

FCHS



2009-2010

Choral Handbook

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Dear FCHS Choir Member,

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year! I want to congratulate you on becoming a member of the FCHS Choir Program. You are now an important part of what has been recognized as one of the finest programs in the state. I hope you will enjoy being a part of this organization, which continues to build a tradition of superior performance and musical excellence.

I believe that our choir program offers many things to each individual student: an opportunity to demonstrate and build his/her musical ability, an opportunity to develop leadership skills, an opportunity to develop a sense of responsibility, an opportunity to make new friends, an opportunity to represent Fort Collins High School to the community and state, and an opportunity to discover the joys of performing. Throughout the year we will be working hard to learn music for our performances. Participation in these concerts, clinics, and festivals is sure to keep us all busy and learning.

The FCHS choral department has established an outstanding reputation in Colorado, and as members of this department, it is our goal to continue building on that tradition. We can accomplish as much as we want to; it all depends on you. This is YOUR choir program. Superior music groups are the result of many hours of hard work as well as a strong dedication and commitment from each member.

This handbook is provided to make your orientation to the Choral Music Department a quick and easy one. I encourage you and your parents/guardians to read this handbook so that you may better understand our policies, regulations, and obligations.

I am sincerely looking forward to working with each one of you this year. Your talent and hard work will make this year at FCHS very exciting, fun-filled, and musically rewarding for all of us.

Sincerely,

Ms. Silar
FCHS Director of Choirs

Dear Choir Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to another school year! Your student is about to begin an experience that will be fun, challenging and educational all at the same time. Our success as a music department is a result of a commitment to excellence by each member, parent and director. Not only will your student(s) get to enjoy the thrill of performing for a live audience, they will learn the value of commitment, build friendships and develop interpersonal and leadership skills.

In order to make this experience the best it can possibly be for your student, it is important that each family understands the type of commitment that being a part of a performing ensemble requires. This commitment often involves students thinking ahead regarding scheduling of concerts so that there are no last-minute schedule conflicts. It may also mean the student must work ahead in other classes for the occasional missed day of school in order to attend a festival or workshop. Please read all of the policies stated in this handbook with your child and don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions. It is important that every parent/guardian understands that their child's success in choir is largely owed to your support as a parent. Please encourage your child to practice at home. It is also important to show your support for their musical education by attending every performance possible and recognizing their successes. It means more to them than they might show.

I am looking forward to meeting each of you at "**Back to School Night**," August 20th, from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM. I would like to go over some of the policies in this handbook at that time, so I would appreciate it if you would bring this with you. Again, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns throughout the year. You can keep in touch with me by calling or emailing me at any one of the following numbers. I'm looking forward to working with every one of your students and am positive that this is going to be a fabulous year!

Sincerely,

Kaitlin Silar
FCHS Choir Director

ksilar@psdschools.org
488-8240 FCHS Phone Number
402-0840 Cell Phone

Choral Department Objectives

Objectives:

- To develop correct vocal techniques
- To develop fundamental music skills in notation and sight-singing
- To recognize musical elements and demonstrate expressive qualities in varying styles of choral music
- To contribute to the blend, balance, and quality of the ensemble by developing the ability to sing a part confidently
- To develop performance confidence
- To have opportunities for the enjoyment of music through active participation
- To develop self-discipline by functioning as a responsible member of the organization
- To develop personal character traits of leadership, poise, and dependability as well as provide an avenue for self-expression
- To develop a desire to continue musical experiences

Ms. Silar's Responsibility to Each Student:

- Provide a quality rehearsal setting
- Encourage daily progress of the individual student and the entire choir
- Provide members with a complete musical education through rehearsal, performance, teaching, testing and listening
- Deal appropriately with members that are not contributing to the choir program
- Supervise the students in class and on school-sponsored trips
- Be of service to FCHS students in any and every way possible

Choir Department Staff

Kaitlin Silar (Director)

Kaitlin Silar is excited to be back for her third year as Director of Choirs at Fort Collins High School. She directs A Cappella, Women's Choir, Men's Choir, Concert Choir, Tower Singers and Women's Jazz. She also directs the Spring musical.

Ms. Silar received her Bachelor of Music Education degree with an emphasis in Choral, Piano and General Music from the University of Northern Colorado. While at UNC, Ms. Silar had the privilege of singing in the UNC Concert Choir under the direction of both Dr. Howard Skinner and Dr. Galen Darrough.

In addition to her position at FCHS, Ms. Silar also serves as Assistant Director for Centennial Children's Chorus. In her spare time, she loves cooking/baking, being on her bicycle, skiing and being with family and friends. Ms. Silar is excited to be back in the Fort Collins community and part of such a talented FCHS staff!

Marcia Yernberg (Accompanist)

Marcia Yernberg is pleased to be working for the 11th year as staff accompanist at FCHS. Marcia attended Gustavus Adolphus College, and she has been a piano teacher and school and church musician for over 25 years. She is currently the organist, pianist, and handbell director at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Sue Temple (Music Coach/Para)

In addition to maintaining an active private studio for over 30 years, Sue Temple coaches strings and chamber music at Fort Collins High School, is the administrative assistant for the FCHS Music Department and is a board member of the Rocky Mountain Viola Society. As an advocate for the viola, she is one of the founders of Viva La Viola! Day and has chaired this event for the past six years, guiding its' growth from 48 to over 150 participants. Pursuing her passion to promote music as a life-long skill, she also currently serves on the advisory council for Amateur Chamber Music Players and the Education ad hoc committee for the American Viola Society. She has also been a guest clinician, adjudicator, chamber music coach and rehearsal technician for pre-college students in the Northern Colorado area.

Originally from the New England area, Sue received a Bachelor of Arts degree in music with an emphasis in performance from Bennington College and a second Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Therapy from Colorado State University. Her principal teachers include Mimi Bravar, Jacob Glick, Marilyn Emmons and Harold Moses. Sue has made Fort Collins her home since 1976. She is married to Mark Metten and has two college age sons.

Choir Organizations

A CAPPELLA (Select Mixed Choir): A Cappella is a select group of advanced vocal students, grades 10-12, who will study and perform a wide variety of choral literature including styles from Renaissance through 20th Century. Membership in this ensemble provides the highest level of instruction available to FCHS students with an emphasis in theory, sight-singing and ear-training. Members in this ensemble will perform in the school, the community and at state functions.

WOMEN'S CHOIR (Select Women's Choir): Available to all women by audition only. Membership in this ensemble will include study in music theory, sight-singing and ear-training. This ensemble performs a variety of musical styles and explores the unique repertoire available for women's voices. Members in this ensemble will perform in the school, the community and at state functions.

MEN'S CHOIR: Available to all 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade men. Membership in this choir introduces students to basic concepts of tone production and music literacy as well as choral literature from Medieval to Modern styles for men's voices.

CONCERT CHOIR (Women's Choir): Available to all 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade women. Membership in this choir introduces students to basic concepts of tone production and music literacy as well as choral literature from Medieval to Modern styles for women's voices.

TOWER SINGERS (Select Jazz Choir): Tower Singers is a select group of 8-16 students, both male and female, who will study and perform a variety of literature including vocal jazz, music theater and contemporary a cappella. Public performances outside of class are part of this course and attendance is required. Students must be concurrently enrolled in a concert ensemble.

WOMEN'S JAZZ (Select Jazz Choir): Women's Jazz is a select group of 12-16 women who will study and perform a variety of literature including vocal jazz, music theater and contemporary a cappella. Public performances outside of class are a part of this course and attendance is required. Students must be concurrently enrolled in a concert ensemble.

Performance Attire

The choral tradition at Fort Collins High School is a rich and strong one. Our program has a state-wide reputation for excellence both on and off the stage. Part of this excellence is established not only by the way we act, but by the way we look. Each choir member is responsible for purchasing their own individual formal concert attire.

Our desire is that **no student** be placed in financial difficulty. Funds for the following costs of concert attire can be raised through fund-raising sales of varying items throughout the school year. All fund-raised or paid monies for concert attire will be recorded and students will receive a receipt. Each student is responsible for the following choir-specific amounts. Payment plans are available by contacting Ms. Silar.

Fund-raising is optional, not required, and checks should be made payable to **Fort Collins High School – Music Dept.** All attire money is due **Wednesday, September 23rd**. Ensemble members are eligible to sell their attire to the subsequent year's choral students at a pro-rated amount. To help support the department, donations may also be made above and beyond the following amounts, and are tax deductible. Both new and used concert attire will not be issued until it is paid for (used outfits are limited). The first choir concert is **Tuesday, October 13th at 7:00 PM in McNeal Auditorium.** Students will not be allowed to perform unless they are wearing their assigned concert attire.

*****All outfits must be hemmed to the indicated length, pressed and/or dry cleaned!*****

Concert Choir

Long, Indigo Satin Dress
New: \$68.00 Used: \$51.00
WASHABLE
*Hem 1" from the floor
*Black comfortable DRESS shoes
*Nude pantyhose

Men's Choir

Tux shirt, tux pants, vest, tie
\$82.00-\$92.00
*Black DRESS shoes
*BLACK SOCKS

Women's Choir

Long, Wine Satin and Crepe Dress
New: \$74.00 Used: \$57.00
WASHABLE
*Hem 1" from the floor
*Black comfortable DRESS shoes
*Nude pantyhose

A Cappella Women

Long, Black and White Satin Dress
New: \$74.00 Used: \$57.00
DRY CLEAN only
*Hem 1" from the floor
*Pearl/rhinestone jewelry \$10.00
*Black comfortable DRESS shoes
*Nude pantyhose

A Cappella Men

Black tuxedo pants, jacket, tux shirt, tie
\$112.00
DRY CLEAN (Shirt is washable)
Pants will need to be hemmed
*Black DRESS shoes
*BLACK SOCKS

Tower Singers & Women's Jazz

To be determined as an ensemble

Student Leadership

CLASS OFFICERS (President and Spirit Leader)

Class officers will be selected by the ensemble for each major ensemble. These students will be asked to assist in any of the following ways:

- Set an example for the choir through constant preparation, promptness, and energy
- Attend **all** concerts
- Conduct warm-up exercises when necessary
- Distribution and collection of music
- Report attendance to teachers
- Lead rehearsals on occasions of teacher absence
- Help plan special activities
- Other responsibilities as assigned by Ms. Silar

CHOIR LIBRARIANS

Choir librarians will be selected by Ms. Silar based upon each student's level of responsibility and organization. These students will be asked to assist in any of the following ways:

- Set an example for the choir through constant preparation, promptness, and energy
- Help Ms. Silar file all music and keep the music library up-to-date and orderly
- Number, stamp, and sign out new music to choir members
- Facilitate check-in and resulting fines at the end of each quarter/concert
- Other responsibilities as assigned by Ms. Silar

SECTION LEADERS

Section Leaders will be selected by Ms. Silar based upon each student's level of responsibility, organization and work ethic. These students will be asked to assist in any of the following ways:

- Set an example for the choir through constant preparation, promptness, and energy
- Lead sectionals when Ms. Silar is not in the room
- Communicate with their section
- Other responsibilities as assigned by Ms. Silar

All-State Choir

ALL-STATE CHOIR

All Juniors and Seniors are **highly** encouraged to audition for All-State Choir. It is a **requirement** for junior and senior A Cappella members to audition. Acceptance into the Colorado All-State Choir is considered to be the highest honor that an individual student may receive at the state level.

The auditions for the 2009-2010 All-State Choir will be held at Loveland High School on **October 23rd & 24th**. The festival will be held **February 7-9, 2010** at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Denver. Dr. Gregory Gentry, newly-appointed Director of Choral Performance at Arizona State University, will conduct the mixed choir. Dr. Karen Kennedy from Towson University in Towson, MD, will conduct the women's Choir. Dr. James Stegall, Director of Choral Activities at Western Illinois University in Macomb, Illinois, will conduct the men's choir.

All FCHS students wanting to audition for All-State Choir must submit the following to Ms. Silar by **Thursday, September 3, 2009**.

1. Application (available on the choir bulletin board)
2. Fee (pay \$15.00 to Ms. Silar. Checks made payable to **FCHS Vocal Music**)
3. One copy of your audition song. This copy will be given to Mrs. Yernberg so that she can practice your piece.
4. If you are using your own accompanist, please provide me with their name, email and/or phone number.

It is the responsibility of the **student** to find an accompanist for the Oct. 23rd & 24th auditions. If you would like Mrs. Yernberg to pay for you, you **MUST** pay her an extra fee of \$20.00 to. This fee is also due September 3rd and it will cover two 30 minute rehearsals plus the audition. Please make arrangements for your accompanist immediately.

It is also the responsibility of the student to select their song (please look at the All-State website to determine the appropriate type of solo for this audition). Most of you already selected a piece at the end of last school year. If you need any help selecting a song or would like to change pieces, Ms. Silar is available before and after school to assist students in this selection process.

ALL POLICIES AND FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: www.aschoir.com

2009-2010 FCHS Choral Department Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Location	Performing Ensembles	
8/21	Friday	during school	Back-to-School Assembly	Gym	A Cappella
8/21	Friday	3:15 PM	Dry-cleaned concert dresses due for resale	to Ms. Silar	
8/24	Monday	3:00-4:00 PM	Concert Attire Match-Up/Measuring	Theater Dressing Rooms	All WOMEN
8/25	Tuesday	3:00-4:00 PM	Concert Attire Match-Up/Measuring	Theater Dressing Rooms	All MEN
8/26	Wednesday	3:00 PM	Signed Contracts Due	to Ms. Silar	All Choirs
9/3	Thursday	3:00 PM	All-State Reg. \$ Due	to Ms. Silar	auditioning students
9/23	Wednesday	3:00 PM	Concert Attire \$ Due	to Ms. Silar	
9/29	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Back-to-School Concert	McNeal Auditorium	A Cappella
10/13	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Choral Concert	McNeal Auditorium	CC, MC, WC, A
10/20	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Jazz Concert	McNeal Auditorium	TS & WJ
10/23-24	Friday-Sat	All Day (TBA)	All-State Auditions	Loveland HS	auditioning students
12/7-9	Mon-Wed	3:15 PM	Musical Auditions	McNeal Auditorium	auditioning students
12/8	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Holiday Gift Concert	McNeal Auditorium	All Choirs
2/7-9	Sun-Tues	All Day (TBA)	All-State Choir	Hyatt Regency Denver	selected by audition
2/11	Thursday	7:00 PM	Middle School Invitational	McNeal Auditorium	All Choirs
3/4-6	Thurs-Sat	7:00 PM	Spring Musical	McNeal Auditorium	selected by audition
4/6	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Contest Concert	McNeal Auditorium	CC, MC, WC, A
4/TBA	TBA	TBA	CHSAA Large Group Festival	TBA	Contest Ensembles
4/15-17	Thurs-Sat	All Day (TBA)	UNC Jazz Festival	UCCC Greeley	
4/26	Monday	6:30 PM	Academic/PAC Awards Night	McNeal Auditorium	A Cappella
4/27	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Jazz Concert w/Boltz Jazz	McNeal Auditorium	TS & WJ
5/11	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Senior Recital	Large Rehearsal Room	selected seniors
5/17	Monday	7:00 PM	End of Year Concert	McNeal Auditorium	CC, MC
5/18	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Honors Concert	McNeal Auditorium	A, WC
5/19	Wednesday	during school	End of the Year Assembly	Large Gym	A Cappella
5/19	Wednesday	4:00 PM (TBA)	POPS in the Park	East Lawn	All Choirs
5/21	Friday	7:00 PM	Baccalaureate	McNeal Auditorium	Volunteer Choir
5/21	Friday	TBA	Graduation Rehearsal	CSU - Moby	All Choirs
5/22	Saturday	8:00 AM	Graduation	CSU - Moby	All Choirs

Bold type indicates required for grade

TBA indicates times/details to be announced at a later date

Call time for concerts will be at **6:15 PM unless noted otherwise

CC – Concert Choir

WC – Women's Choir

MC – Men's Choir

A – A Cappella

TS – Tower Singer

WJ – Women's Jazz

2008-2009 FCHS Music Department Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Location	Performing Ensembles	
9/7-11	Mon-Fri	during school	All-State Orchestra Auditions	Practice Rooms	auditioning students
9/29	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Back-to-School Concert	McNeal Auditorium	SO, SB, A
10/5-9	Mon-Fri	after school	ASO Brass/Percussion Auditions	TBA	auditioning students
10/13	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fall Choral Concert	McNeal Auditorium	A, WC, MC, CC
10/20	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Jazz Concert	McNeal Auditorium	Jazz Ensembles
10/23-24	Friday-Sat	All Day (TBA)	All-State Choir Auditions	Loveland HS	auditioning students
10/29	Thursday	7:00 PM	Band Concert	McNeal Auditorium	All Bands
11/5-7	Thurs-Sat	All Day	UNC Western States Orchestra	UNC – Greeley	selected by audition
11/10	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Chamber Music Concert	Large Rehearsal Room	chamber ensembles
11/13	Friday	All Day (TBA)	Rocky Mountain Band Festival	RMHS	Bands
11/23	Monday	7:00 PM	Orchestra Concert	McNeal Auditorium	All Orchestras
11/30-12/4	Mon-Fri	All Day (TBA)	All-State Band Auditions	TBA	auditioning students
12/1	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Band Concert	McNeal Auditorium	All Bands
12/7-9	Mon-Wed	3:15 PM (TBA)	Musical Auditions	McNeal Auditorium	auditioning students
12/8	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Holiday Gift Concert	McNeal Auditorium	All Ensembles
1/19	Tuesday	6:30 PM	MS Instrument Try-Out Night	McNeal Auditorium	
1/21	Thursday	7:00 PM	Pre-CMEA Concert	McNeal Auditorium	Symphony Orchestra
1/28-30	Thurs-Sat	All Day	CMEA	Broadmoor – CO Springs	Symphony Orchestra
2/7-9	Sun-Tues	All Day (TBA)	All-State Choir	Hyatt Regency Denver	selected by audition
2/11	Thursday	7:00 PM	Jr. High Invitational	McNeal Auditorium	All Choirs
2/11-13	Thurs-Sat	All Day	All-State Orchestra	CSU – Fort Collins	selected by audition
2/18-20	Thurs-Sat	All Day	CSU Honor Band	CSU – Fort Collins	selected by audition
2/22	Monday	7:00 PM	Pre-CBA Band Concert	McNeal Auditorium	All Bands
3/5	Friday	All Day (TBA)	CBA Regional Concert Band Festival	TBA	All Bands
3/4-6	Thurs-Sat	7:00 PM	Spring Musical	McNeal Auditorium	selected by audition
3/11	Thursday	7:00 PM	Orchestra Festival	McNeal Auditorium	All Orchestras
3/23	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Chamber Music Concert	Large Rehearsal Room	Chamber Ensembles
4/6	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Contest Concert	McNeal Auditorium	Contest Ensembles
4/8-10	Thurs-Sat	All Day	All-State Band	UNC – Greeley	selected by audition
4/TBA	TBA	All Day (TBA)	CHSAA Large Group Festival	TBA	Contest Ensembles
4/15-17	Thurs-Sat	All Day (TBA)	UNC Jazz Festival	UCCG Greeley	
4/19-20	Mon-Tues	All Day	CBA State Band Festival	CSU	
4/27	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Jazz Concert	McNeal Auditorium	Jazz Ensembles
5/11	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Senior Recital	Large Rehearsal Room	selected seniors
5/17	Monday	7:00 PM	End of Year Concert	McNeal Auditorium	CB, CO, MC, CC
5/18	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Honors Concert	McNeal Auditorium	SO, SB, A, WC
5/19	Wednesday	4:00 PM (TBA)	POPS in the Park	East Lawn	All Ensembles
5/21	Friday	7:00 PM	Baccalaureate	McNeal Auditorium	Volunteer Choir
5/22	Saturday	8:00 AM	Graduation	CSU - Moby	All Ensembles

Policies & Procedures

Classroom Policies & Procedures:

1. Attend school and rehearsals regularly and account for **all** absences.
2. Rehearsal starts as soon as the bell rings. Please be in your seat with your music and a pencil. All tardies are unexcused unless properly excused by a written pass.
3. Give your best effort daily! Work hard to ensure that you and those around you can get the best music education possible.
4. Treat those in authority with respect and integrity.
5. Have a pencil and your music with you **at all time**. Pencils should be sharpened before class.
6. Please do not bring gum, candy or food in to the choir room. If Ms. Silar sees any of these items, you will be asked to throw them away. If you need special considerations, please talk to Ms. Silar as soon as possible to work out a compromise.
7. NO CELL PHONES!!! Enough said...
8. Talking during rehearsal will not be tolerated. Rehearse in a professional manner and we will have a professional sound.
9. During sectional rehearsals, you are to respect whoever is in charge just as you would respect Ms. Silar during group rehearsals.
10. Every member of the choir is expected to listen closely for instructions given by the director. This will ensure that instructions are completed successfully the first time.
11. Each student is responsible for returning his/her folder to its assigned spot after class. **If Ms. Silar finds your folder laying out in the rehearsal room, practice room or hallway, you owe her a dozen cookies!** And I'm serious!!!
12. Never mark your music with a pen; please use pencil only. You "own" the music assigned to you this year. It is your responsibility to keep it looking like new. Any damaged or lost music/folder must be replaced by the person it is assigned. Each time music is passed in the choir librarians will sort through folders and determine who owes money for lost or damaged music.
13. You may take your music home for practice; however, it is your responsibility to have it with you in class the next day. Points will be lost if you do not have your music during rehearsal.
14. Exhibit common courtesy towards others at all times.
15. Respect all school and music department property and facilities.
16. I am expecting to have many clinicians and guests in our rehearsals throughout the year. When we have visitors please exhibit your best manners and treat them with respect. We can always learn from having different people work with us. Those students who act rudely will have serious consequences.
17. Students with any problems (musical, social, family, etc.) can feel free to talk to Ms. Silar at any time. **My door is always open to you!**

Grading/Points Policy

Choir is a unique course at Fort Collins High School in that it has curricular requirements, just as any other discipline, but it also has out-of-class requirements. The level of commitment from each individual student is the driving force behind the organization and is reflected in the level of achievement reached by the individual and the program. Rehearsals are the means by which musicians learn, and by their very nature cannot be reproduced or made-up. Therefore, it is imperative that students be present unless absence is absolutely unavoidable. Although I also function as a conductor, I am primarily a teacher who is responsible for the musical and aesthetic education of each student in the choir program. This is the reason we, as a department, are absolutely insistent upon each student's daily participation.

Grading will be based on the following:

1. Attendance/Participation
 - Up to 5 points can be earned for daily participation
 - 5 points will be earned daily for being on time, being prepared and participating.
 - 3 points will be earned for the day if the student is tardy or unprepared.
 - 0 points for each absence. (Points missed from an **excused** absence/tardy **can** be made up)
2. Performance
 - 100 points will be earned for each concert performance
 - Back-to-School Concert September 29th (A Cappella)
 - Fall Choral Concert October 13th (All Choirs)
 - Jazz Concert October 20th (Tower & Women's Jazz)
 - Holiday Gift Concert December 8th (All Choirs)
 - All musicians are to perform in all of their ensemble's performances. Excused absences from concerts may be granted for personal illness, family emergency, or prearranged important occasions. **Jobs are not an acceptable reason for missing a concert.** If a student chooses to miss any performance, and that student does not have an excusable reason for his/her absence, then the student's grade will be severely marked down, even down to a failing grade if necessary. Performing is a vital part of the curriculum and it should be considered as such. **If any student feels that he/she needs to be excused from a performance, then there should be advanced notice, (at least two weeks if possible) given to the director.**
3. Skill Evaluations
 - Occasional memorization, sight-singing, theory and listening tests may be given. Each test will be worth 50 points.

*****It is your responsibility to check your progress and your attendance using PIV (Pinnacle Internet Viewer)*****

Letter Points and Awards

Choir letters are given to those students who prove they are hardworking and dedicated to their music education. When a student wears a choir letter, he/she has achieved an incredible accomplishment. All applicants for a FCHS Choir Letter must be a member of choir for at least one full year at FCHS (2 semesters).

To receive a letter or bar you must accumulate a specified amount of point throughout the year. With the first 150 points a letter will be awarded. For every additional 75 points the student will receive a bar. Points are awarded by doing the following items:

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| ▪ Membership in choir | 10 pts each semester |
| ▪ All-State Choir Audition | 10 pts |
| ▪ Participation in All-State Choir | 30 pts |
| ▪ Choir Performances | 5 pts |
| ▪ Musical Audition | 10 pts |
| ▪ Participation in Musical | 40 pts |
| ▪ Performance at CMEA | 20 pts |
| ▪ President/Spirit Leader/Librarian/Section Leader | 5 pts each semester |
| ▪ Private Lessons (Voice or Piano) | 10 pts each semester |
| ▪ Extra-curricular choir (church, community, etc.) | 10 pts each semester |
| ▪ Concert Attendance | 2 pts each concert |
| ▪ Service Points | discuss with Ms. Silar |

Students should keep good records throughout the school year. This can be accomplished by keeping up with the letter application sheets that are on the choir bulletin board. It is a good idea for the student to keep the application up-to-date throughout the year as concerts are performed, attended, etc. Awards and letters will be given out at the honors concert at the end of the year. This gives us the opportunity to brag about the quality of students we have here at FCHS!

Fundraising Opportunities

Fundraising for choral expenses is an important part of the choral program at FCHS. The district does provide us with a budget, but it falls far short of our actual operating costs. Concert attire, festival fees, audition fees for All-State Choir, awards, trips, and social activities are all paid by and through student funds. Costs can be met through fundraising, out-of-pocket, or by donations. All monies are deposited with the FCHS Bookkeeper, and recorded in our choral department fund. A written receipt is given to the student for funds received for their own personal records, and the students will be informed of fundraising opportunities as they come. Three of our department fundraisers run throughout the entire school year. Following is information and contacts for each fundraiser:

Grocery Certificates:

Are you looking for an easy way to benefit the FCHS music department without spending ANY extra money? If so, then the grocery certificate fundraiser is for you. Orders for all King Soopers and Safeway gift certificates are due by 3:00 PM on the first Friday of each month. Order forms should be completed and turned in to the music department office. The certificates will then be distributed the second Friday of the month. For every set dollar amount of certificates sold, the FCHS Music Department will receive a 3% to 5% return. The best thing about this fundraiser is that it costs nothing extra for you. We all need to buy groceries, so why not have a portion of that go to your child's education? Order forms can either be found on the music department bulletin board or on the FCHS website under the Music Department link.

<http://schoolweb.pedschools.org/fchs/departments/music/index.html>

Questions? Please contact Sue Temple, at stemple@pedschools.org or at 488-8171.

Gift Cards:

The gift card fundraiser is a program where you can buy gift cards to many different retailers and restaurants (Barnes & Noble, Cinemark, Great Harvest Bread, Home Depot, Kohl's, Macy's, Olive Garden, Panera, Starbucks, TCBY, Qdoba, etc.) and those companies will donate a percentage of that profit to our music program. This is a great fundraiser for holidays, birthdays, anniversaries, etc. For information on this fundraiser and a list of participating companies, please visit the FCHS music department webpage.

Questions? Please contact Sue Temple at stemple@pedschools.org or at 488-8171.

EcoPhones:

Do you have old cell phone or ink cartridges just sitting around, cluttering your office drawers or closet shelves? If so, then this is a fundraiser for you! EcoPhones is an organization that collects and refurbishes old cellular phones, ink jet cartridges, DVD movies, video games, portable DVD players, laptop/notebook computers, MP3 players, video game consoles, digital cameras, digital picture frames, and portable navigation & GPS devices. All you need to do is have your child drop any of the above items off in the music office. Once we fill a box, EcoPhones personally picks up the box and sends us a check. It's that easy! Your used item(s) are tax deductible and will be recycled in accordance with EPA regulations or refurbished. 100% of the proceeds will help fund the FCHS music department. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Ms. Silar at 488-8240 or visit EcoPhones website at www.ecophones.com.

Vocal Care

Musicians must have quality instruments to play well in order for them to perform to the best of their abilities. In the case of a vocalist, the instrument can not be put in a case and stored away while the student goes about other activities. As a member of the FCHS choral program, part of the responsibility of the student is to keep his/her instrument in good working order. Ms Silar will always encourage students to rest their voice if he/she is sick or tired. However, actions can be taken on the part of the student in order to keep his/her voice in excellent order.

VOCAL CARE:

1. Get adequate rest. I know how busy you are, but sleep is one of the most important things you can do for your voice. If your voice is tired, go to bed!
2. Hydrate, hydrate, hydrate. Especially in our dry Colorado climate, water is essential for your voice.
3. NEVER, EVER, EVER SMOKE. There are many reasons for this, but in terms of vocal care, smoking is one of the worst things you can do.
4. Be careful how you use your speaking voice. Vocal damage is often caused by talking and yelling. When you speak, use the same support and tone production that you use when you sing.

Vocal chords are very easily damaged and many times the damage is permanent. You are at an age when it is very easy to damage your voice. Be aware of when your voice is getting tired and let it rest. Your voice is with you for the rest of your life, and you will regret it if you abuse it now.

Choral Department Contract

We have read and discussed the FCHS Choral handbook and understand all of the policies the handbook sets forth. We commit to following the contents of this handbook and if a problem should arise and we cannot fulfill our responsibility, then we will discuss the problem with Ms. Silar, in advance if possible, and will accept any action that she may need to take.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student's Name (Please Print)

General Student Information Sheet

Student Name: _____ **Age:** _____

Address: _____ **Grade:** _____

_____ **DOB:** _____

Parent's/Guardian's Names: _____

Home Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

Parent's Email: _____

Student's Email: _____

Student's Class Schedule (Class, Teacher)...first semester, second semester

Period 1 _____

Period 2 _____

Period 3 _____

Period 4 _____

Period 5 _____

Period 6 _____

Period 7 _____

Period 8 _____

The following information and signatures will serve as a consent form to allow medical treatment to be administered by medical personnel to your student if we are unable to reach you in case of an emergency, when your student is traveling with the FCHS Choral Department. Please complete and sign.

Family Doctor: _____ **Phone:** _____

Medical Insurance _____

Policy #: _____

Special Medical Information: _____

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____