



COURSE OUTLINE

SUBJECT: Middle School Chorus

GRADES: 6-8

The middle school chorus is made up of students in grades six through eight. Each student will have class every other day. The whole chorus will meet at least twice before a concert, and will be pulled out of 1-2 classes to rehearse. This time provides the opportunity for the whole ensemble to rehearse together. Students will practice and build vocal technique, study music theory and history, and grow as an ensemble.

GRADING PROCEDURE: Grades are based upon a number of accumulated points.

Sources for accumulating points are:

1. Written Quizzes and Exams
2. Music Testing
3. Daily Participation Points
4. Concert and Performance Grades

CONCERTS :

1. Chorus students must perform at a minimum of three concerts per year, a Winter Concert, District Choral Festival, and Spring Concert.
2. A Chorus Concert is the culmination of a semester's work and is therefore crucial for the class. Students gain confidence and ownership of the music through a performance.
3. Performance attendance is mandatory, so please note the following dates so you have time to rearrange other commitments/ responsibilities.
4. **Winter Music Concert: December 2026**
5. **District Chorus Festival: Early Spring, 2027**
6. **Spring Music Concert: May, 2027**
7. Any student who cannot make a concert should notify Ms. DeFalco in writing two weeks prior to the performance. Please remember that the concert is a large percentage of the final grade, and students will need to do a make-up assignment.
8. Dress Code: There is a dress code for each concert. Any student/ family having difficulty meeting the dress code should reach out to the student's guidance counselor.
9. Students will receive plenty of notice for these performance opportunities and should make every effort to attend.

CONCERT DRESS CODES:

WINTER MUSIC CONCERT: Dark colors (preferably solid black). NO- T-shirts, jeans, or sneakers, or shorts. Leggings can be worn but please have a long top or dress over. Dress shoes; flats or low heels. Please no sneakers, boots, or flip- flops.

DISTRICT CHORAL FESTIVAL: The Chorus program will provide every student with a T-shirt (that can be reused). Students should wear dark pants or jeans with the T-shirt. Sneakers are fine.

SPRING MUSIC CONCERT: “Spring” Colors (patterns are fine). Dress shirts or button-up polo’s, dresses or skirts knee-length or longer. NO- T-shirts, jeans, shorts, rompers or jumpers. Dress shoes; flats or low heels. Please no sneakers, boots, or flip- flops. Leggings can be worn but please have a long top or dress over.

Feel free to email Ms. DeFalco if you need any clarification, or to ask for an exception to the dress code.

Supplies:

1. Students need to bring a pencil and their Chromebook to class.
2. Concert music will be scanned and put up onto Google Classroom.
3. Any other materials will be given in a Chorus folder that will NOT be shared with other students.

ABSENCES/ MAKE-UP WORK:

1. Students are responsible to make up the work he or she misses and MUST see the teacher.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR:

- Students must follow the School-wide behavior guidelines.
- Students in violation will be reprimanded according to the Dobbs Ferry Student Handbook.
- Participation is an important aspect to Chorus class and students who do not follow rules and directions may not receive full participation points.

CONTACTING MS. DEFALCO:

- Feel free to contact Ms. DeFalco at her school email address: defalcog@dfsd.org
- Ms. DeFalco will be available for extra help during lunch periods, her T-Periods T.B.A., and by appointment.

Outline developed by:

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Date: Spring 2026