

# Central Bucks East High School Choir

Director Chris Villante  
Email: cvillante@cbsd.org

## REHEARSAL PROCEDURE

1. Be in the choir room before the late bell rings. Sit in your assigned seat ASAP. Please get music folders before the warm-up.
2. If you have a sore throat or other legitimate ailment, inform the director before the rehearsal begins. You are still responsible for following your music.
3. Always listen and watch for directions.
4. Use warm-ups seriously to develop your voice and to prepare mentally and physically for singing.
5. Maintain proper posture at all times.
6. Instead of talking during rehearsals, follow other parts or memorize your own part.
7. Food and gum are not permitted during rehearsal. Water is the only drink permitted. If you need something for a sore throat, refer to #2.
8. You may not do homework in choir class, nor may you be excused to do work for another class unless you have a pass from that teacher and the director agrees that you can be spared from the rehearsal.
9. Ask for a pass only when it is essential. Sign out and take the pass with you. **Limit yourself to three (3) passes per month. Abuse of the bathroom pass will result in suspension of its privileges.**
10. Take good care of the music and folders. Put them back in their proper places after rehearsal. Do not fold or roll music. Excessive abuse of music will result in an obligation to replace the damaged piece.

## Choir Grading Procedures

- **Performance Assessments (70% of overall grade):** Evaluations are focused on the ability of the student to perform vocally as an individual or part of an ensemble. Examples include but are not limited to vocal tests, evening rehearsals, written assignments and assessments, critiques, analysis etc.
- **Preparation Assessments (20% of overall grade):** Evaluations are focused on practice techniques and the preparatory processes leading to superior vocal music. Examples include but are not limited to solfege assignments, music literacy assignments, vocal testing preparation assignments etc.
- **Rehearsal discipline and technique (10% of overall grade):** Evaluation pertains to the regular rehearsal contributions made by each student. These areas will be assessed using a standard rubric distributed at the outset of the class and evaluated biweekly throughout the year. Evaluations will focus on posture, demonstrations of vocal technique, mouth shape, placement of vocal resonances, utilizations of the vocal instrument for diction etc.

## Attendance at Important Out-of-Class Events

*Concert performances, adjudications and dress rehearsals are a critical part of the learning process, and it is impossible to replicate such experiential learning. Failure to attend an event without receiving prior approval is unacceptable. Sickness must be verified by a doctor's note. Family emergencies are understandable, but final approval is determined by the director and, when necessary, the administration. Employment is never an excuse. Athletic conflicts are always worked out between the director, coach and/or athletic director.*

**Any unexcused absences from a performance will result in a deduction of 10% from the final marking period average. Any unexcused absences from an evening rehearsal or similar event will result in a deduction of 5% from the final marking period average.**

### **Excused Rehearsal Absence**

An individual make-up rehearsal **must be completed within two days of the missed rehearsal**. Make-ups done after this time period will result in a drop of 5% per day late. These make ups will be recorded and submitted to the director online. The file must be saved as the student's name and the date of the missed rehearsal (i.e. LastFirstName.mp3). If a student is unable to submit a recording online they may make up their rehearsal during lunch or after school in the choir practice room.

### Concert Attire

Students will wear formal concert black and white. To simplify the matter for parents, we will work with a school concert attire company who can provide the basic needs of our uniform at a reasonable cost and minimal effort on the part of the parents.

**Boys:** All boys will wear a white tuxedo shirt (with pleated front and winged collar) and a uniform blue bow tie. Measurements for shirts will be taken in school to avoid inaccurate sizing. It is *not* necessary to wear cuff links or studs with the tuxedo shirt. Boys are expected to wear a pair of black dress pants with black socks and black dress shoes. Sneakers are not acceptable.

**Girls:** All girls will wear a uniform black dress. Measurements will be taken in school to avoid inaccurate sizing, and dresses will arrive in time to allow for alterations that may need to be made. Closed-toe black dress shoes should be worn; flip-flops and sandals are not acceptable.

**Boys and Girls:** Hair must be worn back to allow the face to be clearly seen. This is a performance issue as well as an aesthetic issue. Jewelry, especially earrings, should be minimal in size and not detract from the uniformity of the ensemble.

### Choir Calendar

*The following are all mandatory rehearsals and performances for choir members*

Monday, September 23	7:00 – 8:30pm Sophomores Only in the Choir Room
Monday, October 7	7:00 – 8:30pm All Choir Members in the Auditorium
Monday, October 21	7:00 – 8:30pm Men Only in the Choir Room
Monday, November 11	7:00 – 8:30pm All Choir Members in the Auditorium
Monday, December 9	7:00 – 8:30pm All Choir Members in the Auditorium
Monday, December 16	7:00 – 8:30pm All Choir Members in the Auditorium
Wednesday, December 18	<b>7:30pm Choir Concert</b>
Monday, February 24	7:00 – 8:30pm 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Members in the Auditorium
Tuesday, February 25	5:00pm 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Members Report for Bus for North Penn Adjudication
Monday, March 17	7:00 – 8:30pm All <b>Tour Choir</b> in Auditorium <b>WITH PARENTS</b>
Thursday March 20- Sunday March 23	Choir Tour to Boston
Monday, May 5	7:00 – 8:30pm All Choir Members in the Auditorium
Monday, May 12	7:00 – 8:30pm All Choir Members in the Auditorium
Wednesday, May 14	<b>7:30pm Choir Concert</b>
Thursday, June 12	12:00pm Graduation All Choir Members (Tentative Date)

Any additional dates such as due dates for assignments, tour payments, and Choir Parent Organization (CPO) meetings, can be found online on the choir calendar via Edmodo.com

## Central Bucks East Choir Excuse Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Rehearsal Missed: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Excuse for Missing Rehearsal**

Please check one of the following:

☐ Illness      ☐ School Sponsored Event ☐ Absent      ☐ Family Emergency

Please explain below:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

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Parent Signature

## Choir Family Commitment Form

Please review the calendar provided above. Students are required to sign and return this form by September 13, 2013. The purpose of this form is to ensure that parents are aware of the performance expectations and classroom procedures, and to allow families an opportunity to inform the director as soon as possible of any anticipated conflicts.

Known conflicts:

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Also, please take this opportunity to consider attending a Choir Parent Organization (CPO) meeting. **Below are the meeting dates for this year. All meetings are held in the choir room at 7:00 PM.**

October 2<sup>nd</sup>

November 7<sup>th</sup>

January 7<sup>th</sup>

February 3<sup>rd</sup>

May 8<sup>th</sup>

**We have reviewed the class policies, attendance expectations and calendar. We will adhere to the expectations and we understand the consequences for students failing to participate.**

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Student Signature and Date  
and Date

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Parent Signature