

WESTLAND HIGH SCHOOL VOCAL MUSIC  
**CHORALE, SYMPHONIC and CONCERT CHOIR GRADING POLICY**

Grades will be divided into three categories:

<b>Rehearsal Attendance &amp; Participation</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Performance Attendance &amp; Behavior</b>	<b>35%</b>
<b>Musicianship</b>	<b>25%</b>

### **Rehearsal Attendance & Participation - 40%**

You will begin each week with 10 points for rehearsal attendance and behavior.

#### **A student who keeps all/most of their points:**

- Is never or rarely tardy and is always seated when class begins
- Participates fully and attentively during warm-up
- Is actively involved in rehearsal the vast majority of time
- Displays correct posture at all times while singing
- Eliminates distractions while we are rehearsing (cell phone, talking too much, etc.)

#### **A student can lose points by:**

- Being on their phone
- Being tardy more than once
- Failing to take warm-ups seriously
- Talking while someone else is talking
- Allowing distractions to get the best of them in class
- Not participating in rehearsal
- Frequently not being prepared with their folder and a pencil
- Having an unexcused absence

#### Mandatory Extra Rehearsal Attendance Policy

Extra rehearsals might be necessary for various performances and may be called outside the school day. You will be given plenty of notice for these types of rehearsals. These rehearsals are mandatory, and will count towards your overall rehearsal participation and attendance grade. If a student has a conflict due to a SWCS sponsored extra-curricular activity (meeting, practice, rehearsal, performance, game, tournament, etc.), the student and director will follow SWCS policies in regard to this kind of conflict (see below).

### **Performance Attendance & Behavior - 35%**

**It is mandatory and a major portion of your grade to attend ALL performances.** According to the SWCS District Course of Study, all vocal music courses are performance-based. Performances are the culmination of all of the hard work everyone has put into the group, and they are extremely important.

CONCERT CONFLICTS – ***All conflicts must be submitted using the ONLINE “Excused Absence Request Form” no less than 2 weeks before the concert/event date.*** Please plan ahead when it comes to getting a ride to and from the concerts and calling off of work for concert dates. Students are welcome to stay after school the day of a concert. **Absences caused by not having a ride to the concert and/or having to work are NOT excused, and a make-up assignment WILL NOT be given.** It is the student’s responsibility to notify their place of employment about extra rehearsals and performance dates. You should submit a copy of the performance schedule along with rehearsal dates to your employer at the beginning of the school year. Again, Absences caused by not having a ride to the concert and/or having to work are NOT excused, and a make-up assignment WILL NOT be given

EXCUSED ABSENCES FROM A CONCERT - If the conflict is deemed excused by the director, the students will be required to complete a concert make-up assignment before the end of the nine weeks. It is the STUDENT'S responsibility to get the concert make-up assignment from the director and complete it on time. No make up assignments will be accepted late. If a performance is missed for a sudden, unexpected emergency (i.e. death in the family) the student must present a note from his/her parent/guardian the day they return to school. If the absence is deemed excused by the director, a make-up assignment will be required to receive the full amount of points.

SWCS EVENT CONFLICTS - Students are still required to notify the director 2 weeks before a concert if there is a scheduling conflict between choir and another SWCS sanctioned event (practice, rehearsal, game, performance, etc.). Most of the time arrangements can be made for the student to participate in both activities. If not, SWCS policy states that a performance (or games) takes priority over a rehearsal (or a practice). District/state contest (or District/State level tournaments/games) take priority over regular performances (or games). If the two events are on the same level and an arrangement to do both activities cannot be made, the student may choose which activity they participate in *without any grade or participation penalties from either activity*.

## **Musicianship - 25%**

You will be asked to show that you know and understand your voice part, solfege, and music theory using:

**Music Checks** - Checking all solfege and/or written markings in your music

**Music Theory Assignments** - Mastery and/or progress on the online theory program

**Sight-Reading Assessments** - In-person and/or on SRF

**Rhythm Assessments** - Show mastery at your choir level

**Small Group Part Checks** - Performing a section of a piece in groups of 1-3 on a part (quartets, octets, etc)

**Concert Evaluations** - critical analysis and reflection after each concert