**VOICES OF WAYSIDE HANDBOOK 2022-2023**

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**Kristian Gorr, Director Rachel Brookover, Assistant Director**

Dear Choir parents and students,

Welcome back to another exciting year for the Wildcat Choirs! We believe that the WMS choir department is a family where students learn valuable qualities. Did you know that being a part of a music class helps your child build a future of success through learning grit, work ethic, time management, leadership, teamwork, and more? Your child will also learn to understand musical language and perform many different types of music. We are very passionate about sharing our love for music with our students.

 Choir students will have the opportunity to participate in many exciting activities, including concerts, field trips, and social events. Enclosed, you will find WMS Choir expectations and policies, calendar, information about uniforms, officer elections, grading, and private voice lessons. Please note in the section on grading that choir concerts and after school rehearsals are required and graded. Please let us know **by Friday, September 2** if you have any conflicts with the choir schedule.

The WMS Choir Department cannot thrive without our parent volunteers. Parental involvement will truly be a driving force behind our choir program’s success. [https://apps.raptortech.com/Apply/NDgwNzplbi1VUw==](https://apps.raptortech.com/Apply/NDgwNzplbi1VUw%3D%3D)

We will communicate via remind, email, skyward and handouts to make sure that you are aware of all concerts, socials, or other choir events. Please complete the survey below and send your child’s choir fee by Friday, September 2, 2021. If you need to send choir dues later than September 2, please email Ms. Gorr or Miss Brookover. We look forward to working with each of you this year. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call at 817-232-0543 ext. 5125 or email kgorr@ems-isd.net or rbrookover@ems-isd.net.

Sincerely,

Kristian Gorr, Choir Director Rachel Brookover, Assistant Choir Director

EXPECTATIONS/WAYSIDE 5

Choir is different than any other class at WMS. In order to be successful, we must work as a team in class every day. The following rules are for your benefit. Citizenship grades are affected if a student is at the 2nd offense. ***YOUR SUCCESS IN THIS CLASS DEPENDS ON YOUR COOPERATION WITH THESE EXPECTATIONS.***

1. Be Respectful- Have permission to speak and always THINK (is it True, Helpful, Inspiring, Necessary and Kind)

2. Be Safe- Keep hands, feet, and all objects to yourself at all times. *(“We were just playing” does not excuse you from this rule.*) Gum, food, drinks, or candy may not be brought into the choir room.

3. Be Punctual- Students will be in assigned seats with choir folders, music and pencils when the tardy bell rings.

4. Be Prepared- Students should have a choir folder with music and pencil everyday.

5. Be Responsible- Always Participate and give 100% EVERY DAY!!

### DISCIPLINE & TARDY POLICY

 First offense: Verbal warning

 Second offense: Phone call home/Conference

 Third offense: Lunch detention and Phone call home

 Fourth offense: Office referral

ANY SERIOUS OFFENSE THAT HINDERS THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AND/OR THREATENS THE SAFETY OF OTHERS WILL RESULT IN AN IMMEDIATE OFFICE REFERRAL.

\*If a student is removed from class or assigned SAC or detention, he/she will be given a written assignment. Failing to complete this assignment will be handled in the same manner as skipping detention - the assignment will be doubled.

GENERAL CLASSROOM POLICIES

1. **Failure to be on the risers with your folder, music, and a pencil when the bell rings will result in a tardy. You are tardy if you are in the room and not on the risers.**

2. Teachers are actively involved in teaching during the entire class period. Each of you will get one emergency pass for use each six weeks--be sure to use it wisely. If you have a medical problem that warrants frequent trips to the nurse or restroom, please provide Ms. Gorr or Miss Brookover with a note from the school nurse, and we will allow you to use those facilities when necessary.

3. All backpacks, school binders, athletic bags, and purses are to be placed on the tables not on the risers or in the hallway. The only materials you may bring to the risers are your choir folder with pencil bag and music, and bottled water if necessary. (PENS ARE NOT ALLOWED)

4. Please remember that scented sprays and body lotions should not be opened in the choir room for any reason.

5. NO *GUM CHEWING.*

6. All school rules and policies are in effect when we go on trips. If you break the rules on a trip, you will not go on the next trip.

7. Any students who is disrespectful and fails to follow the expectations for a substitute or intentionally skips a concert or rehearsal without reason will be subject to missing out on the following social event for the WMS choir.

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##### GRADING

The WMS Choir program is based on pride and excellence in everything that we do. Students receive a weekly grade based on their performance in class that week. Each student begins the week with a 100 and points may be deducted based on their written work, skill demonstration (starts immediately after the tardy bell), bringing materials every day, occasional before or after school rehearsals.

Here is how we will calculate your grade in choir:

**40% is formative assessments**. Weekly grades come from oral and written work, skill demonstration (starts immediately after the tardy bell), having necessary materials every day, and occasional before or after school rehearsals.

**60% is summative assessments.** Test grades come from oral (sight reading and part singing) and written/Canvas tests, concert attendance/punctuality and concert performance/behavior.

EXTRA CREDIT

If you wish, you may get one extra credit grade of 100 per six weeks by attending a choir concert or voice recital outside of WMS (your elementary school or Boswell HS or a church choir performance would be some examples.) The program MUST be a choir or vocal program – not an instrumental performance. You must bring me a program from the event signed by the concert’s conductor and you before the end of the six weeks in order to get extra points. If a program is not available, have your parents write a note or send an email.

##### OFFICERS

##### Officers will be elected in each class at the beginning of the school year. You must apply for these positions in order to be selected. These positions will be decided by the choir teachers and make up the WMS Choir Council. Paperwork will be sent home at student request.

##### VOICE LESSONS- *MRS. KATIE PORTER & MISS ANNA MORGAN*

One of the best things the WMS Choir department offers is private voice lessons for choir students. You do not have to be planning a career in music to benefit immensely from this one-on-one instruction. From students who are ready to audition for All-Region Choir to beginners who just want to improve their singing and self-confidence, private lessons are one of the best activities here at WMS. Voice lessons are not required, but we highly recommend them! If you’re interested in voice lessons, they cost $12/lesson and lessons are on a weekly basis during the school day.

CONCERTS

Concerts and rehearsals are a necessary part of any performing organization’s activities. Attendance at concerts and occasional after school rehearsals is **graded and mandatory** for all choir students. Concert attendance will be weighted as two major test grades, (one for performance grade and one for audience etiquette) It is important that your child arrives 15 minutes before the concert start time. Points will be deducted on your child’s grades in they are late to a rehearsal or concert. ***REMEMBER: TO BE EARLY IS ON TIME; TO BE ON TIME IS LATE***. Skipping a concert is unacceptable without prior communication and will result in two zero major test grades.

*Emergencies do happen and are excusable with a written parent note or email - phone calls do not excuse a student from a concert or rehearsal. Ms. Gorr or Miss Brookover must receive the note within 24 hours of when you get back to school. You are not automatically excused with a note, but you are automatically unexcused if we do not get a note. If we need to follow up, we will contact the student’s parent or guardian. Students who are excused from a concert will be given a week from their date of return to school to complete a concert makeup assignment.*

\*\*\*You are given a calendar at the beginning of the school year in order to look at the dates and agree to them with your guardian. By signing this, you agree to be in attendance for those performances. Please schedule the following events: family vacations, all athletic events outside of Wayside MS events, doctor appointments accordingly. Please communicate any issues ahead of time including transportation and babysitting a sibling.

*Occasionally, there will be a conflict with an event at Wayside MS. In that case, Ms. Gorr will communicate with the faculty or staff members to resolve the conflict.*

##### UNIFORMS

All uniform money is due on Friday, September 2. **Please make all checks and money orders payable to WMS CHOIR.** If you must send cash, please send the exact change – we cannot make change for you. If you are unable to pay your uniform fee by Friday, September 2, please email Ms. Gorr or Miss Brookover.

**6TH GRADE CHOIRS ONLY:**

All 6th grade choir students will purchase (included in choir fee) a choir t-shirt to wear with blue jeans and tennis shoes (no sandals or flip flops - no exceptions) for their concert uniform. Choir t-shirts are 50% cotton/50% polyester and are screen-printed. The 6th grade choir fee is **$30** that includes the WMS choir shirt and supplies/music costs throughout the year. **All checks or money orders are payable to WMS Choir.**

**7th/8th GRADE BOYS ONLY:**

Boys will need to provide black dress shoes, black socks, and black dress pants. We will provide each boy a black shirt and blue tie. A **$40** fee is due on or before Friday September 2 that includes the WMS choir shirt, the rental/cleaning fee for the tux shirt, and supplies/music costs throughout the year. **All checks or money orders are made payable to WMS Choir.**

**7th/8th GRADE GIRLS ONLY:**

Girls will need to provide a pair of black closed-toe shoes. We will provide each girl with a black dress. A **$40** fee is due on or before Friday, September 2 that includes the WMS choir shirt, rental/cleaning fee for the dress, and supplies/music costs throughout the year. **All checks or money orders are made out to WMS Choir.**

**ALL CHOIR STUDENTS AND PARENTS:**

**WE ARE HAPPY TO HELP THOSE STUDENTS WHO ARE HAVING FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES. WE WORK OUT PAYMENT PLANS FOR THOSE WHO ARE IN FINANCIAL NEED. HOWEVER, CHOIR UNIFORM MONEY IS *REQUIRED* TO BE PAID BEFORE A STUDENT CAN PAY FOR ANY *OPTIONAL* ITEMS. IF THE CHOIR DEPARTMENT PURCHASES ITEMS FOR A STUDENT (LIKE BLACK SHOES OR PANTS), THOSE ITEMS MUST BE REPAID BEFORE THAT STUDENT PAYS FOR ANY *OPTIONAL* EVENTS OR ACTIVITIES.**

STUDENT ACTIVITIES FMG (LOCAL)

TRAVEL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION EXHIBIT B

**UNCONDITIONAL WAIVER, RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT**

This Unconditional Waiver, Release, and Indemnification Agreement (“Agreement”) is executed FOR ALL CHOIR DATES IN THE CALENDAR ATTACHED between \_\_Debbi Roest\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(“Parent”) and \_\_Paxten Roest\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (“Student”), and the Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District, its legal

representatives, officers, members of the Board of Trustees, successors, agents, employees, volunteers and assigns (collectively, “District”). The parties agree as follows:

1. Parent and Student have requested the approval of a Student Trip to ALL CHOIR DATES IN THE CALENDAR ATTACHED (“Student Trip”). In consideration

of approving the Student Trip, Parent gives full and informed consent for Parent and/or Student to participate in the Student Trip and enters into this Agreement.

 **To the fullest extent allowed by all applicable laws and to the extent that any claims, damages, losses, expenses, or injuries are not covered by or exceed the amount of the liability insurance carried by the District, Parent and Student hereby release the District from, and agree to indemnify and hold the District harmless against, any claims, demands, damages, cost, and expenses (including reasonable attorney’s fees for defending the claims and demands) for injury or damage to the person or property of**

**Parent, Student, or any other person or entity, arising out of or relating to the Student Trip,**

**INCLUDING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS** **BASED ON THE CONDUCT OF THE DISTRICT, as well as**

**claims based on the conduct of Parent or Student. If any action or proceeding is brought against the District by reason of such claim, Parent and Student, on notice from District, will defend the District in, from, and against the action or proceeding at Parent and Student’s cost and by counsel acceptable to District. Additionally, Parent and Student also release the District from and agree to indemnify and hold the District harmless against any and all losses or damages of any kind whatsoever arising out of or relating to cancellation of the Student Trip.**

2. By signing this Agreement, Parent (and Student, if Student is 18 years of age or older) hereby acknowledges, warrants, and represents:

1. that he or she is of full age of consent and has ever legal right to contract in his or her own capacity and name, and if this Agreement is being given for a student, a minor child, that Parent is the natural parent, the legally court appointed managing conservator, or the legally appointed guardian of the Student having full rights to make and execute this Agreement on behalf of that minor child;
2. that he or she has carefully read and does understand this Agreement prior to its execution; and
3. that he or she is executing this Agreement as his or her free act and deed for the purposes and consideration herein expressed.
4. Parent (and Student, if Student is 18 years of age or older) further understands and agrees that this Agreement shall be fully effective as of the last date of execution below and the Agreement shall apply to the entire program encompassed by the Student Trip, including from the time Parent and/or Student leaves for the Student Trip until the Parent and/or Student returns from the Student Trip.
5. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties and the terms of this Agreement are contractual and not a mere recital.
6. It is further agreed that the execution of this release shall not constitute a waiver by the District of the defense of governmental or sovereign immunity, whether under common law or statute, or any other defense recognized by the courts of the State of Texas or any other State where any cause of action may arise. The parties to this Agreement also expressly agree that the law of the State of Texas shall apply regarding any interpretation and any application of this Agreement.

Please click the link to complete the parent form to verify that you have read and agree to all terms listed in the Wayside Choir Handbook and the UNCONDITIONAL WAIVER, RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT.

[Microsoft Forms](https://forms.office.com/pages/designpagev2.aspx?auth_pvr=OrgId&auth_upn=kgorr%40ems-isd.net&origin=OfficeDotCom&lang=en-US&sessionid=ca8393f5-62bb-4bf6-a3d7-514b3f46f690&route=Templates&subpage=design&id=aLcezEZ_NketRFil2pZnYFLgWP1pO4pIvlpDxHAH6DNUQ0ozODVWWEszTU9RMUNTQTg3QlBUS1BPMi4u&analysis=false)

