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b3ad1@mail.remind.com to sign up for important class information and
alerts

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Reidland Choir Handbook

M.C.P.S.

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R.M.S. / R.I.S. Choir Handbook

Mr. Chris Thornton, Choral Director

www.reidlandperformingarts.us

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to choral music at Reidland Middle School! This handbook is designed to acquaint you with the rules and performance procedures of the R.M.S. / R.I.S. Choirs. Parents-please read the handbook thoroughly and discuss the contents with your child. Everything involved is designed to provide your musician with the best musical experience possible.

Please read and discuss the contents as a family. A performance calendar is provided for your scheduling convenience. Some dates are still tentative and I will send out a message as soon as they are set.

Parents, please keep the handbook for reference as needs may arise. If you have any questions regarding the information provided or your child's progress, feel free to contact me, and I will respond as soon as possible. I would like to thank you in advance for your support of the choral program. Your child is participating in one of the finest middle school choruses in McCracken County, and I will have the best interest of your child in mind at all times.

Students, welcome to choir at Reidland Middle School. With your dedication and commitment we can continue to be one of the finest middle school choirs in the county, and hopefully, this will be one of the outstanding experiences of your middle school years. I look forward to the year ahead and the beautiful music we will create together.

Sincerely,
Chris Thornton

E-mail: christopher.thornton@mccracken.kyschools.us

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School: 270-538-4190 (for parent/teacher communication only)

Remind is preferred method of communication

General Guidelines

In addition to the R.M.S. / R.I.S agenda rules, the choral class has 7 basic guidelines:

1. Have materials for class at ALL times
2. Be on time for all classes and rehearsals and enter quietly
3. Do your own work
4. Turn in all work or handouts on time
5. Respect your own and other's property, rights and opinions
6. Be open to all choral possibilities and vocal styles
7. Give your very best to the music we perform

Supply List

Each student will need:

1. Several #2 pencils to be kept in music folder at ALL times.

Classroom Procedures

1. Follow all R.M.S. / R.I.S. School and choral rules.
2. Food, gum and drinks other than water are not allowed in the music area.
3. Music will most often be provided for each student. In the event of a large class size, sharing may be necessary at times. If this occurs, do not take music from another folder. You will always be able to see a copy. If problems arise in this area, notify Mr. Thornton immediately.
4. It is the responsibility of each student to keep up with music assigned to them. Any music damaged (other than out of everyday use), lost or destroyed will result in a fee just as if it were a textbook. Writing in the music in ink is considered damaged. PENCILS ONLY must be used.
5. Be ready at the beginning of each class with folder and pencil in hand.
6. Enter the chorus room quietly, get materials and be seated immediately.
7. Have your agenda with you at all times.

Attendance and Grading

1. R.M.S Choir meets on a daily basis for the entire year. R.I.S Choir meets weekly. When a student joins chorus it is with the understanding that they are joining for the entire school year. Removal from a group must be discussed between the parent, teacher, and administration.
2. A grade will be given for all work completed in class. Students are graded each 9 weeks on the following:
 - a. class, sectional and small group sight singing
 - b. written exercises, note taking, quizzes and worksheets
 - c. daily participation of class activities (part of participation is having your materials)
 - d. Choral rubrics on rhythm, sight singing and tonal development
 - e. demonstration of class songs performed with standards outlined

in grade appropriate curriculum...

Since chorus is a performing group, attendance for all performances is expected. It is assumed that all students are in this class to perform and will be in attendance for all concerts.

The purpose of all concerts is to publicly demonstrate choral achievement of in-class preparation.

All students must demonstrate the process and product for evaluation. Therefore, a grade will be given for concert participation. In the event a situation arises causing a student to miss a performance, the student will be assigned a make-up assignment selected from a list of approved options.

Grade percentages for each 9 week period are as follows:

30% demonstration of note taking, class projects, and theory worksheets

25% written quizzes and rubrics

20% daily work (rehearsals) / class participation

25% demonstration of performance literature (concerts)

Rehearsal Schedule

Before or after school rehearsals will be announced for those participating, as they are needed. Parents will be given advanced notice and approve participation.

Special after school rehearsals for the entire chorus occur only a few times a year before a concert. Parents will be notified by email and handout prior to one of these rehearsals. All concert dates are included in the Music Calendar. Notification will be sent home for any additional ones that may arise throughout the year. Please notify the teacher in advance and in writing of any conflicts that you may have.

Unexcused absences from after school rehearsals and concerts may result in the student being disallowed from participating in field trips or special activities that may be planned.

Performance Attire

In order for the choir to be as uniform when representing our school, it will be necessary for the students to obtain uniforms. Failure to do so will result in your student's removal from a performance. Uniform is as follows:

- Black dress pants or black skirt with tights
- Black dress shoes. No heels.
- Red choir polo (Will be Provided)

Performance Expectations

1. All students present for a performance must remain for the entire performance and leave neither in the middle of the concert nor after their group has finished. It is imperative that all students listen to all groups performing for their educational needs, as well as courtesy to the other groups.
2. STUDENTS MUST REFRAIN FROM TALKING during the entire performance.
3. Cell phones or other electronic devices are not allowed on the risers or stage during any rehearsal or performance. If a student is found with such device, it will be taken up immediately and given to the appropriate administrator.
4. Proper concert attire must be worn during a performance. Failure to do so will result in removal of the student from the performance.
5. All music will be memorized.

Performance Opportunities

Opportunities to perform throughout the school year for all students are:

Fall Concert, Winter Concert, Spring Concert, Large Group Performance Evaluation, School wide talent show, Musical Theater Production, and potential honor's choir events/

Concert opportunities for students in the Honors Chorus and students auditioning for ensembles at the local, state and national level are:

KMEA First District Honors Chorus, All-State for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students, and Quad State.

More information will be sent home about each of these events as they approach

Concert dates are available @ www.reidlandperformingarts.us