

Welcome to the Mitchell Music Department! I am excited for the coming year and am looking forward to making music with you. Choir offers a unique educational experience. I hope you find it rewarding, challenging and fun! Personal and collective dedication is the responsibility of everyone in the choir program. As such, I have outlined student expectations, the general classroom rules and grading policy. Because this handbook contains information important to both students and parents/guardians, I require all parents/guardians to read it as well. Once you and your parent/guardian have read the handbook, please complete the Student/Parent Signature Form and return the signed portion to me on the assigned due date.

Mrs. Charnele Long
Mitchell Public Schools

Note: I reserve the right to change or modify the handbook whenever it is believed to be necessary. Students will be informed of changes or additions.

Rehearsal Expectations

Be Prepared. That means having your music and a pencil (NO PENS!) at all times during the rehearsal period. It is YOUR responsibility to have your music memorized by the deadline given.

Be Ready. That means be in your assigned seat when the bell rings, with your music and be mentally prepared to start. For you to receive full rehearsal points, you must be in your seat ready to go at the start of class.

Be Responsible. This means having your folder, music and your pencil with you at all rehearsals. If you take any materials home with you, be sure to bring them back the next day.

Be Respectful. This means that all gum, food, candy, drinks, etc. stop at the door; there is no uninvited talking during rehearsal; there are no uninvited cell phones out during rehearsal. This is YOUR FIRST and ONLY warning about phones. Respect the time we have by not making me stop rehearsals for these things.

Respect the learning of others – that means helping one another

Respect others in the room – accompanists, guest artists, substitute teachers, visitors, etc.

Be Positive. Learning music can be fun and exciting; it can also be hard work and very intensive.

Your personal attitude will determine the type of rehearsals we will have.

General Classroom Rules and Responsibilities

Music Assignments – Students will be assigned the appropriate music for their specific class. Once music is assigned to a student the student is then responsible for the care of that music. When music is lost or damaged (including marking in pen) the student is responsible for paying for replacement fee.

Passing – Restroom privileges will be given sparingly. It is preferred that you take care of all personal business prior to the start of class. To pass out of class you must ask Mrs. Long then sign out on the clipboard noting the time out and return time. Only one person will be permitted to pass at a time. You are permitted one pass a week. I will check the clipboard weekly and if you left class more than once you will lose one day of rehearsal points for the week.

Concert Attire –

High School Choir - Students are required to wear all black. Black pants, skirts or dresses are permitted. Shirts must be long-sleeved. Black closed toe shoes and black socks or hose.

Jr. High Choir - Students are required to wear the Jr. High Music Department shirt and jeans. Students have the option to buy or rent a Jr. High T-shirt.

Show Choir - students wear purchased uniforms.

For each concert, **ALL jewelry** must be removed prior to the performance. **Hair** should be fastened back and out of the face.

Minimize your use of perfumes, colognes, scented hairspray and body sprays. **Maximize** your use of unscented deodorant/antiperspirant.

Grading Policy

Students will be evaluated and graded in the following areas:

Performance – 40%

Rehearsal – 35%

Assignments/Tests & Quizzes – 25%

Performance Points – This is a performance based art form; therefore, **ALL** scheduled performances are required. Mrs. Long must be given a **two-week** notification for any conflicts with scheduled performances. An alternate assignment will be given to the student at the time to complete.

Rehearsal Points – will be given daily. Participation, attendance, and punctuality are major factors in determining rehearsal points. Attendance is taken at the start of rehearsal. Dress rehearsals and sectionals may be added to the schedule and will be included in the rehearsal points. Any additional rehearsals or sectionals will be scheduled at least two-weeks in advance to allow for planning.

Assignment points – can include but are not limited to in-class writing and listening assignments, at-home listening and writing assignments, individual projects, class projects, group assignments.

Tests and Quizzes – will be given periodically throughout the school year on repertoire and additional material covered in class.

Make-up Points – will be awarded on an as needed basis. It is **YOUR** responsibility to monitor your grade and progress. In the event that make-up work is needed you must come to me and ask, this, however, does not mean you will receive the work.

Vocal Music Schedule

2017 - 2018

Choral Leadership Day-

September 8, 2017

All-State Registration Due-

September 11, 2017

All-State Auditions-

October 6-7, 2017

Fall Choir Concert-

October 26, 2017 -7:00 p.m.

4th Grade Program-

November 2, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.

Old West Choir Fest-

November 4, 2017

Veterans Day Program-

November 10, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.

Western Trails Honor Choir-

November 13, 2017

All State-

November 16-18, 2017

Jr. High Holiday Concert-

December 14, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.

High School Holiday Concert-

December 18, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.

Elementary Holiday Concert-

December 20, 2017 - 2:00 p.m.

UNK Honor Choir -

January 22, 2018

NCDA Show Choir Festival ~

February 12, 2018

3rd & 2nd Grade Program-

March 29, 2018 - 2:00 p.m.

Musical ~

April 6-8, 2018

Spring Choir Concert-

April 16, 2018 - 7:00 p.m.

District Music-

April 19, 2018

Fine Arts Night-

May 7, 2018 6:30 p.m.

Breakfast for Moms-

May 11, 2018 - 7:15 a.m.

Graduation-

May 12, 2018 - 2:00 p.m.