

**Luella Middle School Chorus**  
**Class Syllabus**  
**2019-2020**

**Instructor:** Caitlin R. Boyd

**Planning:** 11:20am-11:45am, 1:10pm-2:35pm

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**Chorus Page:** <https://schoolwires.henry.k12.ga.us/Domain/14020>

**Course Objectives:** To provide students with the terminology, knowledge, and technical skills necessary to be successful in performing quality choral music of ALL historical periods and styles.

**Course Outline:** Chorus is a performance-based class that will focus on the study of musical works: analysis, interpretation, conceptualization, creation, technique, context, synthesis, and presentation.

**Class Expectations:** A desire to produce quality choral music, having a positive attitude, active participation, teamwork, and attendance at all rehearsals and performances are the essential requirements for the successful completion of this course.

**Classroom Guidelines:**

- ❖ Respect your classmates, yourself, and the materials of the classroom at all times.
- ❖ **NO GUM, FOOD, OR DRINKS IN THE CHORUS ROOM AT ANY TIME!!!!!!**
- ❖ Be prepared for class.
- ❖ Students should not use or display technology in the classroom without permission or direction from the teacher.
- ❖ Students are expected to return all music assigned to them; the music is our text **AND MUST BE PAID FOR IF LOST**. Replacement cost is \$25.00.
  - No checks allowed.
- ❖ Personal items or study materials from other classes should NOT be out during rehearsal time.

**Discipline Timeline:** *LMS will be implementing **Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)** this year. **PBIS** is an implementation framework that is designed to enhance social and behavioral outcomes for all students by (a) emphasizing the use of data for informing decisions, about the selection, implementation, and progress monitoring the evidence based behavioral practices; and (b) organizing resources and systems to improve durable implementation fidelity.*

**Conduct:** This year, students will receive conduct grades as part of the Henry County Schools new guidelines. In practice with PBIS, each week, students who exhibit positive behavior will receive a smiley face on the behavior chart. Students who are showing signs of being redirected throughout the week will receive a plain face and contact with the parent/guardian will be made. Students whose behaviors are unacceptable will receive a frowny face, call to parents/guardians, and contact with administration.

**Individual Practice/Study:** In order to sure the flow of class is maximized, it is imperative that students study at home. There will be sight-reading examples/packets, key signature lessons and examples, time signature lessons and examples, and scale lessons and examples posted on the LMS Chorus site. To access these lessons, visit [www.musictheory.net](http://www.musictheory.net) . While each topic will be introduced and taught in class, it is imperative that students go home and practice the lesson assigned for the week. Fridays will be used as mini assessment days. There will be an outline for students to follow each week.

**Assessments:** Students will be evaluated periodically on their musical progress. Singing and written tests will be given. Material will be chosen from scales, lessons from [www.musictheory.net](http://www.musictheory.net) or repertoire being performed. Assessments may be practice work or assessment tasks.

**Grading:** Students will be accessed according to the National Standards of Music and the Henry County Schools grading guidelines. Grades will be weighted as follows:

<i>Assessment Tasks</i>	40%	These are considered summative assessments. Cumulative tests, concerts, projects and other larger assignments.
<i>Practice Work</i>	40%	This area includes formative tests, professionalism points, classwork, homework, etc.
<i>**Semester Final</i>	20%	Students will be given a semester exam in December and May. These exams will include material covered within the current semester.

**Performance Requirement:** Every musician is important the sound of the chorus, so it is imperative that every student perform in concerts. Concert dates are provided as far in advance as possible so that arrangements can be made for transportation and to take family plans into account. Music is a performing art, so the most important part of the choral experience is to perform!!! Concerts are rewarding for students and fun for the family, so please make every possible effort to attend.

**Excused Performance Absences:** Concerts are like final projects. **Each concert will count for three assessment grades.** If a student misses a concert, he or she **must** make up the points. Because the performance opportunity cannot be recreated, students will be asked to complete an extensive alternate assignment to replace the points missed by not attending the concert. Guidelines for the assignment will be available after each performance. Students who do not complete the make-up assignment will receive a zero for the missed concert.

**\*\*Please note that if absent from a mandatory, an excused note MUST be received by teacher. Otherwise, the grade will remain a zero. Excused absences include death, severe illness, religious reasons.**

**Assignment and Test Make-up Policy:** Students will have two weeks from the assignment due date to make up any work or test. Work that is not turned in or tests that are not taken by the end of the two-week deadline will become a permanent zero in the grade book. It is the responsibility of the student to see the Director for any make-up work. This aligns with the policy of Henry County Schools Student Handbook.

Modifications will be made for those students with an IEP or 504 plan.

**Classroom Materials:** You need to have these materials DAILY!!!

- ❖ Pencil ONLY! (NO pens allowed)
- ❖ Composition Book (for note taking)
- ❖ Water (OPTIONAL but encouraged)

**Field Trips:** Occasionally, our class will have to go off campus for performances or for a standard field trip. It is a privilege to be a member of the LMS Chorus Program, and guidelines to attend must be followed. **If there are academic or discipline issues, these privileges will be taken away. They are as followed:**

1. Chorus students that do not meet the required chorus classroom behavior point cut-off.
2. Chorus students whom are assigned to ISS or are suspended at any point in a semester will not attend any field trips nor are you allowed to attend in choral afterschool activities.

Please note that when there is a trip, students will be required to wear their chorus shirts.

**Uniform Requirement:** Information for uniforms will be added to the webpage. There will be a required shirt to purchase for days we have a field trip or dress down performances. There will be a different uniform for winter, spring, and large group performance evaluation.