

**WESTLAND HIGH SCHOOL VOCAL MUSIC  
CHORALE & SYMPHONIC CHOIR GRADING POLICY**

Grades will be divided into three categories:

|                                                 |            |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Rehearsal Attendance &amp; Participation</b> | <b>30%</b> |
| <b>Assessments &amp; Part Checks</b>            | <b>40%</b> |
| <b>Performance Attendance &amp; Behavior</b>    | <b>30%</b> |

**Rehearsal Attendance & Participation - 30%**

You will begin 24 points a week for this category. We will use the rubric/point system below.

|                      | 4 points                                                                           | 3 points                                                                                           | 2 points                                                                                                                      | 1 point                                                                            | 0 points                                                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Timeliness</b>    | The student is always on time (never tardy) and almost never absent                | The student is usually on time and rarely absent                                                   | The student is tardy to class at least 1-2 times per week and has a few absences                                              | The student is usually tardy and is absent often                                   | The student is always tardy or missing class altogether               |
| <b>Tardies</b>       | The student was not tardy this week                                                | The student was tardy once this week                                                               | The student was tardy more than once this week                                                                                | The student was tardy most days                                                    | The student was tardy every day                                       |
| <b>Attentiveness</b> | The student pays attention and never waivers from rehearsal                        | The student is usually attentive, but sometimes needs a reminder to listen or put their phone away | The student often needs reminders to pay attention, put their phone away, stop talking, participate and/or follow class rules | The student is off task and/or on their phones most of the time.                   | The student is a detriment to the learning of others                  |
| <b>Behavior</b>      | The student exhibits exceptional behavior, providing a model for others            | The student is well behaved in class and does not disrupt class.                                   | The student often disrupts rehearsals                                                                                         | The student disrupts rehearsal and has a negative effect on the learning of others | There has been little or no attempt to do what is asked of them.      |
| <b>Effort</b>        | The student shows a continuous effort to master the concepts covered               | The student works consistently to achieve course goals                                             | The students often fails to show effort in class.                                                                             | The students show very little initiative or effort in class.                       | The student has made no attempt to do what is asked of them.          |
| <b>Preparedness</b>  | The student always has music and a pencil and is ready by the time the bell rings. | The student sometimes forgets to get their music and a pencil before the bell rings.               | The student often forgets to get their music and a pencil before class begins.                                                | The student rarely has music or a pencil.                                          | The student does not make an effort to have what they need for class. |

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).

## Assessments - 40%

Assessments will be given in the following forms:

**Practice Charts (CHORALE ONLY)** - Due on Friday of every week

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

**Sight-singing Test** - Hearing students perform a short sight-reading example

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

**Individual Part Checks** - Student perform a short section individually

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

## Performance Attendance & Behavior - 30%

**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 new 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 performances (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.*