**George Jenkins High School**

**Mr. Branigan Lawrence Branigan.lawrence@polk-fl.net Chorus Syllabus**

# COURSE DESCRIPTION

**George Jenkins High School Choruses** are ensembles that focus on the development of comprehensive choral musicianship through the performance experience. Members will be exposed to a variety of music literature with an emphasis on high quality performance and thorough understanding.

# COURSE GOALS

1. **To establish and reinforce** correct vocal techniques and skills.
2. **To recognize, understand, and apply** structural elements of melody, harmony, rhythm, and form from both the standpoint of the performer and listener.
3. **To demonstrate** appropriate music reading and aural skills.
4. **To demonstrate** musical proficiency of the literature studied.
5. **To cultivate** a sense of identity, pride, group spirit, and improved self-image through participation.
6. **To expand** interest and knowledge of repertoire, performances, and artistic achievement from a variety of style and genres.

# EXPECTATIONS

1. **Come prepared** and **on time** with music, notebook, pencil, and positive attitude.
2. **Be attentive** and **disciplined** while rehearsing and performing.
3. **Complete** all assignments on time.
4. **Take** proper care of your voice.
5. **Respect** your section leaders.
6. **Treat** everyone respectfully and with dignity.

# EVALUATIONS

Class Participation (in person or zoom)

Assignments

Written/Vocal Assessments

Concert Attendance & Behavior

# GRADING

In accordance with PCPS policy, grades will be calculated in the following manner:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Letter | Range | Letter | Range | Letter | Range |
| A | 90 or above | B | 80-89 | C | 70-79 |
| D | 60-60 | F | 59 or less |  |  |

**Effort grades** will be determined by a student’s attitude, improvement, and teamwork.

**Conduct grades** are based on the student’s behavior during class and zoom sessions, field trips, or any time the student is in the presence of the teacher. Lack of satisfactory conduct may prohibit a student from participating in extracurricular activities and field trips. Consequences are as follows:

**1st offense** = warning

**2nd offense** = conference for the record with teacher

**3rd offense** = parent contact/conference with teacher/team

**4th offense** = referral to administrator

**Attendance for concerts and performances** is required to secure an **“A”** in the class. **Failure to attend** a scheduled performance (Winter/Spring Concert, MPA Evaluations, States, Graduation etc.) will result in the **lowering** of the student’s grade by **two letters** for each performance missed unless the student is homebound due to illness. Lack of transportation, work, family responsibilities, etc. **will not** be accepted since performances are known well in advance with ample time for arrangements to be made. If a concert is missed for a valid reason, then an appropriate individual-based project will be assigned as make-up.

# REHEARSAL RUBRIC

**“A”** - Has a **positive attitude and vibe** and is **respectful** to teacher and classmates; **no unexcused absences;** **never** has gum, food, or improper beverages in rehearsal; **Consistently** uses healthy singing posture; **consistently** notates in score (pencil); **very attentive** in rehearsal; **practices consistently** outside of class displaying **great** preparedness in rehearsal; **actively involved** in rehearsal process and **participates** in class discussion; **keeps pace** with rehearsal.

**“B”** - Has a **positive attitude and vibe** and is **respectful** to teacher and classmates; **no unexcused absences;** **never** has gum, food, or improper beverages in rehearsal; **Usually** uses healthy singing posture; **usually** notates in score (pencil); is **usually very attentive** in rehearsal; **usually practices** outside of class displaying preparedness in rehearsal; involved in rehearsal process and **usually participates** in class discussion; **usually** keeps pace with rehearsal.

**“C”** - Has a **positive attitude and vibe** and is **respectful** to teacher and classmates; **no unexcused absences;** **never** has gum, food, or improper beverages in rehearsal; **Occasionally** uses healthy singing posture; **Occasionally** notates in score (pencil); **Occasionally** distracted in rehearsal; **practices sometimes** outside of class displaying **minimal** preparedness in rehearsal; **occasionally** participates in class discussion; **socializing is somewhat distracting** to choir members in rehearsal.

**“D”** - **Lacks** a positive attitude and is **disrespectful** to teacher and classmates; **Seldom** uses healthy singing posture; **socializing is** **distracting** to choir members in rehearsal; absolute **minimum** **participation** in all aspects of rehearsal; has **unexcused absences;** **unprepared** in rehearsal; is **frequently lost** in rehearsal.

**“F”** - **Lacks** a positive attitude and is **disrespectful** to teacher and classmates; **Never** attempts healthy singing posture; **socializing is a major** **distraction** to choir in rehearsal; **does not participate;** has **unexcused absences;** is **totally unprepared** in rehearsal; is **frequently lost** in rehearsal.

# REQUIRED MATERIALS

**Chorus:** Pencils, staff paper and regular lined paper

# UNIFORMS

**Chorus:** Uniforms will be provided with the $60.00 uniform fee that is used to get the uniforms cleaned and altered every year as needed.