

# Sr. High Choir Syllabus

2025-2026

Mr. Nick Weber

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Remind: Add code on website or Text “@wrchoir26” 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 Sr. High Choir:

**1. Classroom Work (Theory/Musicals/History/Listening Assessment) – 10%**

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

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

- a. Sight-singing material and concert repertoire.
- b. Singing quizzes will be both announced and unannounced.
- c. 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.

**4. Test (Performance/Concert) – 40%**

- a. ANY PERFORMANCE OR CONCERT ABSENCE will result in a Zero (0). If the absence is excused (refer to Choir Attendance), you may partially make up the 0 by writing a one-page, front side only, single-spaced, 12 sized, Time New Roman font 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 describe the piece: How does it make you feel? What makes it challenging? What makes it easy? Be specific. Full credit on this paper can equal up to half credit for that concert/performance grade.
- b. This paper is due at the end of the 4th day after the assigned Test (Performance/Concert). After that day Mr. Weber will not remind or give ANY credit towards this grade.

**\*ALL CONCERTS ARE WORTH 100 Points Each**

## **SR HIGH CHOIR RULES**

- 1. The Walnut Ridge Choir adheres to all rules in the WRHS Student Handbook.

2. All members will act beneficial to the group and not hinder the choir from reaching its full 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. Instead of talking when another section is rehearsing, we want you to be studying your part quietly. This way you are ready when I call your section up. Please do not get up from your chair to go talk or sing with others across the room.
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 the Jonesboro Concert, Nursing Home visits, & Spring Concert we will wear our Walnut Ridge Choir T-Shirts with non-hole jeans. Concert attire should always respect the dress code, which can be found in the Walnut Ridge Handbook.
2. For the Christmas Concert, Kiwanis Luncheon & Capital visit we will wear something festive and nice. No holes, sports headbands or shorts will be allowed.
3. For the Night on Broadway we want to encourage those whose solos make it to the concert to dress as their character. This, of course, lines up with what a Broadway performance is: singing AND acting. The rest of us can wear black on black
4. For the Baccalaureate service we will dress nicely. Again, 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

## **CHOIR EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES**

### **The National Anthem**

As many of you are aware, *The Star-Spangled Banner* is either played or sung before each sporting event. If you would like to sing The National Anthem by yourself or with a small group before a sporting event, please talk with Mr. Weber.

### **Nursing Home**

The Sr. High Choir will usually visit the Nursing Home in Walnut Ridge a couple of times during the school year in hopes of providing entertainment for those who can't get out much anymore. These dates and performances are TBD.

### **Choir Council**

The Choir Counsel is a leadership team of 5 students elected by the choirs. Elections are held right before graduation, at the end of the year. Students will give a speech to the whole choir and Mr. Weber. The choir will then vote for each position. The council will consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian. If you would like to run for a position, you must have at least 1 year of choir under your belt and sign-up on the sign-up sheet.

### **Fundraising**

We hold a couple of fundraisers each year to make sure that we can attend all the events at a free or reduced cost. We will start the year off with a sponsorship fundraiser, sell concessions at our concerts, a community wide fundraiser at the end of February/beginning of March, and then we host a Talent Show right before Spring Break. We expect 100% participation for each fundraiser so we can improve the choir program and continue to give students experiences they can't get elsewhere.

### **Spring Musical Trip**

Every year we see a musical together as a group. The exact musical and date are still TBD, but we will plan for a Friday evening dinner & see the musical. We typically won't get back until around midnight. Money fundraised throughout the year can go towards the cost of this trip, but the rest is on the student.

## **SR HIGH PERFORMANCES**

**\*Sr High Choir Performance: Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup> @Jonesboro High School**

**\*Sr High All Region Auditions: Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> @Jonesboro High School**

Region 1 Sr High All Region Clinic: Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>  
@Fowler Center on Arkansas State University campus

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

**\*Winter Concert: Monday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> @6pm in the Community Center**

Kiwanis Luncheon: TBD in the High School Library

**\*Night on Broadway: Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> @6pm in the Community Center**

All-State Auditions: Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup> @University of Central Arkansas

All-State Clinic: February 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> @Hot Springs Convention Center

**\*Region 1 Solo & Ensemble: Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> @Greene County Tech High School**

Nursing Home Visits: TBD

**\*WBU Spring Concert Appearance: TBD**

**\*Spring Concert: Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> @6pm in the Community Center**

**\*Baccalaureate Service: Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup> @7pm  
at Manley Chapel on Williams Baptist University campus**

***\*REQUIRED PERFORMANCE FOR ALL SR HIGH CHOIR STUDENTS***

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

Students Signature & Date	
Parent Signature & Date	