



**Morgan High School
Choir Handbook
2021-2022 School Year**

**Choir, 8th & 9th periods
10:48am-11:48am**

**Director: Ms. Morgan Frederick
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Welcome

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! I am excited to be leading the Morgan High School choir program this year and hopefully for many more! The MHS performing groups are on an upward trajectory and I am glad to have you here to continue it. We plan to have a fun, successful year for everyone involved.

Please take note of the Choir Timeline. This timeline consists of ALL choir events (Junior High, High School non-auditioned, and High School auditioned) and some band events as of 8/12/2021. The Timeline is on its own page so you will be able to hang it on your fridge and these events will be accessible through the Charms system.

Students and at least one family member must sign and return the final page of this handbook for record-keeping purposes. This will serve as the students' first grade in choir. Help them earn their first A!

Morgan High School Choir Goals

As music is both an individual and a group activity, the goals for the MHS Choirs are listed in 3 parts: curricular -- to make sure that students are learning the appropriate musical knowledge as listed by the Ohio Department of Education State Standards for music, personal -- to learn and hone life skills using music as their medium, and interpersonal -- learning to collaborate and grow alongside others in their school and community.

Curricular:

- explore a variety of genres, styles, cultures, and historical periods of music
- experience musical growth through sight reading activities, performances, performance etiquette, vocal health, and musical interpretation
- perform at the OMEA (Ohio Music Education Association) District IX Large Group adjudicated event to receive constructive feedback and inspire continuous improvement

Personal:

- help student-musicians grow into active, involved, and responsible members of an organization as a result of active learning and hard work.
- grow as a student-musician through commitment, dedication, and willingness to learn

Interpersonal:

- build an outstanding reputation for choral singing in MLSD and Morgan County by providing performance that demonstrate musical intelligence, maturity, and growth
- encourage respect for music, musicians, teachers, fellow students, audience members, and our physical rehearsal/performance facilities.

As we start out the year, each choir will set goals for their respective groups. Student-musicians will collaborate with each other to create their own definition of success, to create an action plan to ensure the choir achieves its goals, and will actively listen and respond to their own recordings to keep themselves accountable.

Choir Information

Currently, the choir program here at Morgan Local Schools consists of a combined 7th and 8th grade choir, a 9-12 non-auditioned choir, and a 9-12 auditioned choir. In the past, a Treble Choir and a Bass Choir were included. These two choirs are currently not rehearsing or performing as of 8/18/2021, but may exist in a future capacity (after school) if there is enough student interest.

Academic and Classroom Expectations

- Come to class with a positive attitude and geared for success... and a pencil.
- Definitely a pencil.
- Follow all school rules and policies as listed in the MHS Student Handbook.
- Ask questions. The only bad question is the question that is never asked. It could help you, your classmates, and your director!
- Keep an open mind: we will explore topics you might be familiar with or things that might be brand new to you.
- Be open to challenges! How can you grow and learn if you do the same thing all the time?
- Have a positive effect on the students surrounding you.
- Respect yourself, others, property, and the music!

Rehearsal Procedures:

1. Students come into the room. If students need to go to the bathroom prior to class starting, they should tell the director and hurry back so rehearsal can start.
2. Warm ups
3. Sight-singing (more often than not)
4. Introduction of topic, rundown of what rehearsal will look like
5. Rehearsing music (1-2 pieces)
6. Rehearsal reflection (periodic, not everyday)

Folders:

Students will receive one black music folder from the director. Students are required to bring the folder to rehearsal everyday and store their music in the black folder.

Handling Music:

Students will receive original music for each concert cycle. When students receive their music, they are to put their music in their folder. During rehearsal, students will be asked to notate/write the notes given to them. These markings will be evaluated at the end of the concert cycle for a grade. USE ONLY A PENCIL.

Cell Phone Policy:

Phones are not to be used unless otherwise stated. Please refer to the MHS Phone Policy. Students will receive appropriate discipline if their phones are out during class.

Section Leader Responsibilities:

One student from each section will become a section leader. This is a great responsibility as the student is prepared but also helps get their section prepared. Some responsibilities include:

- Is always ready for rehearsal with music and other materials
- Shares music with the student if that student is unprepared
- Informs the director of which sections or pieces of music need the most attention
- Instructs section during sectional rehearsals if the director is not present/available
- Helps the director prepare/set up/tear down for concerts
- Reviews concert program information (proofreading, check spelling, program order)
- Takes section attendance at concerts
- Calls/contacts absent students prior to performances if their absence was not communicated
- Other duties as assigned

Cheating/Academic Misconduct

Cheating at Morgan High School is a severe offense that will not be tolerated as it is viewed as contrary to the school's mission statement. The misuse of RaiderNet is also considered cheating/academic misconduct.

Plagiarism:

Submitting the words, ideas, images or data of another person's as one's own in any academic writing or other projects.

Cheating:

- a) Possession of unauthorized material,
- b) Substantial editorial or compositional assistance,
- c) Submission of another student's material already graded for credit,
- d) False claims or fabricated references,
- e) Copying off of someone else's exam and/or quiz; or passing answers from a quiz or exam to another student.

Any student caught plagiarizing or cheating:

1. Will be required to do another exam/assignment on his/her own time (outside regular class time).
2. Could be assigned detention, Saturday school, AEP, and/or OSS based on the severity of the infraction.
3. Parents will be notified.

-- copied from the 2020-2021 MHS Student Handbook --

Student Behavior Policy (MHS Student Code of Conduct)

We, the students of Morgan High School, will conduct ourselves in a courteous and cooperative manner. We will not violate or help another to violate this code of conduct or the rules and regulations of Morgan High School. We recognize the need to maintain a controlled, organized atmosphere in our school in which each of us can pursue our right to a good education. Misconduct and/or disciplinary infractions WILL result in a verbal reprimand, lunch detention, after-school detention, Saturday School, Alternative Educational Placement (AEP), or Out-of-School Suspension. Students assigned to lunch detention, after-school detention, Saturday School, AEP, or OSS will be expected to complete class work and/or other assignments. Failing to meet standards on assigned work may cause the student to be reassigned one of the above disciplinary actions. The administration may, at their discretion, replace or interchange AEP, and OSS.

-- copied from the 2020-2021 MHS Student Handbook --

Grading

Grades will be broken down into three categories: performances, classwork, and participation.

Performances (concerts, large group contest, etc): 45% of overall grade

Classwork (marking in music, sectionals, written concert evals, etc): 40% of overall grade

Participation (on task, ready and willing to work, attendance in 7th inning): 15% of overall grade

All MHS Choirs will use the regular MHS grading scale, shown below.

HIGH SCHOOL REGULAR GRADING SCALE						
LETTER GRADE	PERCENTAGE	POINT VALUE		LETTER GRADE	PERCENTAGE	POINT VALUE
A	93-100%	4.000		C	73-76%	2.000
A-	90-92%	3.670		C-	70-72%	1.670
B+	87-89%	3.330		D+	67-69%	1.330
B	83-86%	3.000		D	63-66%	1.000
B-	80-82%	2.670		D-	60-62%	0.670
C+	77-79%	2.330		F	0-59%	0.000

After each concert cycle ends, students will fill out a concert evaluation form. This will be completed in class after listening to each performed piece.

Students will also hand in their music to the director to be evaluated for the appropriate marks (changes, additions, performance notes) in their parts. Students are expected to only mark their part rather than the entire choir's parts. If a student is a tenor and the sopranos are marking that their vowel was modified, the tenor student's grade will not be docked for missing that mark. The sopranos will need to have that mark in their music to receive credit.

Solo & Ensemble:

Students who participate in the District IX Solo & Ensemble contest on Sat. Feb. 12 will receive a grade for doing so. This will solely be a participation grade rather than basing the grade the student receives off of the score their performance received. Students who do not choose to participate will be marked as “exempt” so that this additional grade does not affect their overall grade.

Performance Information

The MHS Choirs will be performing in multiple capacities. For the time being, both choirs will have the opportunity to perform separately and as a combined group at each concert. Additionally, the choirs will perform together at the OMEA District XI Large Group Contest and hopefully State!

Concerts:

Students are expected to arrive at (or before) their assigned call times. The choir will be preparing to order new robes this year in hopes that the robes should be delivered in time for the OMEA Large Group Contest on Fri. Mar 10 or Sat. Mar. 11 (see Choir Timeline). MHS Choirs will continue to use the current robes for choir concerts and students will be measured during the first two weeks of school.

Section leaders are responsible for taking attendance for their section. During the warm up period, the section leaders will report to the director and tell me who is absent. Section leaders are expected to call students who are absent who have not informed the director of their absence.

All events/performances will be listed in the Charms system. Please contact Ms. Frederick (mfrederick@morganschools.org) if you need access to the Charms system or you have questions about an event/performance.

Solo & Ensemble:

If a student is interested in performing in an ensemble or a solo event at the District IX Solo & Ensemble (S&E) event, please see Ms. Frederick. This is an optional event that will allow continuous feedback and personal growth. A student's personal growth helps the choir grow as an ensemble as feedback can be specific to the individual, but applied to the group.

You will be asked to meet with Ms. Frederick at least once every two weeks to ensure that you are on track to perform your ensemble/solo. Please check the Choir Timeline for Solo and Ensemble accompanist rehearsals PRIOR to the S&E Event. S&E will take place at Cambridge HS on Sat. Feb. 12 and there is a fee (usually between \$17-\$25 per event). See refer to the grading section on how this event could affect a student's grade.

Performance Attendance Policy

Students and parents should note the concert dates on the calendar immediately and make every effort to avoid conflicts as they make other plans. Students must also be aware that a written note from a parent will not necessarily excuse a student from a concert performance if the absence could have been avoided. Finally, your obligation to concert performances is part of the course requirements for which you will receive a grade and credit, but more importantly it is a contract that you have made with your fellow choir members and the director. As the performance dates for the entire year are being given to you in August, there is no reason as to why you should miss a concert in November, December, March, potentially April, and May.

Excused Absences from Performances:

All excused absences from concerts must be confirmed by the director **at least two weeks in advance**. A student's illness or a family event will be excused if prior notice is given. Emergencies will be considered on a per-event basis at the director's discretion. A conflict with another school activity can be excused, but only if every effort has been made to work out the conflict. This includes contacting the choir director to help mediate the conflict. **Do not assume that another activity, including your job, takes precedence over a concert.**

Unexcused Absences from Performances:

An unexcused absence occurs if a student intentionally fails to show up for a concert or does not excuse the absence two weeks in advance. The consequences for an unexcused absence may include a conference with the student, the parent, and the instructor to discuss the student's ability to continue in choir. If this conference is successful, we will together decide how the student will make up the lost points.

2021-2022 Choir Timeline as of 8/16/2021. This is double-sided!

August:

Wed. Aug. 18 - Thurs. Aug. 19: Welcome to Choir!

Fri. Aug. 20: Establish goals (curricular, personal, interpersonal), team building activities

Mon. Aug. 23 - Fri. Aug. 27: Voicing

Wed. Aug. 25: Signed Student/Family Form due

September:

Thurs. Sept. 2: Morgan Music Boosters Meeting @ 7:30pm (MHS Band Room)

Note: *This meeting was moved to accommodate the fair.*

Mon. Sept 6 - Fri. Sept. 10: No School (Fair Week)

October:

Sat. Oct. 2: Homecoming

Thurs. Oct 7: Morgan Music Boosters Meeting @ 7:30pm (MHS Band Room)

Fri. Oct. 22: End of 1st 9 Weeks

Mon. Oct. 25: No School (Staff PD Day)

November:

Thurs. Nov. 4: Morgan Music Boosters Meeting @ 7:30pm (MHS Band Room)

Note: *Moved due to Veteran's Day on Thurs. Nov. 11*

Tues. Nov. 9: HS Band and Choir Fall Concert @ 7:30pm (MHS Auditorium)

Wed. Nov. 10: In-class Concert Celebration and Reflection

Thurs. Nov. 11: No School (Veteran's Day)

Fri. Nov 11: Marietta College Choir Festival @ TIME TBD (Marietta College)

Note: *Itinerary will be given out closer to the event.*

Wed. Nov. 24 - Mon. Nov. 29: No School (Thanksgiving Break + Deer Day)

December:

Tues. Dec. 7: 5-12 Band Concert @ 7:30pm (MHS Auditorium)

Thurs. Dec. 9: Morgan Music Boosters Meeting @ 7:30pm (MHS Band Room)

Tues. Dec. 14: 7-12 Choir Concert @ 7:30pm (MHS Auditorium)

Wed. Dec. 15: In-class Concert Celebration and Reflection

Thurs. Dec. 16: Introduce and finalize OMEA Large Group Contest repertoire

Fri. Dec. 17: Hallway Caroling during school day (tentative)

Mon. Dec. 20 - Jan. 3: No School (Winter Break + Staff PD Day)

January 2022:

Tues. Jan. 4, 2022: School resumes

Thurs. Jan. 13: Morgan Music Boosters Meeting @ 7:30pm (MHS Band Room)

Fri. Jan. 14: End of 2nd 9 Weeks

Mon. Jan. 17: No School (MLK Day)

February:

Thurs. Feb. 3 - Fri. Feb. 4: OMEA Professional Development Conference

Note: This does not affect students, but I will be attending the OMEA conference.

Students will have a substitute teacher and should complete the given classwork assignments.

Mon. Feb. 7 - Thurs. Feb. 10: HS Solo & Ensemble Accompanist Rehearsals @ 2:15-4:00pm (MHS Band Room)

Thurs. Feb. 10: Morgan Music Boosters Meeting @ 7:30pm (MHS Band Room)

Sat. Feb. 12: HS Solo & Ensemble Contest -- ALL DAY -- (Cambridge High School)

Note: Itinerary will be given closer to the event.

Mon. Feb. 21: No School (Comp Day)

Thurs. Feb. 24: OMEA Large Group "Rough Draft" Performance - CHOIR ONLY

Note: This event will be during the school day in the MHS Auditorium. This is a practice run for Large Group Contest.

March:

Thurs. Mar. 10: Morgan Music Boosters Meeting @ 7:30pm (MHS Band Room)

Fri. Mar. 11 OR Sat. Mar. 12: OMEA District IX Large Group Contest @ TIME TBD (John Glenn High School)

Note: Performance times are TBD as of 8/12/2021. Itinerary will be given closer to the event.

Thurs. Mar. 17: End of 3rd 9 Weeks

Fri. Mar. 18: No School (Staff PD Day)

Mon. Mar. 21 - Thurs. Mar. 24: JH Solo & Ensemble Accompanist Rehearsals @ 2:15-4:00pm

Sat. Mar. 26: JH Solo & Ensemble Contest -- ALL DAY -- (West Muskingum High School)

Note: Itinerary will be given closer to the event.

April:

Thurs. Apr. 14: Morgan Music Boosters Meeting @ 7:30pm (MHS Band Room)

Fri. Apr. 15 - Mon. Apr. 18: No School (Spring Break)

Fri. Apr. 29 OR Sat. Apr. 30: OMEA State Large Group Contest @ TIME/LOCATION TBD

Note: We will participate in the State Contest if we receive a I (Superior Rating) at District IX Large Group Contest in March!

May:

Wed. May 4 AND Thurs. May 5: OMEA District IX JH Large Group Contest -- All Day -- (MHS)

Tues. May 10: HS Band and Choir Concert @ 7:30pm (MHS Auditorium)

Thurs. May 12: JH Band and Choir Concert @ 7:30pm (MHS Auditorium)

Date TBD: Morgan Music Boosters Meeting @ 7:30pm (MHS Band Room)

Fri. May 20: Graduation @ TIME TBD

Note: Itinerary will be given closer to the event. Required for non-senior choir members. Graduation Seniors may sing with the choir if they choose.

Thurs. May 26: Last Day for Students!

Student and Family Member Signature Page

If you would prefer to fill out a Google form rather than entrust your student to return a piece of paper, please go to this link: <https://tinyurl.com/MHSchoirsignaturepage>

KEEP THE CHOIR HANDBOOK AND TIMELINE. ONLY RETURN THIS PAGE.

I, _____ (student), have read the 2021-2022 Choir Handbook and understand that I am responsible for the information stated in the handbook.

I, _____ (family member), have read the 2021-2022 Choir Handbook with my student and I understand that we are responsible for the information.

Family Member's relationship to student: _____

What is the best time of day to contact you?:

Morning 8am-12pm / Afternoon 1pm-5pm / Evening 5pm-8pm / Other: _____

Best phone number(s) to reach the family member: _____

Best phone number(s) to reach the family member: _____

Family member email address(es): _____

Family member email address(es): _____

Are you/your family able to access the Charms system? Yes: _____ No: _____

Director's signature: _____

Date received by director: _____