



"We inspire student achievement by promoting creative and artistic excellence through performance."

Choir 6-8

Teacher Name: Kristian Gorr & Rachel Brookover

Teacher Email: kgorr@ems-isd.net rbrookover@ems-isd.net

Instagram: @waysidewildcatchoir

Conference Period: 5th Period

Tutoring Opportunities: Mon-Fri. 3:30-4:00 PM Class Materials:

Choir Fee \$30-6th grade; \$40-7th/8th grade

www.sightreadingfactory.com

Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

Course Description: In choir, students will study music literacy, creative expression, historical and cultural relevance & critical evaluation and response. Students will learn to both read and write music and learn creative expression through both critical thinking skills and their knowledge of music literacy. Students will evaluate their progress through both rehearsal and performance.

(NOTE: This overview was adapted from the Music TEKS)

Course Goals

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

1. Students will be able to Sight Read music on an appropriate level.
2. Students will be able to count rhythms both independently and with a group.
3. Students will be able sing a major scale with hand signs and syllables.
4. Students will be able to audiate new music.
5. Students will be able to utilize appropriate posture for rehearsal and performance.
6. Students will be able to use appropriate concert etiquette for performances.

Student Evaluation:

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Middle School- 60% Major/40% Minor
- Major grades – Project/Recording Assignments, Concert Etiquette, Music Literacy and Sight Reading Tests
- Minor grades – Checking into Canvas, Completing Canvas discussions and assignments, Music Literacy Worksheets and Quizzes to be completed in Canvas, Weekly Skill Demonstration
- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student’s conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), “The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, and six-week test. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.
- Official grades will be in Skyward only and can be accessed by student and parent through Family Access.

Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:

Students will be required to participate remotely or in person practicing all warm ups, sight reading, music theory/history assignments, and singing tests. In person learners will be monitored in class for daily grades and remote learners will need to occasionally submit audio examples showing their participation. When and if there will be a concert and/or after school rehearsal, attendance is highly encouraged for students to experience a formal performance. This is part of the middle school choir TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills). If your child attends a performance it is important that your child arrives 15 minutes before the concert start time. Please communicate with Miss Brookover or Ms. Gorr if you choose not to participate in any of the formal performances. 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 and Miss Brookover will communicate with the faculty or staff members to resolve the conflict.

Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:

Attendance at concerts and after school rehearsals are highly encouraged. Students will need to communicate with the teacher for all make up work if they are absent.

Tardy Policy:

1. Warning
2. Parent Phone Call
3. Teacher Detention
4. Office Referral

Classroom Expectations:

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

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.

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

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

Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

Introduction to sight reading, Aural Skills, Music Theory Basics, Fall Repertoire, Winter Repertoire, UIL Repertoire, Spring Repertoire.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty, includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.