2015/16 CHOIR HANDBOOK

HIGH SCHOOL

Elaine Wierman, Director



**NESS CITY HIGH SCHOOL**

**CHORAL HANDBOOK**

The purpose of this handbook is to provide important information about the Ness City High School Choral program. To consistently achieve and maintain the high standards desired by this organization, members should familiarize themselves with the policies, procedures, and expectations associated with being a member of the Eagle Choir.

It is hoped that this handbook will answer most questions about the program. Any questions not covered should be referred to the director.

**CONCERT CHOIR**

The concert choir is a performing ensemble made up of all students enrolled in the choir. The choir will perform at ball games, concerts, contests, and other public events.

The choir rehearses daily at its regularly scheduled hour. Sectional rehearsals may be called by the director and may be held before or after school if necessary. Every attempt will be made to keep before and after school rehearsals to a minimum.

**All students are required to perform at all performances. Work is not an excused absence.**

**GRADING POLICY**

Grades are earned--they are not given. This class is graded on an individual grades as well as a group grade. You will earn your grade as follows:

Class participation = 10 pts daily

Performances = 100 pts per concert/contest/half-time performances

= 25 pts per Star Spangled Banner performance

Common Core required materials, singing test, and other written materials = number of pointts possible as assigned by each task.

Contest Ratings as a Group = I rating = 90-100 pts.

II rating =80-90 pts.

III rating = 70-80 pts.

IV rating =60-70 pts.

Contest performance points are also based on individual performance and will be adjusted accordingly.

Class participation includes daily attendance, punctuality, behavior, attitude, preparation, and having all materials with you. This is comparable to class participation and daily assignments in other classes.

If you are ineligible for a performance you will receive a “0” for that performance. It is your job to keep your grades up in order to perform.

Performances are the culmination of the musical art, and are what we work for each and every day in this class, so it is extremely important that you make arrangements in your schedule to be present for all performances. A list of performances is attached to this handbook. These performances are considered to be unit and quarterly tests. In setting up concert dates, care has been taken to avoid any other school events. Students will not be excused from performances for jobs or other non school functions.

There will be recorded singing test and/or written exams at the end of each nine weeks and at the semester. Each student will be required to sing a song from the selections they are given. They may also be required to sight sing a selection chosen by the director. The director may also give quizzes at any given time during the year.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

**CHOIR MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND AND BE ON TIME FOR ALL REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES, WHETHER DURING SCHOOL OR NOT!!!!**

Tardy to rehearsals - Students must be in the music room when the bell rings. If tardy you will go to the office and pick up a tardy slip. Tardiness will result in a loss of points depending on how late and how often they occur.

Absence (excused and unexcused) - If you know you will be gone, please have the courtesy to let the director know. Students absent from class may want to consider make up time before or after school to off set “0” class participation grade for that day. Twenty minutes will take away the “0” for that day.

Unexcused absences for out of school day commitments will result in a “0” for the day and for a performance. **Work is not considered an excused absence from any performance.**

**USE AND CARE OF MUSIC**

Each choir member will receive a folder for music. Every folder should contain music for every piece of music that the choir is preparing. On occasion we may have to share a selected piece of music. Take care of your folder and music to keep them in the best possible condition. Do not draw on the music. Mark parts with pencil only. When you receive your music, please number all the measures for rehearsal. Choir music will be placed in the choir folder stand after every rehearsal.

**CONCERT DRESS**

Concert dress will be choir robes. The ladies will be required to wear a dress, and black shoes underneath the choir robe. The gentlemen will be required to wear slacks, black dress shoes, and a shirt and tie underneath their robes. Failure to wear required clothing will result in half credit for all performances not in uniform.

Each student will be assigned a robe and stole. They are to take care of them. If damage occurs they will be responsible for replacing them. Robes are not to go home for any reason.

**NCHS CHOIR LETTERING**

The NCHS Choir members will have to have 400 points to letter. In order to letter students must attend all performances and participate in a solo, ensemble, honor choirs, or community event. Just participating in required performances will not necessarily allow them to letter. Forms will be available to fill out for performances at events outside of school. Students must pick one up prior to the event, fill it out, and turn it in within a week of that performance in order to get credit and for that performances. Late papers will not be honored.

A copy of the lettering policy is enclosed in the hand book. I encourage students to keep track of their points and compare them with me at the end of the year.

**SOLO/CONTEST WORK**

There is not enough time to work on solos for contest during school hours. Solo work is extra credit. Students may work with me any time after school. A sign-up sheet will be posted in my room for practice time during contest season. Students may practice with me any time of the year, but you’ll need to make arrangements with me so I can make arrangements in my schedule.

**HS CHOIR SCHEDULE FOR 2015/16**

Dec. 1 Winter Concert (6:45 warm-up) 7:00 pm

Dec. 15 BB vs. Hodgeman County 5:45 pm

Jan. 6 BB vs. Ellis 5:45 pm

Jan. 8 BB vs. St. John 5:45 pm

Jan. 15 BB vs. Trego Comm. 5:45 pm

Feb. 2 BB vs. Hill City 5:45 pm

Feb. 12 BB vs. Otis/Bison 5:45 pm

Feb. 23 BB vs. Dighton 5:45 pm

March 8 CPL Music Festival @ Barton County TBA

April 2 Regional Solo/Ensemble TBA

April 23 State Solo/Ensemble TBA

May 2 Spring Concert (6:45 Tune) 7:00 pm

May 14 Graduation 3:00 pm

\*\*\***MOST PERFORMANCE DATES ARE ON THE CALANDER INCLUDING HOME BALLGAMES. THE DATES CAN BE ADDED TO OR CHANGED AT ANY TIME BY THE DIRECTOR.**

**NCHS CHOIR LETTERING**

**400 points to letter**

LARGE CHOIR

\_\_\_Performance in community by the choir 20 pts.\_\_\_\_\_

(Requires approval of teacher and principal)

\_\_\_Try out for District Choir 35 pts.\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_District Choir Concert 50 pts.\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_Tryout for State Honor Choir 35 pts.\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_All-State Honor Choir Concert 60 pts.\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_National Anthem at ball game (per game) 10 pts.\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_Choir Concert 30 pts.\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_Contest Rating League State

I = 100 I = 100 \_\_\_\_\_

II = 75 II = 75 \_\_\_\_\_

III = 50 III = 50 \_\_\_\_\_

IV = 25 IV = 25 \_\_\_\_\_

ENSEMBLES

\_\_\_Membership in small ensemble 20 pts.\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_Performance outside of school 20 pts.\_\_\_\_\_

(Requires approval of teacher and principal)

\_\_\_Participation at WKEA Music Contest 25 pts.\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_Contest Ratings Regional State

I = 150 I = 150 \_\_\_\_\_

II = 100 II = 100 \_\_\_\_\_

III = 50 III = 50 \_\_\_\_\_

IV = 25 IV = 25 \_\_\_\_\_

SOLOS

\_\_\_Participation at WKEA Music Contest 50 pts.\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_Contest Rating Regional State

I = 200 I = 200 \_\_\_\_\_

II = 150 II = 150 \_\_\_\_\_

III = 100 III = 100 \_\_\_\_\_

IV = 50 IV = 50 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_Performing for public gathering 25 pts.\_\_\_\_\_

Unexcused absence from a performance is a forfeiture of all semester points.

OUTSTANDING SENIOR CHOIR STUDENT

Given to a senior who is voted on by the membership of the choir.