

Hayfield Blue & Gold Junior Choir

Handbook

2023-2024



Blue & Gold Choir Students and Parents,

Hello and welcome to Blue & Gold Junior High Choir! I'm looking forward to another year as the choral director at Hayfield High School.

This handbook's purpose is to outline this year's schedule, expectations, class rules, grading policies, and more. Please familiarize yourself with the handbook as it is a great place to refer to throughout the year and contains a great deal of information.

After reading the handbook, please sign the letter/schedule sheet and hand it back in during class time. The handbook is available on my classroom website and Teams. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone, email, or just stop in the choir room.

I've excited for all that this year has in store for the Hayfield choir program and all that we will accomplish!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Megan Lynch

Phone: (507) 671-1542

E-mail: mlynch@hayfield.k12.mn.us

Website: <http://hayfield.k12.mn.us/meganlynch/>



Blue & Gold Choir

The Blue & Gold Choir is a mixed ensemble of 7th and 8th grade boys and girls. The choir meets every other day during 6th hour. Students will perform at three concerts and will also participate in a Junior High Choir Festival. The Junior Choir will learn about and perform a variety of vocal music, grow in their ability to collaborate with others, have opportunities be creative, developing skills in vocal production, sight-singing, music concepts, and knowledge of the connection between history, culture, and music.

Choir Goals & Expectations

Goals

- Students will develop musical experiences that enhance students' overall educational experiences
- Students will learn to work collaboratively.
- Students will have opportunities to work creatively.
- Students will perform a variety of music at formal and informal performances.
- Students will understand the connection between music, its purpose, and cultural and historical contexts
- Students will work towards developing a proper vocal technique
- Students will be able to read music, including note names, rhythms, time and key signatures.
- Students will analyze, interrupt, and evaluate musical works and performances
- HAVE A FUN LEARNING EXPERIENCE!!!

Choir Expectations

- **Participate** to the best of your ability *every single day*
- Treat others and classroom items with **respect**
- Display a **positive attitude** (Remember, you cannot judge a piece of music until *after* you have performed it.)
- **Be on time** for class. In your seat when the bell rings.
- Have your **materials** for class. (pencil, notebook, choir folder)
- **Clean up** any items in your surrounding area at the end of class.
- **No gum or food** is allowed in the choir room. Water bottles are allowed.
- **No Cellphones.** Cellphones should be in cellphone holder slots before class.

Grading

Summative (60%)

- Concert Performances
- Concert Reflections
- Singing Assessments

Formative (40%)

- Daily rehearsal technique (DRT)
- Bell ringers
- Worksheets
- Journal activities
- Lessons

A	100-94
A-	94-90.9
B+	87-89.9
B	84-86.9
B-	80-83.9
C+	77-79.9
C	74-76.9
C-	70-73.9
D+	67-69.9
D	64-66.9
D-	60-63.9
F	59.9-0



Course Outline

Choir units are based upon our performances each quarter.

Unit 1- Fall Performance at Field Crest Care Center

Choir basics

Unison & 2-part singing

Posture

Open singing

2 & 3-part sheet music

Time Signatures

Pitches (solfege steps)

Rhythms (Eighth, quarter, half, whole notes and rests)

Unit 2- December Concert

3-part harmony

Musical symbols

Concert etiquette

Key Signatures

Pitches (Skips)

Rhythm (Dotted half & Quarter notes, sixteenth notes)

Evaluate my own performance

Unit 3 February Choir Festival

Breath Support

Balance & Blend

Dynamics and Tempo

Phrasing and Articulation

Evaluate performances

Historical & multicultural music

Chromatic scale

Rhythm (dotted rhythms cont.)

Note names in treble clef and bass clef

Evaluate performance as a listener

Connection of musical elements

Unit 4 May Concert

Music connection to me and society

Expression

Music analysis

Pitch (half and whole steps)

Rhythm (syncopation)

Lip Sync Creation

Junior Choir Schedule

Please mark your calendars with the following Junior Choir concert dates. ***All bolded events are required for Junior Choir members and are graded.***

Date	Time	Event	Place
October	TBA (during class time)	Performance at Field Crest Care Center	Field Crest Care Center
December 11 th	5:30 pm	Winter Concert	HHS West Gym
February 24 th	9:00 am	Middle School Festival	Byron MS
May 8 th	6:45 pm	Spring Concert	HHS West Gym

****Subject to change**

Concerts

Concerts are a major part of your summative assessment grade. **All concerts bolded in the schedule below are graded and require attendance.** Make sure to mark these performances on your family calendar or post them on the fridge. Concert expectations and grading rubric will be given and explained before each concert.

Excused absences: Excused absences include personal illness, family emergencies, and unavoidable family trips (made before the beginning of the school year). These absences may be made up by an individual performance of your part for Mrs. Lynch. If an excused absence does occur, an email or phone call must be provided to Mrs. Lynch by a parent/guardian within 24 hours of the concert. Remember work or lack of transportation are not considered an excused absence. Make sure to plan ahead.

Unexcused absences: An unexcused absence is an absence not verified from a parent or guardian. Unexcused absences will result in a "0" for a concert grade.

Concert Dress: Choir members are expected to wear all black dress clothes. This may include: Black dress shirt, black pants, black dress, black skirt, black shoes, etc.

Music Awards All Junior Choir members are eligible for the following awards.

Singer of the Year: Given to one 7th and one 8th grade students that has demonstrated outstanding vocal skills, leadership, and attitude.

Most Valuable Vocalist: Awarded to the student that has demonstrated outstanding vocal skills.

Most Improved: awarded to the student that has improved the most vocally and musically through the year.

Unsung Hero Award: Awarded to the student that has demonstrated outstanding leadership, attitude, hard work and dedication.

*The choir handbook is subject to change without advanced warning. All changes will be noted in class.