

Kittredge Magnet School for High Achievers
4th Grade Chorus Syllabus
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Course Description

The chorus program at Kittredge Magnet School is designed to foster a life long love of music as well as provide students with an opportunity to perform at the highest musical levels. Learning experiences are designed to introduce students to a diverse repertoire of music performance, creation, and appreciation. Instruction in this course is based on the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for Beginning Chorus. GSE supports the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) expectation of promoting a comprehensive, balanced and sequential music education for all students based upon the National Standards for Music Education

Curriculum Overview

This performance-based class focuses on learning to use the vocal instrument to create a healthy and pleasing sound. In addition to learning proper vocal production and technique, students learn music reading skills, sight-singing skills, and performance skills. This course offers opportunities for students to develop team building and leadership skills. Participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required.

Creating:

ESBC.CR.1 Generate and conceptualize musical ideas and works.

ESBC.CR.2 Organize, develop, and revise musical ideas and works.

Performing:

ESBC.PR.1 Analyze, interpret, and select musical works for presentation.

ESBC.PR.2 Develop and refine musical techniques and works for presentation.

ESBC.PR.3 Convey meaning through the presentation of musical works as the school setting permits.

Responding:

ESBC.RE.1 Perceive, analyze, and interpret meaning in musical works.

ESBC.RE.2 Apply criteria to evaluate musical works

Connecting:

ESBC.CN.1 Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make music. ESBC.CN.2 Relate musical ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical contexts to deepen understanding.

Board Approved Instructional Materials

Title - Various grade level appropriate choral repertoire and classroom instruments

Replacement Costs – vary by piece and instrument

Online books and resources – varies throughout the course

KMS Grading Policy

Grading Scales

For all subjects in 6th grade

For 4th & 5th: ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, German, Health and Enrichment

A 90-100

B 80-89

C 71-79

D 70

F 0-69

For 4th & 5th: Music courses, Art and Physical Education

P 70-100

F 0-69

Conduct Grades

S = Satisfactory

N = Needs Improvement

U = Unsatisfactory

Grade Weights & Categories

45% Guided Group Practice - homework and classwork

25% Assessment During Learning - quizzes, short-term projects, performance checks

30% Summative Assessment - tests, performance assessments, long term projects

Approximate Number of Grades per Semester for Each Course & Category

Subject	Guided Group Practice 45%	Assessment During Learning 25%	Summative Assessment 30%
ELA, Math, SS, Sci, 6th grade German	32	8	5
5th grade German & Chorus	16	4	2-3
Band	12	12	4
Orchestra	16	16	4
Art	8	8	3
PE & Health	16	16	4

Late Work Policy

Homework

1 day late -25%

2 days late -50%

3 or more days late or not submitted will be counted as a zero and will not be eligible for credit at any time on or after the 3rd day late

Short-term & Long-term Projects

1 day late -11%

2 days late -21%

3 days late -31%

4 or more days late or not submitted will be counted as a zero and will not be eligible for credit at any time on or after the 4th day late.

*There are very few acceptable reasons for late homework. If there is an emergency or other very serious issue prohibiting a child from completing his/her assignments, the parent should contact the child's teachers to request an extension **the day the work is assigned**. Excuses given after the assignment is due will not be considered except in the case of serious emergencies which prohibit communication in a timely manner.*

There are multiple ways parents can be informed about missing assignments and/or poor performance.

- Talk to your child about their work daily. Keep the lines of communication open with your child so that they feel safe to tell you when an assignment was missed or when a low grade is earned. It doesn't happen that often and it should be treated as an opportunity to learn, to assess what went wrong and to make adjustments to the work/organization/study plan at home. This is also an opportunity to celebrate the many things that will be going great for them each day.

- Check Infinite Campus frequently. Teach your child how to check it, too. Help him or her become aware and responsible for academic performance. It's very powerful for students to see how frequent missed assignments can impact grades. Parents can expect that teachers are required to input grades one time per week.
- Expect to hear from the teachers. Teachers will contact you after 3 missed assignments to be sure you are aware and to help you and your child to learn from the mistakes, to assess what went wrong and to make adjustments to the work/organization/study plan at home.
- Fourth grade only: teachers will mark in the agenda anytime an assignment is missing.

Make-up Work for Excused & Unexcused Absences

Missing school can cause our students a lot of stress. They just don't like to miss instruction and can easily get overwhelmed thinking about the work they will have to make up when they return. Any time a child is absent from school, he/she will be permitted to make up the work. When possible, have your child check the homework calendar for assignments and links to documents or activities that can be completed at home during the absence.

For a short absence of 1 to 3 days, the amount of time to make up the work will be {# of days absent + 1 day}. For extended absences due to illness, the team of teachers will work directly with the child and parents to create a plan for make-up work. This is especially needed when a child is so ill that nothing can be done at home during the absence. Homework packets will not be collected and available in the office or sent home with a fellow student until after the 3rd absence. Instead, the following supports are in place:

- Fourth grade will provide a written list of classwork and homework from each class during the days missed. Attached will be hard copies of any documents or activities distributed in class. The student will receive it upon return.
- Fifth and sixth grade will provide a written list of classwork and homework from each class. The student will receive it upon return. The student is responsible for checking in with each teacher on the return day to get copies of any documents or activities distributed in class.
- All students are responsible for staying in communication with their teachers in the days after the absence regarding the status of make-up work to ensure that all assignments are complete and turned in.
- All students are free to complete any activities that are posted on the homework calendar on the day of the absence.

Vacations and other planned, unexcused absences inhibit a child's progress at Kittredge and can cause undue stress. We ask that parents very seriously consider the absolute necessity of trips, vacations and other unexcused reasons for missing school. The teacher may, at his/her discretion, provide assignments before hand. However, it is not guaranteed. All assignments will be required to be made up in the days after the student's return. Keep in mind that more than 10 consecutive unexcused absences will result in withdrawal from Kittredge.

Classroom Expectations

- Students are expected to come prepared for class with all required materials, music, pencil, folder, and homework.
- Come prepared for class by demonstrating evidence of individual practice. Students are expected to practice assigned material outside of class.
- Follow directions. Students are expected to follow all written and verbal instructions given by the teacher. This includes all school and school system policies and procedures.

Materials and Supplies

3 ring binder – 1" preferred
 Pencil pouch
 3 working pencils
 2 highlighters different colors
 Paper – lined or unlined
 Pocket folder/divider

Reinforcements for hole punched paper

Parents as Partners

Parents are encouraged to assist in the classroom and/or with special projects that will enable students to learn more effectively, and which will enable the teacher to be more efficient in the classroom. Additional opportunities for parents to become involved will be available during field trips and public performances.

Disclaimer

The teacher has the right to amend the course syllabus for the benefit of instruction.

PLEASE SIGN BELOW AND RETURN

I have read the syllabus for 4th Grade Chorus at Kittredge Magnet School.

Student Name (printed)_____

Student Signature_____

Parent/Guardian Signature_____

Date_____