

RIVERSIDE HIGH SCHOOL
CHORAL DEPARTMENT HANDBOOK
Beginning Overtones (2nd period)
Beginning Reflections (3rd period)
2024 - 2025

Classroom Expectations

1. Be on time to class and be ready to go when the bell rings!
2. Students must be inside of the classroom when the bell stops ringing to be counted on time (unless they have a signed pass from a teacher or administrator).
3. Do not bring food, candy, drinks, or **GUM** in the chorus room (except water).
4. Upon entering the classroom, make sure your cell phone is on silent mode and put it in a zipped portion of your book bag or purse or you may place it in the charging station. Place your bag in the same place each day. Only take your notebook and writing utensils to your seat. Apple Watches (or any device that can send/receive messages) must be in theater mode and not used during class.
5. Students may go to the bathroom NINE times each quarter. If a student goes more than NINE times, they will need to make up the missed classroom time during lunch.
6. Materials needed for class:
 - 3-ring, 1.5-inch binder (any color or design)
 - Students must designate this binder for chorus only!
 - Dividers and/or tabs
 - Pencils (we do not use pens in this class)
 - Highlighters
 - Students who do not have their chorus notebook in class must complete a written rehearsal plan to receive classroom performance points for that day.
7. Be respectful to **EVERYONE**. You must give respect in order to receive it. 😊

Course Objectives

This class is designed to follow the North Carolina Essential Standards for Beginning Vocal Music.

1. Musical Literacy

- A.ML.1- Apply the elements of music and musical techniques in order to sing and play music with accuracy and expression.
- A.ML.2 – Interpret the sound and symbol systems of music.
- A.ML.3 – Create music using a variety of sound and notational sources.

2. Musical Response

- A.MR.1 – Understand the interacting elements to respond to music and music performances.

3. Contextual Relevancy

- A.CR.1 – Understand global, interdisciplinary, and 21st century connections with music.

School Board Policy 3030.3

In teaching about great works of music, art, and drama, religious themes are permitted if presented in a prudent and objective manner, within the context of a broader cultural heritage, and without promoting a religious point of view.

Grading System

Chorus is a performance-based course, therefore your attendance is extremely important in class and MANDATORY for all rehearsals and performances.

1. Concert Performance

30%

- Students are required to attend all rehearsals and performances listed in the syllabus.
- Students must have the appropriate costume pieces for the performance. Students will lose points for missing components of the attire.

- Students must be on time to all rehearsals and performances. Students will lose points for tardiness.
- Students must demonstrate proper concert etiquette on and off stage.
- Students must demonstrate the correct singing and performance skills learned in class during the rehearsals and performances.
- Any student that has a conflict with a performance or rehearsal must have their parent/guardian contact me in writing **ASAP!!!!**
- Students with an excused absence (with written notification from a parent/guardian) for a performance will have to come during Pirate Block or another agreed upon time and sing their part for the entire concert in the attire used for that performance. If there is choreography, it must be performed as well. A written assignment will be given for excused absences during rehearsals.
- If the excused absence is not pre-arranged before the performance or rehearsal (excluding emergencies), the student will receive a zero.
- **WORK AND DRIVER'S EDUCATION CLASSES ARE NOT EXCUSES!!!!!!**

2. Classroom Performance

30%

- Students will receive **eight points per day** for the following:
 - Students must be inside of the classroom at the end of the bell and in their seat within thirty seconds. **(2 pts.)**
 - Students must bring their chorus notebook and pencils to class each day. **(2 pts.)**
 - Students must demonstrate correct posture and vocal technique while singing. **(2 pts.)**
 - Students must use the solfege hand signals and/or takadimi pulse during class. **(2 pts.)**
- Students must complete a make-up assignment for each day missed in order to receive the missed points. The make-up assignment should be completed during Pirate Block.

3. Tests

25%

- Students will have notebook checks each quarter to test their knowledge and skills of writing in their music.

- Students will have an end of quarter test that will be a culmination of written quizzes and assignments throughout the grading period.
- The end of year music project in May also counts as a test grade.

4. **Written Assignments & Quizzes** **15%**

- Students will be assigned written work to reinforce their music notation and literacy skills.
- Students will be given written quizzes to assess their knowledge of music notation and literacy.
- Students will be given singing quizzes to assess their ability to demonstrate proper singing technique, intervals, scales, and sight-singing skills. These quizzes will be done in class.
- Students will write reflective responses after each concert.

Financial Obligations

- **Chorus Fee - \$50**
 - Money due by **Friday, September 6th**
 - This fee covers: activity buses and drivers for day field trips, accompanists, concert musicians, concert posters and programs, recordings and videography for the Fall Concert and Spring Show, snacks for rehearsals and performances, and MPA fees.
- **Informal Attire (chorus t-shirt) - \$13**
 - Money due by **Friday, September 27th**
 - For **informal performances**, students will wear our chorus t-shirt and blue jeans that do not have any rips or tears in them. Students will need to wear a shoe that has a rubber bottom and covers the toes. Boots are not allowed.
- **Formal Attire - \$140**
 - Money due by **Friday, November 1st**
 - For **formal performances**, students will choose to wear either our chorus dress, shoes, and pearls (purchased as a package) or our chorus tuxedo. Black dress shoes and black dress socks

must be purchased separately to go with the chorus tuxedo.
 The cost of hemming is included in the formal attire fee.

- For the **formal performances** only, hair color must be a natural shade and pulled away from the face. Please ask Mrs. Boliek if you have any questions about this policy.
- Singing masks are available for **\$5** if needed. Please let Mrs. Boliek know if you need one for the performances.
- Once all financial obligations have been met, students may purchase a chorus hoodie for **\$20**. The chorus hoodie is not required.

Mandatory Performance Dates

PUT ALL OF THESE DATES IN YOUR CALENDAR NOW!!!!

| Date(s) | Name & Location (all events are at Riverside unless noted) | Schedule | Attire |
|----------------|---|--|---|
| 09.05.24 | Chorus Parent Meeting & Informance - Auditorium | Students & Parents arrive at 6:45pm Meeting/Informance begins at 7:00pm | Informal attire **Beginning – blue jeans and purple, white, or black t-shirt |
| 10.18.24 | Homecoming Football Game - Stadium | Rehearsal at 4:45pm Line-up at 6:20pm Performance at 6:50pm | Informal attire |
| 11.13.24 | Fall Concert Dress Rehearsal - Auditorium | 4:45-7:45pm | Formal attire |
| 11.14.24 | Fall Concert - Auditorium | Students arrive at 5:30pm Performance at 7:00pm | Formal attire |
| 12.18.24 | Holiday Concert Rehearsal - Auditorium | 8:45am-12:15pm (during school) 4:45-6:45pm (Riverside students only) | Informal attire |
| 12.19.24 | Holiday Concert - Auditorium | Students arrive at 5:00pm Performance at 7:00pm | Formal attire |
| 3.06.25 | Music In Our Schools Month Rehearsal with Band and Orchestra - Auditorium | 4:45-7:45pm | Informal attire |

| Date(s) | Name & Location (all events are at Riverside unless noted) | Schedule | Attire |
|-------------------------|---|--|---------------|
| 3.07.25 | Music In Our Schools Month Concert with Band and Orchestra - Auditorium | Students arrive at 5:30pm Performance at 7:00pm | Formal attire |
| 3.11.25 or 3.12.25 | Musical Performance Adjudication – Meredith College | During school | Formal attire |
| 5.12.25 through 5.14.25 | Rehearsals for Spring Show - Auditorium | 4:30-8:00pm | Show costumes |
| 5.15.25 & 5.16.25 | Spring Show - Auditorium | Students arrive at 5:30pm Performance at 7:00pm | Show costumes |

Additional Opportunities (Optional)

| Date | Name & Location | Schedule | Attire |
|-------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|
| 9.27.24 | Honors Chorus Auditions - UNC-Greensboro | During the school day | Business casual attire |
| *10.10.24 | Rehearsal for All-County – Riverside | 5:45-8:00pm | School clothes |
| *11.21.24 | Rehearsal for All-County – Riverside | 1:00-5:00pm | Informal attire |
| *11.22.24 | All-County Rehearsal & Concert – Riverside | 11:30am-Concert at 6:00pm | School clothes during the day; Formal attire for the concert |
| TBA | Spring Musical Auditions – Chorus & Dance Room | Sign-up required | School clothes |
| *2.10.25 & 2.11.25 | Evening to Shine - DPAC | Rehearsal Schedule TBA | TBA |
| 4.24.25 through 4.26.25 | Spring Musical - Auditorium | Rehearsal schedule TBA | Show costumes |

*In order to participate in Evening to Shine, you must successfully participate in All-County.

*There will be weekly after-school rehearsals for All-County and Evening to Shine in addition to the district dates.

***Your chorus financial obligations must be in good standing to participate in All-County and Evening to Shine.**

Communication

All email communication from Mrs. Boliek and the Executive Board of the Booster Club will come from My Music Office. The Booster Club will send out emails with information about upcoming deadlines and information. The Booster Club will also send monthly financial statements of each student's chorus account. Please make sure that you check your SPAM folder to ensure that you are receiving these email communications.

Mrs. Boliek uses the Remind app to communicate directly with students. Parents/guardians may join, but it is not required.

Class Codes for the Remind App:

- **2nd Period: Overtones 2024-2025 - @overtones2**
- **3rd Period: Reflections 2024-2025 - @reflect2**

If you would like to stay connected with Riverside Chorus through social media:

- Like our Facebook page (Riverside High School Chorus)
- Follow us on Instagram (riverside_chorus)

We also have a website (www.riversidechorusdurham.com):



Please consult the website to find our Google calendar, a link to make online payments and donations, pictures, the handbook, and more!

Let me know if you have any questions. Here is my contact information:

919-560-3965 ext. 65422
Jill_Boliek@dpsnc.net

I am looking forward to a fun and exciting year!!!!!!

Sincerely,