Dear Students and Parents,

We are so excited to have you in the AMS choir program this year. We hope that you will find this handbook informative.

Students enrolled in the choir program are expected to follow the GISD student code of conduct both inside and outside of school. Student membership in choir is a privilege, not a requirement. As a member of the choir, students are responsible for knowing the class procedures, grading policy, and expectations contained in this handbook.

Thank you in advance for the opportunity to serve this community as educators. Your continued support is vital to our success. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at school. We will be happy to visit with you or set up an appointment.

Choir Info

www.granburyisd.org/amschoir
Office: (817) 408-4817

Remind Codes

Download free Remind™ app and enter the class code for your class
Beginner Treble Choir (Bridges): @amsgbegtrbl
Non-varsity Treble Choir (Bridges): @amsgnvtrbl
Varsity Treble Choir (Bridges): @amsgvtb
Beginner Boys choir (Walters): @amsgbboys
Non-Varsity Tenor-Bass (Walters): @amsgnvtb
Varsity Tenor-Bass Choir (Walters): @amsgvtb

Or text assigned code to 81010 for all classes

Twitter

@AMSChoir
Class Rules and Procedures
• Be in your assigned seat with all your materials (choir binder, music, pencil) when class begins.
• Only choir binders and pencils/highlighters are allowed on the risers. (You will need to purchase a ONE inch binder for this class.)
• No gum, candy, food, or beverages are allowed in the choir room. Water bottles are permitted.
• Have a good attitude – 100 % effort, without complaint.
• Courtesy to teachers & classmates is required!
• Do NOT play the piano.

Materials
• 1” Viewfinder binder
• Pencils/Highlighter/Pencil bag
• OPTIONAL: Kleenex box (bring one for extra credit!)
• OPTIONAL: Box of pencils for the choir class (bring one for extra credit!)

Grading
Minor Grades: Daily Participation, singing and written tests, material checks          70 %
Major Grades: Concerts/Public Performances (see grading policy below)            30 %

Approved Concert Dress

Beginner/Non-Varsity Men:
Black dress slacks
Black socks and black dress shoes
White long sleeved dress shirt
Ties will be provided by AMS Choir

Varsity Men:
Black dress slacks
Black socks and black dress shoes
White Undershirt
Ties, Tuxedo shirts, and Cummerbunds will be provided by AMS Choir

Beginner/Non-Varsity Ladies:
Black closed toed shoes
Black below the knee skirts
White blouses with short sleeves (no long sleeves, no sleeveless)

Varsity Ladies:
Purchased long black dress uniforms
Public Performance Policy

The concert consists of five parts. Each part is worth 20 points.

- Warm-up: You are to be at the concerts half an hour early in order to warm-up and run through your music. If you do not arrive on time or misbehave during the warm-up, you will lose these points.
- Etiquette: This portion of the grade is regarding audience skills. It is unacceptable to talk while another group is performing. It is also unacceptable to cheer and yell for your school like you are at a rock concert or pep rally. The most appropriate way of showing your appreciation is simply through applause.
- Attendance: This is the act of being there and performing. You must be present to receive these points.
- Memorization: Students must demonstrate that they know the music to receive credit for this portion of the grade.
- Execution: This portion of the grade deals with your performance and behavior while on stage. The music faculty and assigned critics will judge this portion of the concert. A way to lose points in this area is to talk while on stage or to sing poorly.

Missing a Concert

In the event that you must be absent from a concert, it will be evaluated in two ways – EXCUSED or UNEXCUSED.

- EXCUSED ABSENCE:
  Examples: You are sick, you are in ISS, an immediate family member dies, you or an immediate family member is in an accident. All other excuses will be handled on a case by case basis.
  If you know in advance that there is a conflict on one of the concert dates, let us know so we can work towards a solution. Please do not come to us the week of the concert, or after you’ve already missed the concert, and expect the absence to be excused.

  You may make up parts of an excused absence. Students may earn 40 points by singing off the music in front of the class, which covers memorization and execution. Students may also earn 20 points by attending another fine arts performance and bringing us the program, which covers the concert etiquette portion of the grade. This will give you a public performance grade of 60.

- UNEXCUSED ABSENCE:
  Examples: You forgot, you couldn’t get a ride, you forgot where the concert was, or you have another non-school activity.
  You may earn only a maximum of 40 points by singing off the music in front of the class. Having an unexcused absence from any required concert makes you ineligible for participation in our AMS Choir Spring Reward Trip.

Choir Fees

Every choir member is required to pay a student fee of $15. This will cover the cost of your choir t-shirt that is used for trips and spring concert as well as some implemented technology for our class. This is due by August 30th. Please make any checks out to: AMS Choir
If a parent would like to purchase additional shirts the cost is $10. Please include size needed.

Varsity Treble:
Dress - $75 (includes cost of hemming)/there is also the option to purchase a used dress from a former varsity treble student

Varsity Tenor-Bass:
Cleaning fee - $15

Region Choir Auditions:
$8

Solo Entry Fee:
$10

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Beginner Choir Dates

October 7, 2019 - **Beginner Fall Concert** * 6:30 PM Warm-up/7:00 PM Performance @ AMS

December 10, 2019 - **Beginner Christmas Concert** * 5:30 PM Warm-up/6:00 PM Performance @ GHS

February 21, 2020 - **Beginner Choir Festival** * 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM @ GHS

March 28, 2020 - Solo Competition @ GHS (optional)

May 4, 2020 - **Combined Choirs Spring Concert** * 6:30 PM Warm-up/7:00 PM Performance @ GHS

*REQUIRED

Non-Varsity and Varsity Choirs Dates

September 23, 2019 - **NV/V Fall Concert** * 7:00 PM Warm-up/7:30 Performance @ TBA

October 5, 2019 - Region Choir Auditions + All-day @ Fossil Ridge HS, Keller $

November 2, 2019 - Region Choir Clinic/Concert All-day @ Weatherford HS (4:30 Concert) This is required participation for any student who made the Region Choir on October 5th.

November 11, 2019 - Varsity Only Veteran’s Day performance (more info later)

December 10, 2019 - **NV/V Christmas Concert** * 7:00 PM Warm-up/7:30 PM Performance @ GHS

February 24, 2020 - **NV/V Pre-UIL Concert** * 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM @ GHS

March 2-3, 2020 - **NV/V UIL Concert and Sight-reading** * Times TBA @ Aledo HS

March 28, 2020 - GISD Solo and Ensemble Competition $ + 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM @ GHS $

May 4, 2020 - **Combined Choirs Spring Concert** * 6:30 PM Warm-up/7:00 PM Performance @ GHS

*REQUIRED FOR ALL CHOIR MEMBERS

*REQUIRED FOR VARSITY CHOIRS

AMS Choir