

MONA SHORES MIDDLE SCHOOL
2020-2021 6th GRADE CHOIR HANDBOOK

Rory Cloz, Director



Dear 6th Grade Choir Students and Parents:

Welcome to a new school year and a new look to 6th grade choir class!

While our learning may look different, students will still be singing a variety of music while practicing basic rhythms and note reading skills. Students will learn vocal techniques to strengthen the voice, sing in two part harmony, develop sight reading skills and become acquainted with a wide variety of musical styles.

As we continue to move forward in these uncertain times, please be aware that our number one priority for the MSMS Choirs is to create an environment (both in-person and virtual) where students are able to feel that they are a part of the MSMS Choir Family.

Since our ability to rehearse in person is greatly changed due to our current situation, it is extra important that students feel comfortable rehearsing while away from the classroom. For this reason I have created this [Practicing at Home Guide](#) to aid you in your support for your student's involvement with the MSMS Choirs.

Thanks for your support of the MSMS Choirs and we look forward to performing for you soon! If you have any questions, please e-mail (fastest way to contact) or call the number listed below and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Mr. Rory Cloz
MSMS Vocal Director
759-8506 x8540 (choir office) or x8324 (choir room)
E-mail: closzr@monashores.net
MSMS Choir Website: www.msmschoir.weebly.com



Class Rules and Expectations

-Absences: It is the student's responsibility to make up missed work. All lessons can be found in Google Classroom.

-SING!: In Choir students receive a large part of their grade through participation in warm ups, sight singing and song rehearsal. It is expected that all students use their voice as an instrument in the MSMS Choirs. This includes completing and submitting video work outside of class.

-Beginning and end of class: Students should be in their spots when the bell rings. Being late for class is not acceptable. It is the student's responsibility to get to class on time in an orderly fashion. The teacher will dismiss students at the end of class.

-Discipline procedures: Students who choose not to follow class or school rules may be entered into the school disciplinary system, following the procedure below:

1. Verbal warning from teacher.
2. Parent contact from teacher.
3. Administrative involvement with students, possible removal from class.

SERIOUS OFFENSES will be referred immediately to the office.

**All choir materials are the responsibility of each student (folder, music, pencil).*

**Students will be billed for lost or damaged materials: \$15 for choir folder, unit price for music.*

Grading

Grading will be based on student's participation in class, as well as online. Assignments will be communicated to students and parents via Google Classroom.

By the end of the year students will know how to:

- label and sing notes with solfege names and Kodály counting
- identify and demonstrate the length of notes in rhythm
- find their first note when singing from written music
- find their place (and part) in the music
- use correct musical vocabulary
- *Students will be tested through spoken, sung, written and electronic testing.*

Extra Credit Opportunities

Students have the opportunity each trimester to earn extra credit, up to **10** points per trimester:

- **Facial tissue** -- *2 points per box*
- **Hand Sanitizer** -- *2 points per container*
- Written one-page review of **musical event** outside of curriculum -- *5 points per review*

Fundraising

Maintaining a choir program is expensive. Through the efforts of the students, the choirs have been able to supplement the school budget regularly, using funds for supplemental classroom technology, instruments, transportation expenses, food expenses, rewards for classroom contests, videography of concerts. We are currently working to find safe, socially distant fundraising opportunities for our program and will keep you informed as we move forward. If you have ideas for a fundraiser, please contact Mr. Closz!

Feel free to DONATE to the choir program through cash or checks (made out to MSMS Choir).

PARENT SIGNATURE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Please complete this online [MSMS Choir Parent Information Form](#) by the first Friday of the school year (September 11th) to acknowledge your reading and acceptance of this handbook.