

WELCOME TO CHORUS!



TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE 2	WELCOME AND EXPECTATIONS
PAGE 3	CHORUS POLICY
PAGE 4	CALENDAR
PAGE 5	CONCERT DRESS
PAGE 6	LOCAL SINGING ORGANIZATIONS
PAGE 6	VOCAL ASSESSMENT

WELCOME TO CHORUS!

Welcome to a new year at BFCCPS! I am excited to be entering a new year with the chorus! I have seen some remarkable improvements to the choral quality of our singers. We have earned gold medals for the past 6 years, and I look forward to more adventures with this chorus, with fresh voices coming in!

Chorus will meet every Monday and Wednesday mornings at 7:30 sharp. Rehearsals end at 8:10. Be assured, **this schedule does not** interfere with the band program. We will commence on September 9th.

Chorus will be learning a wide variety of repertoire, including holiday pieces, major choral works, musical and pop literature. Correct posture and singing technique will be stressed. As vocalists, the chorus is privileged to have an instrument built inside! However, with this privilege comes the responsibility of learning how to use this instrument to its best ability. It is my goal to “raise the bar” in standards for the BFCCPS Chorus. I have seen improvements in these students’ abilities, as they are so very willing and ready to learn!

- **Expectations:** It is my professional opinion that to improve the quality of a choral group, there must be consistency. The chorus member is expected to attend **all** before school rehearsals, and they are expected to be **prompt**. This is our time to meet, and all rehearsals are **mandatory**. **Grades will be affected** if rehearsals are missed. There will be 3 concerts a year, including the Music in the Parks Festival in May. I am looking forward to working with the chorus again this year. Join us and see yourself grow as a musician!

~Carol Babineau, Choral Director

CHORUS POLICY: As a chorus member, you will be required to attend all events listed by the * sign. All others are optional, but encouraged. Grades are determined by attendance in these events, and will be decreased if you miss one. All members are required to participate in fund-raisers that are to benefit the chorus.

CHORAL EVENTS FOR 2009–2010

****CHORUS BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 9TH**

NOVEMBER 17th - MUSICAL AUDITIONS

NOVEMBER 20TH – SOLOISTS SING AT BARNES & NOBLE
6:00-7:30

*DECEMBER 17TH - WINTER CONCERT 7:00 P.M.

MARCH 5TH AND 6TH – MUSICAL

*SATURDAY, MAY 15TH - MUSIC IN THE PARKS FESTIVAL
Leaving @ 7:00 AM

*JUNE 10TH - SPRING CONCERT

CONCERT DRESS:

FORMAL

Black pants or skirts to the knee. Girls can wear either pants or skirt, but a skirt is preferred. The boys are to wear white shirts with ties, white blouses for the girls. No spaghetti straps, please. Blouses must be modest.

CASUAL

Under hot conditions, the spring concert may be more casual. It will be announced. Attire should be Fine Arts polo shirts, black skirts for the girls and khaki shorts for the boys. Neat sneakers are allowed.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Choral students need to demonstrate responsibility during rehearsals and performances, treating their peers and their director with respect. A choral member is a practicing musician, and should conduct him or herself with dignity

and poise. If mistakes are made, just keep on going, and do not give it away! Keep your countenance and posture the same, and be professional! Everyone one makes mistakes, even celebrities! Please take this portion of your choral experience seriously, and enjoy growing as a musician!

VOCAL LESSONS

It is recommended that you seek extra lessons from a local Fine Arts Institution if your voice teacher is unable to do lessons after school. Learning how to use your head and chest voice with good tone is a determining factor to success in a vocal career. Guidance is crucial to forming good vocal technique.

VOCAL WARM-UPS

Vocal warm-ups are as important as band warm-ups. Your instrument is inside of you, and needs to be ready to produce! In the following pages you will find some good choral warm-ups you can do on your own!

VOCAL ASSESSMENT

In these pages you will find a self-assessment you can do at home! Over a period of time, see if you can learn to stretch your breathing technique, and do a self-check on your ability to sing different intervals!

VOCAL EXPERIENCE

You are encouraged to get involved in our Drama Productions, in local theatre, and especially in local singing groups that will teach a varied choral repertoire. Do not limit yourself to just pop music, as it falls short of stretching and challenging the voice the way it needs to be as a well-rounded singer.

LOCAL CHORAL GROUPS:

THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER in Franklin

SWEET ADELINES – A local A Cappella Women's Group
Contact Heidi Zacchera

HERITAGE CHORALE - A mix chorale of adults and students.
Has @ 3 concerts per year. Meets at Scott Hall, Unitarian
Universalist Church, Framingham. Call (978) 635-1050
Or www.heritagechorale.org.

A CAPPELLA SINGERS - A women's (and student's) singing group.
Meets once a week. Sharon Brown, Dir. (508) 655-5978

SELF-ASSESSMENT IN BREATH CONTROL

Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:
Take deep breath. Exhale with ssssssss Held _____seconds	Held _____	Held _____	Held _____
Controlled counting to 20	Controlled counting to 25	Controlled counting to 30+__	Controlled counting 35+__
With head voice (high) say alphabet 1x	With head voice (high) said alphabet _____x's	With head voice (high) said alphabet __x's	With head voice (high) said alphabet __x's
Hold index finger up in front of face –Blow thin stream of air on it See how long you can hold it:	Date: Held:	Date: Held:	Date: Held:
Sight-reading: Accuracy:	Sight-reading: Accuracy:	Sight-reading: Accuracy:	Sight-reading: Accuracy:

Sight-reading: Accuracy:	Sight-reading: Accuracy:	Sight-reading: Accuracy:	Sight-reading: Accuracy:
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Sing a major scale Accurately _____	Sing a minor scale Accurately _____	Sing interval of 2 nd Accurately _____	Sing interval of A 3 rd _____
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Sing an interval of A 4 th accurately _____	Sing an interval of A 5 th _____	Interval of a 6th Accurately _____	Interval of 7th _____
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Sing an octave accurately