

**Center Hill High School
Choral Department**

**Syllabus and Policy Handbook
2018-2019**



**The Center Hill High School Choral Music Department
Catherine Feazell, Director
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Olive Branch, MS 38654**

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Student Name: _____
Choir Name: _____

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CENTER HILL HIGH SCHOOL

CHORAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

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August 6, 2018

Dear Chorus Member and Family,

Welcome back to another school year! I am delighted you have chosen to be a part of the choral music program at Center Hill High School. I am looking forward to a year of successful music-making.

This handbook provides important information about the choral department. All of the rules and policies are covered so you will know exactly what to expect in the year ahead. I encourage you to review the handbook in its entirety. Being part of the chorus is both a responsibility and a privilege, and it is important that each member knows what is expected of him/her.

Because chorus is an elective that requires extra responsibilities and commitments from students and parents, I have included a contract. This contract, when signed by you, indicates that you have read the policies of the chorus and agree to abide by them. You also agree to honor the dates listed on the calendar. Return this signed contract as soon as possible, along with the \$20 activity fee for the course. The chorus contract also contains a link to the student information form, which will be completed electronically.

The chorus uses several forms of communication to keep parents and students informed. This printed handbook serves as the official document for all chorus policies. Printed letters are sent home to prior to major events. The director also sends out a monthly parent email, which reminds parents of events and will also contain any changes to dates. Additionally, the chorus uses a group text messaging service called Remind. This service is designed specifically for use in schools, and the director will use it to send courtesy reminders of deadlines and events. Students are strongly encouraged to enroll in the system, and parents are welcome to participate as well. The system is ideal for our organization because no phone numbers are shared in the sending and receiving of text messages. The code to enroll is listed on the chorus contract. Twitter updates are also available by following @CHChorus. Instagram updates are available at Chchoirs. *The handbook, printed calendar and letters, and monthly parent emails serve as official chorus communication. Remind, Twitter, and Instagram are simply tools for providing courtesy reminders.*

Parents, your help and support are invaluable to the success of our choral program. I hope you will review the parent volunteer section of the online information form and indicate where you can help. There are numerous ways your skills can be used to help the choral department.

It is my goal to provide each member of the chorus the opportunity to develop their vocal and musical abilities to their fullest potential. Please feel free to communicate with me at any time. The fastest, easiest way to reach me is through email, and you may also call the school at any time. Also, I encourage you to check our website, www.centerhillchoirs.com, frequently for news and announcements. Again, welcome back! An exciting year lies ahead.

My Best,
Catherine Feazell

COURSE OBJECTIVES

National Standards:

The National Association for Music Education gives nine standards for music education, all of which are fulfilled through participation in choral music:

1. Singing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
2. Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
3. Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments.
4. Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.
5. Reading and notating music.
6. Listening to, analyzing, and describing music.
7. Evaluating music and music performances.
8. Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.
9. Understanding music in relation to history and culture.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Center Hill High School Choral Music Department is to provide a comprehensive choral music education to students of all musical backgrounds from grades 9-12. Through the selection of diverse and quality choral literature, singers learn the foundations of vocal production, music theory, music history, ensemble contribution, and proper choral singing techniques. The program aims to produce lifelong, independent musicians who have developed an appreciation for and love of the choral art.

Benefits of Participation in the Arts:

- **Success in society**
 - The arts broaden students understanding of other cultures and the world around them.
 - Development of interpersonal intelligence; ability to work together in groups toward common goals and establish positive relationships with others.
- **Success in school and learning**
 - Numerous studies show relationships between the study of music and higher ACT scores and test scores in other academic areas.
 - Many colleges view participation in the arts as a valuable experience. Admissions departments often favor students with extracurricular involvement.
- **Success in developing intelligence**
 - Development of creative thinking and problem solving skills.
- **Success in life**
 - Performance experience teaches students to overcome anxiety and take risks. Students learn valuable skills in poise, composure, and presentation.
 - Experience in working toward long term goals.

ENSEMBLE DESCRIPTIONS AND ELIGIBILITY

Ensemble Descriptions:

Select Women (fall and spring semester) is an upper level choral ensemble with membership by audition only. Prerequisites include previous choral experience and music-reading ability. Emphasis is placed on continuing vocal development and fostering independent musicianship skills. This advanced ensemble represents Center Hill at numerous contests and festivals. All students in this ensemble are required to be enrolled in chorus for two semesters.

Concert Choir (fall and spring semester) is an upper level mixed choral ensemble with membership by audition only. Prerequisites include previous choral experience and music-reading ability. Emphasis is placed on continuing vocal development and fostering independent musicianship skills. This advanced ensemble represents Center Hill at numerous contests and festivals. All students in this ensemble are required to be enrolled in chorus for two semesters, unless pre-excused by the director. Students will only be excused from the second semester to participate in another school sponsored sport or activity, such as band or a sport. This ensemble may be split into two different gender-based ensembles in the spring.

Chorale (fall semester) is a developmental level choral ensemble with emphasis on building basic vocal technique and music reading skills. This group is open to any student who wishes to sing. Attendance at the fall and holiday choral concerts is a required component of this performing arts course.

Sextet (females) and Quartet (Males) (after school – all year) are auditioned small ensembles for the most accomplished singers in the choral program. These ensembles rehearse after school and perform at concerts as well as district and state choral festival. Members are expected to be available for additional performances throughout the school year.

Note: Any student enrolled in an auditioned choir for two semesters will receive a PE credit for their second semester of participation.

Eligibility Requirements (from the Mississippi High School Activities Association):

To be eligible for high school activities, the high school student must have passed the four core courses (English, math, science, and social studies) with a 2.0 average for the preceding semester (computed numerically or by GPA). The year-end average for the spring semester will be used to compute averages for the fall semester. Student must be on track to be promoted in order to be eligible.

Auditions

Placement into choral ensembles occurs through an audition process in the spring of each year.

Placement into a choral ensemble is determined through equal consideration of both musical (vocal technique, vocal tone, aural skills, music reading ability, etc.) and non-musical (responsibility, attitude, dedication, academic performance, etc.) attributes. The goal of the audition process is to place each singer in the ensemble that will best allow them to grow as a musician.

Academic Responsibilities:

In addition to the eligibility requirements listed above, singers are expected to maintain high academic standards. Any student with a failing grade in any of their courses may not be allowed to participate in off-campus travel with the chorus. Academic standing is also a determinant in ensemble placement during the audition process.

Behavior Responsibilities:

As a member of a team, each action of the individual affects the group as a whole. Students are expected to model good conduct in their other academic classes and activities as students. Any student of an advanced ensemble who fails to do so may find themselves in a lower level ensemble the following year. Students with disciplinary issues may be banned from participating in extra opportunities such as honor choirs.

UNIFORMS AND COURSE MATERIALS

Course Materials:

- \$20 activity fee
- Pencils
- A black binder is provided to each student as part of their activity fee. Students are responsible for the care and maintenance of this binder.
- Please see p. 14 of the handbook for additional financial obligation for members of auditioned choirs (Select Women and Concert Choir)

Music Costs

Students will be issued music throughout the school year, and it is the property of the CHHS Choral Department. Music packets for All-State Honor Choir, Delta State Honor Choir, or District II Honor Choir may also be purchased at the rate the Chorus Department purchases them. Students will be required to pay for any lost music. Students may mark in the music using pencil only. If a student wishes to use a highlighter to mark in their music, or marks in pen, they must purchase it.

Uniform Requirements

Select Women and Concert Choir:

Members of Select Women and Concert Choir are required to purchase a formal uniform if they do not already own one. The exact cost of the uniform will be sent home in August.

All women will need to hem their dresses upon arrival. ***Dress hems should be short enough so the garment does not touch the floor, but long enough where it covers the majority of the shoe.***

All members are also required to purchase a t-shirt for informal performances.

Shoes:

Gentlemen must wear solid black *dress* shoes.

Ladies must wear solid black, *closed toe* shoes. Shoes must either be flat (highly recommended), or have a heel no higher than 1.5 inches.

Mustang Chorale:

All members are required to have a **solid** black shirt and solid black pants or skirt (below knee level). If a dress is worn, it must be in accordance with CHHS dress code.

Students are fully responsible for their own concert attire, and proper attire is a factor in concert grading. If a student is having difficulty obtaining proper attire, they are welcome to speak with the director no later than *two weeks prior to the concert*, and she will be happy to assist.

Grooming requirements (for all ensembles):

- 1) Hair must be pulled back away from the face. Hair color and style must be natural-looking and not a distraction to the audience (as determined by the director).
- 2) Jewelry must not be worn during performance. The only exception is a single stud in the earlobe.
- 3) No visible tattoos.
- 4) No piercings including studs or rings in the ear, nose, eyebrow, or tongue. The only exception is a single stud in the earlobe.

Students will not be allowed to perform without the proper uniform.

CHORUS ROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. Be Respectful

- Treat others with courtesy and kindness at all times.
- Show interest in your fellow singers. One person alone does not make a chorus.
- Refrain from disruptive talking and all gum chewing during rehearsal.
- Discipline yourself so others don't have to discipline you.

2. Be Positive

- If you think you can, you can. If you think you can't, you can't.
- Leave your troubles at the door. Nothing productive can be done to solve personal problems during rehearsal.
- Your attitude affects the success of the entire ensemble.

3. Be Prepared

- Have your folder and pencil in hand and be in your seat when the bell rings.

4. Be a Positive Contributor

- Be eager and willing to learn.
- The most successful people in life never settle. Strive to make each rehearsal better than the last.

The above expectations translate into the following specific daily behaviors:

1. In seat when bell rings
2. Maintains good alignment while singing
3. Participates during rehearsal
4. Refrains from gum chewing and eating (water is allowed and encouraged)
5. Has music folder
6. Has pencil
7. Remains quiet while other parts are rehearsing
8. Shows respect for self and others

CONSEQUENCES

- Items 1, 2, 3, and 4 are tied directly into the student's participation grade. Students will lose 10 points from their daily grade following a first offense of these behaviors. After the second warning in a week, students may be issued a writing detention.
- Items 5 and 6 are tied directly into the student's organizational grade. Students will lose points from their weekly organizational grade (20 points) if they fail to come prepared. After the second warning in a week, student may be issued a writing detention.
- Items 7 and 8 relate to conduct in the choral classroom. Take home writing detentions or break detention will be issued or a teacher student conference scheduled if students fail to abide by these rules, after being issued a warning.
- Failure to complete take home detentions will result in students either having the writing assignment doubled.
- **If these actions fail to correct student behavior, parents will be called. If this action fails to correct student behavior, an office referral will be written.**
- **The director reserves the right to bypass any of these steps in the event of severe rules violations.**

REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS AND CLASSROOM GUIDELINES

Our class is unique in the sense that the success of the group is dependent on each individual person. It takes everyone working together to make rehearsal the enjoyable environment it is capable of being. The guidelines below will guide in an understanding of the behaviors necessary for a productive rehearsal environment.

1. Singers are expected to treat the conductor/teacher and each other with utmost respect. Singing is a very personal and often vulnerable activity. Be supportive of your fellow singers. You are working with them, not against them.
2. Singers are expected to remain actively engaged in the rehearsal at all times. There is always room for improvement in individual performance. Hard work is expected. It is not optional. If the conductor is not working with your part, it is still your responsibility to be following along with your score.
3. Class starts with the bell. Students who are not in their assigned seat with folder, music, and pencil will automatically lose points from their daily participation grade. The school's tardy policy will be enforced at all times. It is the student's responsibility to have music in rehearsal order before the bell rings. Additionally, for safety reasons, all personal belongings such as purses must be kept off the risers at all times.
4. Students are responsible for any information they may have missed following an absence. It is imperative they check the absence folder for any handouts, music, or new information. Students are also responsible for the completion of a "Rehearsal Makeup Form" any time they are absent.
5. With the exception of extreme emergencies, students are expected to remain in rehearsal the entire period. Students will not be permitted to leave the classroom for personal issues. Students are encouraged to keep a bottle of water with them during class.
6. Gum and food are strictly prohibited during rehearsal.
7. Silence is an absolute necessity during rehearsals. The better we hear, and the more we hear, the better we sing. The director will not hesitate to dismiss students from rehearsal if their talking causes a disruption.
8. Mark all musical directives in your score with a pencil. Professionals mark their scores. Amateurs say they will remember, and later forget.
9. Speak well of the group, and the group will speak well of you. This includes comments both verbalized and written (ie – social media).
10. Keep an open mind about all musical selections. Each piece was selected for a reason, and is part of a larger plan to help you grow as a singer and a musician. Commit to fully learning a piece of music before passing judgment. Remember, *entertainment* is meant to be easily accessible and instantly gratifying. *Art* is designed to have greater substance and to become more meaningful through study and exposure.
11. Enjoy rehearsal. It's far easier than being miserable.

FESTIVALS – INFORMATION FOR SELECT WOMEN AND CONCERT CHOIR

Members of auditioned ensembles participate in numerous festivals a year, which may include: the Ole Miss Choral Festival (November in Oxford, MS), State Performance Assessment (February or March in Tupelo, MS), and the Bluff City Choral Festival (March or April in Memphis, TN).

- All students are required to participate in all festivals for their choir unless pre-excused by the director. A student may be excused from a festival only for the most extreme of reasons, interpreted by the director.
- *Any student who has an unexcused absence from a performance will not be able to earn any grade higher than a **D** in the performing arts course. Students in auditioned ensembles with an unexcused absence for a major event may forfeit their place in the advanced ensemble in future years. Any student with an excused absence from a performance must complete the makeup assignment **on time, in it's entirety**, or they will not be able to earn any grade higher than a **D** in the performing arts course.* The director reserves the right to fail any student with an unexcused absence from a performance. Please see the concert attendance policy on page 11 for further guidelines regarding absences.
- As chorus is an elective course, each student will be assessed a festival fee to each festival in which he/she participates to pay for entry fees as well as music and other expenses related to performing with the chorus.
- The Disney Candlelight performance trip, while not required due to the expense and the time taken from school for travel, is an activity where participation is strongly encouraged. It is an enriching activity which allows for additional performance and adjudication. The trip is also valuable for the musical and social experience it affords the student as well as an indication to the director of the level of commitment the student has to the advanced choral study and to the other members of the chorus.
 - Students who do not participate in the trip may be required to complete a research project defined as by the director to substitute for the graded musical activity of the students who perform while on the trip.
 - Deposits for the trip are nonrefundable.
 - Further regulations regarding the spring trip are published separately in the trip documents and trip handbook.

Sight Reading Factory Requirements ***For members of Concert Choir and Select Women***

Students in auditioned ensembles are expected to show growth during their time in the ensemble. Members of Select Women must pass off a minimum of eight (8) Sightreading Factory assignments to remain in the ensemble the following year. Members of Concert Choir must pass off a minimum of six (6) Sightreading Factory assignments to remain in the ensemble the following year. Seniors who fail to meet the requirements will not be eligible to sing at graduation.

Assignments will be given every two weeks, and students have one week to complete the assignment. If a student fails to pass off the assignment the first week, they may repeat the assignment the following week. This will not change their grade, but they can 'pass off' the assignment on the second attempt. **Any students who have issues with technology must notify the director the day BEFORE the assignment is due in order to receive any accommodations or an extension.**

ASSESSMENT STRATEGY

Grades may be checked online at any time.

Grades are calculated using the school-wide grading percentages printed in the CHHS Agenda.

Grades in each category are determined as follows:

Exams: This is a written exam that covers the written and aural theory topics taught in class.

Major Tests and Major Projects: Students can expect to take periodic tests covering sight-singing and music theory knowledge covered in class. For advanced ensembles, periodic singing tests may also be given to determine knowledge of concert repertoire.

The major component of this portion of the grade is concert and festival participation. Concert grades are based on showing up on time, wearing the proper uniform, and participation in the concert. The concert is also when the director assesses student knowledge of the choral skills taught daily (see 'classwork'). Tardy students are deducted one point from their grade for each minute they are tardy. Students not dressed in proper attire will not be allowed to perform.

*Any student who has an unexcused absence from a performance may not be able to earn any grade higher than a **D** in the performing arts course. Students in auditioned ensembles with an unexcused absence for a major event may forfeit their place in the advanced ensemble in future years. Any student with an excused absence from a performance must complete the makeup assignment **on time, in it's entirety**, or they will not be able to earn any grade higher than a **D** in the performing arts course.* Please see the concert attendance policy on the next page as to what constitutes an unexcused vs. excused absence.

Classwork: This grade is based on daily participation in rehearsals. Students receive 20 participation points each day, to contribute to a weekly participation grade of 100 possible points. Students who are actively engaged in rehearsal and singing at all times with no gum or food will automatically earn maximum participation points. 10 points will be deducted daily for each of the following infractions: not in seat and ready to start class, gum chewing, poor posture, and lack of participation. Daily participation includes learning and strengthening the following skills: a) correct posture while standing or sitting, b) good breath support and breathing technique, c) use of good vocal technique as taught in class, d) control of tone to blend and tune, e) good diction, f) phrasing of the musical line with breath and dynamics, g) vocal and facial expression, h) stage presence and attention to the director, i) rhythmic and melodic sight reading accuracy. Singing assessments, student self-evaluations, and theory work may also constitute classwork grades. Students also receive a separate organizational grade each week for having their pencil and binder. Students receive 100 points each week (20 points per day) for organization. If they are missing any of their materials, they will lose the 20 daily points.

Homework: Homework includes turning in forms on time, as well as Sight Reading Factory assignments, which are typically given every two weeks. Late work will be deducted ten points each day. Work late in excess of one week will not be accepted.

Illness in Class: When a student is unable to sing due to illness, he/she must inform the director privately *prior* to the start of rehearsal. He/she will then be given a written assignment to complete during class to allow them to earn participation points for that day.

Make up assignment for missed rehearsals:

Any student who misses a rehearsal for any reason will be required to complete a rehearsal makeup form in order to earn their participation/organizational points for the day. One form must be completed for each rehearsal missed. Students will have as many days as they were absent to complete the form (ex: two days absent, two days to complete).

ATTENDANCE POLICIES: REHEARSALS, FESTIVALS, CONCERTS, RETREAT

Concerts are mandatory and are the reason the *performing* arts exist. Students and parents are provided all concert and festival dates within the first week of school. Any changes or additions will be communicated via email with at least two weeks notice. Any student who has an unexcused absence from a concert may receive a grade no higher than a D in the course. *Students in auditioned ensembles with an unexcused absence for a major event may forfeit their place in the advanced ensemble in future years.*

The director will determine the validity of the all absences. No student should ever be absent from an event without THEIR PARENT contacting the director first. It is not acceptable or professional to send text messages or relay a message through another student.

Please note that CHHS policy states that students must be in school at least 75% of the day in order to participate in after school activities or events. Failure to abide by this policy will not constitute an excused absence.

Any student who is serving in ALC at the time of a festival or concert will not be allowed to participate, and their grade will be affected accordingly until an alternate assignment has been completed.

EXCUSED ABSENCES:

Preplanned activities outside of school: It is the responsibility of the *parent or guardian* to notify the director at least *two* weeks prior to the event. The director will then determine if the event constitutes an excused absence. Personal or organized non-school related activities will be considered secondary to the educational (choral) obligation of the student. The director is the determinant of what constitutes an excused versus unexcused absence.

Conflicts with school sponsored activities: It is the responsibility of the student or parent to notify the choir director AND the coach/sponsor of the other activity at least one week prior to the event. The two teachers will then communicate to determine which activity the student will attend. The chorus department encourages students to be involved in numerous activities. It is the responsibility of the teachers to work out any conflicts for the students, but it is the *student's* responsibility to notify the adults if a conflict exists.

Illness or Family Emergency: There are two steps to requesting an excused absence for illness or family emergency: 1) It is the responsibility of the *parent or guardian* to call the school (662-890-2490 x1511) and leave a voicemail with the director, informing her that their child is too sick to participate. If the parent cannot reach the school voicemail, then they may call the director's personal cell (870-723-8670) and leave a voicemail. 2) Within 24 hours of the voicemail, the parent/guardian also needs to email the director OR send a doctor's note to school with their child explaining the absence. This second step is vital so the director will have written documentation of the absence. THE DIRECTOR MUST BE NOTIFIED BY 8:25 THE DAY OF THE ACTIVITY.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:

Transportation issues or work schedules do not constitute an excused absence. Students are provided with all dates at the beginning of each term and are expected to plan in advance. In the case of a true transportation dilemma, the student must speak to the director at least two weeks prior to the concert.

Makeup Assignments for Missed Events:

In the event of any absence, students will be expected for complete a makeup assignment. For an **unexcused absence**, the makeup assignment will only partially replace the grade the student would have received. Failure to complete the makeup assignment will result in the failure of the course.

For an **excused absence**, satisfactory completion of the makeup assignment in the time frame specified may replace the grade the student would have received. *Any student with an excused absence from a performance must complete the makeup assignment on time, in it's entirety, or they will not be able to earn any grade higher than a D in the performing arts course.*

Each makeup assignment is different, depending on the circumstances of the absence and the nature of the event missed. The student can expect the makeup assignment to take at least as much time to complete as the length of the activity they missed.

HONOR CHOIR OPPORTUNITIES

Honor choirs provide students with a wonderful opportunity to rehearse with nationally-known conductors and other students who have distinguished themselves as excellent choral singers. Students in Select Women and Concert Choir are encouraged to audition for as many honor choirs as their time/finances allow. Members of Chorale must be invited by the director in order to be eligible to participate in an honor choir.

All honor choirs have an audition process. The director will hold extra rehearsals to assist in the learning of honor choir repertoire, but, it is *ultimately the responsibility of the student* to learn honor choir music. The director reserves the right to deny any student the opportunity to audition for or participate in an honor choir if they have not shown an adequate level of preparation or maturity. The director may schedule “pass-offs” on audition material to ensure that students are ready to audition. It is indeed an honor to represent our school at one of these events, and it is an honor that must be earned.

All students are required to check their calendars closely prior to auditioning for and committing to honor choir participation. Any student who commits to an honor choir and is unable to fulfill that commitment (except in the case of personal or family emergencies) may be disqualified from participation in future honor choirs.

All students must audition for the District II Honor Choir in order to be eligible for other honor choirs, except in the event of a conflict pre-approved by the director.

Honor Choir	Timeframe	Audition process	Financial commitment	Transportation/Lodging
District II Honor Choir – Desoto County	Fall	Date TBA Students sing a vocal solo and sightread	\$35-\$40	Provided on Monday afternoon only
Mississippi All State Honor Choir – Hattiesburg, MS	March 28-30 (Thursday-Saturday)	TBA. Students learn their part on 2 audition pieces. They sing a ‘cut’ individually and sightread.	\$75 registration fee, lodging/bus charge (typically around \$100)	School arranges for transport/lodging.

RULES GOVERNING OFF-CAMPUS TRAVEL

General Policies:

1. All policies of DeSoto County School District, CHHS, and the CHHS Chorus will be observed.
2. **Follow all instructions** of the director, chaperones, or other adults who are a part of the trip.
3. **All students will ride the bus together to any destination. Students who do not wish to ride the bus home from any event may do so only if there is 1) written notification prior to the event, and 2) the event ends outside of the normal hours of the school day. Students will only be released to a parent or guardian.**
4. **All students will be responsible for keeping the bus clean and orderly.**
5. Any student who is late for morning call time will be last student off the bus at the end of the trip. As the last student off the bus, they will be responsible for collecting any trash or leftover items.
6. The use of illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia or alcohol or **knowingly associating** with a person or persons who are using illegal drugs or alcohol while on the chorus trip will not be tolerated. *If such use or possession takes place in the presence of a Center Hill chorus student, it is that student's responsibility to **report the use or possession** of the illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia or alcohol immediately to a chaperone or other trip official.*
7. The use of any **tobacco** product is not allowed at any time on the trip.
8. Follow instructions immediately without argument. The director and the chaperones may give instructions to any chorus student for Center Hill High School who is a member of the chorus trip in order to maintain discipline or while acting to protect the student.
9. **Be where you are supposed to be** before you are supposed to be there.
10. Keep up with your personal belongings.
11. It is your responsibility to make sure your director knows where you are at all times.
12. Use of degrading, profane, or "off-color" language is unacceptable.
13. Complaining will not be tolerated.
14. Stay out of cars, buildings (stores), off of streets, or hotel rooms in which you have no business or permission to be. Never go anywhere outside of your room by yourself.
15. Do not invite non-chorus trip personnel (*those not approved by the director*) to come to the hotel, restaurant, or any other place where the Chorus is located.
16. When a student misses other CHHS classes for a Chorus activity, they are expected to ask their teachers before they leave for the chorus activity what they will miss. They are then expected to complete and turn in the work when it is due.
17. If school is in session the day after students return from a night chorus activity, students are expected to be in class the following morning.

For overnight trips involving hotel stays, the CHHS chorus has an additional set of policies to ensure student safety. These policies will be sent home prior to each overnight trip along with a travel contract.

ADDITIONAL EXPENSES FOR SELECT WOMEN AND CONCERT CHOIR

As discussed in previous sections, there are expenses involved in being in an elective such as chorus. There are additional expenses involved with auditioned ensembles regarding uniforms, music purchase, travel, and festival entry fees. Listed costs below are approximate, and final amounts will be sent home in a letter prior to each payment deadline.

The uniform purchase is a one time purchase. Cost estimates for activities are approximate. As an estimate, returning members last year paid \$100 for all chorus fees/activities, excluding the trip.

Women's chorus uniform – TBA (new members only)

Men's chorus uniform – TBA (new members only)

Rhinestone pin - \$7.50 (Select Women only)

T-shirt – Approximately \$10.00 (exact cost sent home in August)

Ole Miss Festival - \$10.00-\$20.00

Bluff City Festival - \$35.00

State Performance Assessment – TBA, not to exceed \$50

Music - \$20.00 (activity fee)

Disney Performance Trip – optional, \$425

Procedure for turning in payments: All payments should be placed in an envelope (these are available in the chorus room) that is clearly labeled with the student's name, amount enclosed, and what the payment is for. Envelopes should then be placed inside the drop box in the chorus room. Please ensure that all checks have a phone number written on the front of the check.

FUNDRAISERS

Fundraising is a vital part of what helps keep our organization alive and running. Students are expected to participate in all fundraisers to help support the financial needs of the chorus.

LETTERMAN JACKET POLICY

To receive a letterman jacket, one must fulfill the following requirements:

- Completion of the 10th grade year
- Completion of two years in chorus. Full participation in all activities during time of ensemble membership.
- Students in an auditioned ensemble may be eligible for a letterman jacket after one year if they have also participated in an honor choir.
- Meet one of the following requirements: Participation in an honor choir, one year service as an officer, successful completion of eight levels of sightsinging tests
- Maintain an A average in choir during all four nine week grading periods
- Participation in choral fundraisers