workbook that we will use on a daily basis in class and should be left in their music folders.
4. Sight Singing exercises– These are provided exercises in which we will work on sight singing from.

UNIFORMS

Uniforms for formal concerts will consist of:

Boys: Black dress slacks, black collared dress shirt, black socks and all black dress shoes.

Girls: Black dress pants or long skirt or long black dress. No spaghetti straps or strapless. All dresses or skirts must be at least ankle length.

Uniforms for all other performances will consist of:

Chorus polo shirt, jeans and tennis shoes.

***I will tell you ahead of time which uniform you will need.**

REMIND

We will be using the app Remind this year for all communication. Please fill out and return the next form by Aug. 17.

PERFORMANCES

All Performances are MANDATORY! The following dates have been scheduled for this year:

10/30/2018– 2nd Annual Halloween Spooktacular 6pm

12/18/2018– 2nd Annual Holiday Spectacular 6pm

3/4/2019– Spring Concert 6pm

All call times will be 30 minutes before the start of the performance.



REMIND

This year, we will be using the “Remind” program to send out important information regarding rehearsals, call times, upcoming performances, etc. This program will allow you to receive text messages and e-mail updates from Ms. Holland. I am requiring all students in Band and Chorus fill out below and turn this paper in by Friday, August 17th.

Once I receive this information, you will receive a confirmation from the Remind Application.

If you have any questions please contact Ms. Holland at shannaholland@ssas.org or 941-330-1855 x1118

Parent 1 Name: _____

Parent 1 Phone: _____

Parent 1 E-mail: _____

Parent 2 Name: _____

Parent 2 Phone: _____

Parent 2 E-mail: _____

Student Name: _____

Student Phone: _____

Student E-mail: _____

SIGN AND RETURN THIS BY 8/17 TO MS. HOLLAND

Student Name: _____

I, _____, have thoroughly read, understand and accept the expectations set forth for success in this classroom. My parent(s)/guardian(s) have also read, understood and accepted the terms set forth.

_____ Date: _____

Student Signature

_____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

These expectations are **due by Friday**. This will be due at the beginning of class for a homework grade and must contain both a parent/guardian and student signature.