

McCarthy Middle School Chorus Syllabus

- Teacher: Mr. Caporale
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- Co-Teacher: John Cardin
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Course Description

In this course, we explore the elements of music, varied genres and styles, theory, composition, performance, and the role of music in society. Students are given the opportunity to develop their own creativity and expression while making connections between past and present global cultures. The goal is for every student to gain experiences and skills related to music while developing their own character and citizenship. **This is a performance based course which includes requirements and attendance beyond daily class meetings.**

Performance Dates

***Wednesday, December 10, 2025: Holiday Concert (@McCarthy 6:30-8pm)**

***Tuesday, March 17, 2026: MIOSM Concert (@South 6:30-8pm)**

***Wednesday, May 27, 2026: Spring Concert (@McCarthy 6:30-8pm)**

NeXT Snow Date: TBD

MIOSM Snow Date: March 18

Field Trips (Optional)

- TBD March: Boston Symphony Trip (anticipated 8am-2:30pm)
- Tuesday, February 3: NeXT (8th grade, during school @ South)
- TBD June: Trills & Thrills Music Festival (anticipated 7am-5pm)

Supplies

- Pencil and Folder
- Water bottle
- Wired earbuds/headphones

Class Rules

- Arrive on time and prepared.
- No leaving the classroom in the first or last 10 minutes of the lesson.
- Cell phones are to stay silent and inside lockers.
- If a student is absent, they are given days equal to the number of days they were absent to complete missed assignments without a late penalty. Otherwise, late work is accepted for up to 70% credit.
- **Concert Attire: Formal All Black. No sneakers, jeans, or T-shirts**

Grading Policy

Classwork and Participation (40%)

Students are expected to bring a positive and respectful attitude into the classroom and to engage in the activity planned for that day's lesson. It is important to come to class prepared and on time. The music classroom is a space where every student should feel comfortable engaging, speaking, and learning. The assignments encompassed by daily classwork may include paper and electronic activities as well as performances. The following rubric will be used to grade weekly participation/preparedness:

9-10 (A)	7-8 (B/C)	4-6 (D)	0-3 (F)
Student is actively and consistently engaged in lesson and holding peers accountable for engagement	Student is regularly on task in lesson	Student is irregularly on task in lesson	Student is not engaged in lesson
Student is consistently on time and prepared	Student is rarely unprepared/late to class	Student is unprepared/late to class often	Student is unprepared/late to class 4 or more days in the week

Assessments (60%)

Also known as summative assessments, these assignments include tests, quizzes, and projects which allow students to demonstrate the cumulative knowledge of each unit. These assessments are periodic throughout the marking period. Students will be given the criteria in advance. **All concert performances are considered test grades** that fall under this category.

All grades for 6th and 8th Chorus students will be managed by Mr. Caporale in Aspen

All grades for 7th Grade Chorus students will be managed by Mr. Cardin in Aspen.

Please include both of us in any emails regarding grades for 7th grade. Thank you!

--Please read over and return second page to Mr. Cap by 09/20/25

I, _____, commit to the McCarthy Mustangs Chorus for the 2025-2026 school year, and understand that I am responsible for attending all required rehearsals and performances. In the event of an unforeseen conflict with a practice or performance, I will communicate with Mr. Caporale **as soon as possible** to work out a solution.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parents/guardians, please indicate all that apply by placing a check next to each selection of interest:

___ I am interested in volunteering in some capacity this year and my Volunteer Assurance Form is attached. (I will post a link to this in our Google Classroom.)

___ I would like to *Adopt a Chorus Student* with a donation of \$_____ for the year. Checks should be made out to "McCarthy Middle School" with "Adopt a Chorus Student" written in the memo line.

___ I would like to make a tax-deductible donation of \$_____ to the McCarthy Middle School Chorus program. Checks should be made out to "McCarthy Middle School" with "Chorus" written in the memo line, and are accepted at any time throughout the year. Donations will be used to supplement equipment, materials, supplies, instruments, music, accessories, etc. Thank you!

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Adopt a Chorus Student Sponsorship

The average annual cost for a member of the chorus is about \$100 depending on the cost of concert attire and field trips. If you would like to help make participation in Chorus a possibility for a student in need, please consider sending a check in any amount to "McCarthy Middle School" with "Adopt a Chorus Student" in the memo line. Funds will be used anonymously.