



# School District of Marshfield

## Course Syllabus

Course Name: 8th Grade Chorus

Length of Course: Year

Credits: 1 Credit

### Course Description:

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus is a training choir. It is a mixed ensemble, which meets every day during the school year. Students will perform music for four concerts, and optional activity in solo & ensemble festival. Three of the four concerts are presented at the high school preceding the high school choir concert.

Prerequisites: None

### Learning Targets:

After completing this course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to follow a choral score (octavo)
- Demonstrate an open, resonant, full tone in most registers and ranges.
- Demonstrate improved breath support.
- Demonstrate accurate intonation in all ranges and registers. Pitch adjustments are made with help from director.
- Demonstrate accuracy with notes, rhythms, and text.
- Demonstrate consistently appropriate posture (seated or standing)
- Demonstrate high level of expression with accurate style elements, interpretation, phrasing, dynamics and tempo.
- Demonstrate the ability to watch and respond to the director throughout the performance.
- Demonstrate that they understand and can implement the importance of: respect for others and rules; being prepared for class and performances; being an active participant in rehearsals and performances; seeking improvement through independent practice.
- Demonstrate their ability to dress, carry themselves, and perform in a precise and deliberate manner

## Topic Outline:

### First Quarter

1. Fall Concert (Weeks 1-9)
    - A. Concert Music
      - a. Music appropriate to student performance level at this time.
      - b. Discuss literature (text) and composers/arrangers
    - B. Concert Performance
      - a. Perform concert
      - b. Discuss performance
  2. Sight-reading (Weeks 1-9)
    - A. Level 1
      - a. Keys of C Major and a minor
      - b. Solfege ( Do, Re, Mi, etc.)
      - c. 4/4, 2/4, 3/4 (Quarter notes only)
      - d. Treble Clef
- Formative Assessments:
    - Daily rehearsal (constant correction, making students aware of their strengths and weaknesses. Daily sight-reading exercises.
  - Summative Assessments:
    - Fall Concert- Group assessment using WSMA rubric.
  - Progressive group assessment (mid-term) using WSMA rubric.

### Second Quarter

1. Winter Concert (Weeks 1-7)
  - A. Concert Music
    - a. Seasonal music
    - b. Discuss literature (text) and composers/arrangers
  - B. Concert Performance
    - a. Perform concert
    - b. Discuss performance
2. II. "Pops"/"Variety Show" (Weeks 8-9)
  - A. Concert Music
    - a. Popular and Broadway music
    - b. Discuss literature (text) and composers/arrangers
  - B. Variety
    - a. Possible solos
    - b. Comedy
3. IV. Solo and Ensemble (Weeks 5-9)
  - A. Selection of solos and small ensemble music.
    - a. Music appropriate to the individual musician.
    - b. Recordings and You tube performances

#### 4. V. Sight-reading, Weeks 1-9

- A. Level 1
  - a. Keys of C Major and a minor
  - b. Solfege
  - c. 4/4, 2/4, 3/4
  - d. Treble Clef
- Formative Assessments:
  - Daily rehearsal (constant correction, making students aware of their strengths and weaknesses. Daily sight-reading exercises.
- Summative Assessments:
  - Winter Concert- Group assessment using WSMA rubric.
  - Progressive group assessment (mid-term) using WSMA rubric.
  - Individual Sight-reading assessment.

### Third Quarter

1. "Pops"/"Variety Show" (Weeks 1-8)
  - A. Concert Music
    1. Popular and Broadway music
    2. Discuss literature (text) and composers/arrangers
  - B. Variety
    1. Possible solos
    2. Comedy
  - C. Concert Performance
    1. Perform concert
    2. Discuss performance
2. II. District Solo and Ensemble (Weeks 1-7)
  - A. Solo Literature Preparation
    1. Independent practice
    2. Work with accompanist
  - B. Solo Literature Performance
    1. Performance for WSMA accredited adjudicator and audience of adults and peers for written and verbal critique using WSMA rubric.
  - C. Small Ensemble Literature Preparation
    1. Work with accompanist if part of ensemble
    2. Independent practice alone and with the ensemble
    3. Lessons pertaining to ensemble literature
  - D. Small Ensemble Literature Performance
    1. Performance for WSMA accredited adjudicator and audience of adults and peers for written and verbal critique using WSMA rubric.
3. III. Spring Concert (Weeks 8 & 9)
  - A. Concert Music

1. Prepare college level choral music.
  2. Discuss literature and composers
4. IV. Sight-reading (Weeks 1-9)
- A. Level 3
    1. Keys of C Major and a minor
    2. Solfege
    3. 4/4, 2/4, 3/4, 6/8
    4. Treble Clef
- Formative Assessments:
    - Daily rehearsal (constant correction, making students aware of their strengths and weaknesses). Daily sight-reading exercises.
  - Summative Assessments:
    - "Pops"/"Variety" Show (Performed at Middle School)
    - Individual Sight-reading assessment

#### Fourth Quarter

1. Spring Concert (Weeks 1-7)
  - A. Concert Music
    - a. Final preparations for concert
    - b. Lessons pertaining to concert music
  - B. Concert Performance
    - a. Perform concert
    - b. Discuss performance
2. II. Sight-reading (Weeks 1-9)
  - A. Level 3
    - a. Keys of C Major and a minor
    - b. Solfege
    - c. 4/4, 2/4, 3/4, 6/8
    - d. Treble Clef
  - Formative Assessments:
    - Daily rehearsal (constant correction, making students aware of their strengths and weaknesses. Daily sight-reading exercises.
  - Summative Assessments:
    - Spring Concert
    - Individual Sight-reading assessment

Required Core Resources:

A. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

- a. Music Library – Choir Music (octavos) Unison, SA, SAB
- b. Phelps Sight-reading

B. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

- C. Music Library – Choir Music (octavos) Classical, Seasonal, Popular
- D. Phelps Sight-reading
- E. Music Library- Solo-Ensemble Music

F. 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

- a. Music Library – Choir Music (octavos) Classical, Broadway and “pop”
- b. Phelps Sight-reading
- c. Music Library- Solo-Ensemble Music

G. 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

- a. Music Library – Choir Music (octavos) Classical, Folk
- b. Phelps Sight-reading
- c. Music Library- Solo-Ensemble Music

H. Additional Materials:

- a. Transportation outreach concerts.
- b. Possible Guest Artist
- c. Materials and supplies for Concerts
- d. WSMA registration
- e. District Solo & Ensemble Entry Fees
- f. Solo & Ensemble Ribbons