

Jr. High Choir Syllabus

2025-2026

Mr. Nick Weber

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Remind: Add code on website or Text “@mschoir26” to 81010 for updates

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is an elective vocal music course for junior high school students desiring to perform. The goal of this course is to teach students to become better and more confident singers and to develop an appreciation for vocal music.

The objectives for the year are for each student to:

1. Demonstrate proper singing posture.
2. Demonstrate expanded rib cage breathing.
3. Demonstrate breath support.
4. Sustain vocal phrases.
5. Demonstrate correct tone production.
6. Demonstrate vertical vowel formation.
7. Sing diphthongs correctly.
8. Demonstrate correct diction and articulation of consonants.
9. Sight sing musical excerpts of beginning difficulty.
10. Dictate musical excerpts of beginning difficulty.
11. Sing degrees of the scale using solfege syllables.
12. Blend and balance with the choir when singing.
13. Demonstrate knowledge of musical terms and symbols
14. Listen analytically to yourself and critique your performance.

GRADING

Attendance, preparedness, class assignments and singing tests, make up your choir grade. The following components will determine a student's grade in Jr. High Choir:

1. Classroom Work (Theory/Musicals/History/Listening Assessment) – 15%

- a. This will consist of all the worksheets, papers and substitute work done throughout the semester.

2. Quiz (Singing Tests & Choir Folder) – 20%

- a. On sight-singing material and concert repertoire.
- b. Singing tests will be both announced and unannounced.
- c. Each student will participate in one unannounced quartet style singing test each semester.
- d. At the end of every 9 weeks your Choir Folder will be assessed to make sure it and its contents are being properly handled for a grade.

3. Choir Participation – 30%

- a. Includes positive attitude, behavior, following directions, being engaged in rehearsal, being prepared with your music, sight-singing material and a pencil.
- b. Unexcused absences will directly receive an F in participation for that day.
- c. Each time grades are due: Mid-Terms, 9-weeks and semester grades; I check attendance at that time for unexcused absences and excused absences so this grade can align properly. After I have submitted these grades, I CANNOT GO BACK AND SWITCH IT! That means you must stay on top of your excuse notes so the grade can be as accurate as possible.

4. Test (Concert attendance) – 35%

- a. ANY CONCERT ABSENCE will result in the concert grade of 0. If the absence is excused (which Mr. Weber will determine) a written note should be provided NO LATER than one week before the concert date. If excused, you may make up the 0 by following the procedure below.
- b. If your absence from a concert is excused, you must write a one-page paper about one of the composers being performed. Provide a biography of this composer, and any background information about the song, lyricist or arranger. You should also provide a description of the piece. What makes it challenging? Be specific. Full credit on this paper can equal half credit for concert participation.

JR HIGH CHOIR RULES

1. The Jr High Choir adheres to all rules in the WRHS Student Handbook.

2. Act in a manner that is beneficial to the group and does not hinder the choir from reaching its fullest potential. You are expected to conduct yourself as a role model.
3. Inappropriate language will not be tolerated.
4. Be prepared – have a pencil, music, and sight-singing materials for all rehearsals and performances.
5. Report any inability to sing, due to illness or injury, before class begins on that day. Your participation level for that day will then be determined by the teacher.
6. Do not talk when another section is rehearsing.
7. Follow directions promptly when given.
8. No food, gum, or drink is permitted, except for water bottles.
9. Teacher's office, desk, computer and phone are off limits for students
10. Every member of our choir ensemble will be treated with respect. No bullying will be tolerated.

CONCERT ATTIRE

1. For most of our performances we will wear our Walnut Ridge Choir T-Shirts with non-holed jeans. Concert attire should also respect the dress code, which can be found in the Walnut Ridge Handbook.
2. The Christmas Concert is the only concert where we will wear something festive and nice. No holes, sports headbands or shorts will be allowed.

CONSEQUENCES

Any member of this ensemble not following the policies will be docked points from their daily participation and is subject to the following:

- 1) Warning
- 2) Parental notification and lunch detention
- 3) Parent Conference requested and lunch detention
- 4) Administrative Referral

JR HIGH CHOIR PERFORMANCES

***Jr High All Region Auditions: Saturday, October 18th @Nettleton High School**

Region 1 Jr High All Region Clinic: Saturday, October 31st @Fowler Center on Arkansas State
University campus

Capitol Trip/Performance in December: TBD (We find out in October) in Little Rock, AR

***Winter Concert: Monday, Dec. 8th @6pm in the Community Center**

Nursing Home Visits: TBD

***Spring Concert: Monday, April 27th @6pm in the Community Center**

****REQUIRED PERFORMANCE FOR ALL JR HIGH CHOIR STUDENTS***

Through the signatures below, you acknowledge that you have read, understand, and support the rules and policies set forth in the Jr. High Choir Syllabus.

Students Signature & Date	
Parent Signature & Date	