



**Granite Falls  
Middle School  
Chorus Handbook  
2022-2023**

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## **Ensemble Rules**

### **1. Be Respectful**

- a. Students are expected to respect each other, the classroom and materials, and Ms. Peek.
- b. Mind personal space and the items of other students.

### **2. Be Responsible**

- a. Students are expected to be responsible for any materials that they bring into the classroom as well as any materials that they receive while in the class.
- b. Students are expected to come prepared to work on their assigned parts.
- c. Students are expected to be present at concerts and events unless they have spoken with Ms. Peek and have made previous arrangements.

### **3. Be Positive**

- a. Chorus is largely an experience-based class. Students are expected to be awake, alert and responsive when in class.
- b. Each student is required to participate every single day that we are in class with minimal to no distractions. Each student starts the day with 20 points (5 days of great behavior equals 100 points.) With each unnecessary behavior/ distraction, the student's

participation grade drops by 3 points.

- c. Students are **expected** to be at all concerts and events. Chorus is a co-curricular activity which means that there will be times when students will need to stay after school or travel to perform. **These are not optional.** Students or parents must communicate any reason for an absence before a concert unless there is an emergency. Should an emergency arise, please communicate with Ms. Peek as soon as possible.

### **Ensemble Expectations:**

#### **1. For Singers:**

- a. Be punctual, organized, and prepared to learn
- b. Be respectful of Ms. Peek and peers
- c. Turn in each assignment that is given out
- d. Participate in class discussions, help explain concepts to classmates, and ask questions when uncertain about topics
- e. Show honesty and integrity towards faculty, administration, parents, and other students
- f. Inform Ms. Peek if accommodations need to be made so that the student can be as successful as possible

#### **2. For Miss. Peek:**

- a. I will be punctual, organized, and eager to teach.
- b. I will respect and value the opinions of each student in class.
- c. I will provide feedback (when necessary) for assignments that are

submitted.

- d. I will assess the student's understanding in various ways and will use multiple approaches to teach.
- e. I will show honesty, integrity, and respect towards administration, parents and students.
- f. I will work to establish a well-managed classroom that provides a safe and orderly classroom experience.

### 3. For Parents:

- A. Students will rely on you for transportation and monetary support for concerts and performing experiences.
- B. If you are allowing your child to participate in chorus, you must ensure they are on time for events and have sufficient materials to succeed.

### **Disciplinary Actions:**

Should students not follow classroom expectations, these are the consequences that will be enforced:

- 1st offense** - verbal warning    **2nd offense** – alternate assignment
- 3rd offense** – parent contact    **4th offense** - office referral

### **Bathroom Policy:**

It is expected that students use the restroom before coming to chorus. Should a student need to use the bathroom during class, he or she must ask Miss Peek for permission before leaving the room.

**Food and Drinks:**

Food: Students should never bring food into the classroom at a designated time unless designated by a medical condition. If a student brings food, he or she will be asked to put it away.

Drink: Students should **only** bring water to class. Soft drinks, energy drinks, juice, milk, etc, will be placed on the teacher's desk until the end of class.

Gum: Students are **not** allowed to chew gum during chorus. Chewing gum interferes with enunciation and poses a safety issue while singing. Students will be asked to spit out gum at the beginning of class.

**Cell Phone Policy:**

The school's expectation for students at GFMS is that cell phones will be kept in lockers at all times. There may be instances when students are asked to use their cell phones in an educational experience that will be scheduled and approved by administration. Those are the only times students may use their cellphones in class. At any other time, phones will be taken, and the school's policy will be followed.

**Grading:**

This class follows the standard grading policy as the rest of the school on a 10 point grading scale:

A = 90-100

B= 80-89

C= 70-79

D= 60-69

F = 59 a below

**Assignments:**

Concert Attendance: 40% of your total grade

Daily Participation: 30% of your total grade

In-Class Assignments: 15% of your total grade

Quizzes: 15% of your total grade

**Concert & Event Expectations:**

Chorus is a co-curricular class with events outside of the regular class time. These concerts and events are not optional, and if they are missed, they will impact the student's final grade.

- Expectations:
  - a. Students are to arrive on-time and dressed appropriately
  - b. Students are to respect the concert space and to respect the personal space of others
  - c. Students are expected to behave appropriately while others are performing.
- Missed concert: In the event that a student is not able to attend a concert, he or she will need to communicate in a reasonable, timely manner with Ms.

Peek prior to the event. Communication with Ms. Peek is crucial, and students may make up credit based on her discretion.

- Make-up assignments for missed concert:
  - a. Students may schedule a time with Ms. Peek before school to “prove their music.” This means that they can demonstrate they were prepared for the concert but had to miss due to unforeseen circumstances. **The highest possible grade a student can make, should they choose this make-up option, is 85% since they were unable to participate in the concert experience.**
  2. Students may choose a composer and write a 500 word biography about said composer. Ms. Peek will explain formatting after the student chooses this assignment.
- Should a student choose not to show up to a concert with no prior communication as well as no communication from a guardian before or directly after the concert, he or she will not receive credit for the concert, and the student will not be able to choose a make-up assignment.

**Concert Attire:** Students are expected to wear concert black and white attire. This includes:

- Black Dress Pants/ Skirt (knee length with tights)
- Black Dress Shoes
- White Dress Shirt/ Blouse
  - There may be times when the group wears something other than concert black. This will typically be items such as: jeans and a black t-shirt. Students will be told when they need to have this attire ready.
  - Chorus Shirts - Students are asked to purchase a GFMS Chorus



t-shirt. This may also be worn at times instead of concert black. Should a student need assistance purchasing this shirt, please speak with Ms. Peek.

**\*\*\* Should a student need assistance obtaining concert attire please speak with Miss Peek, and we will work something out.\*\*\***

### **Travel Policy:**

As a part of the experience in chorus students often travel to represent the school at events around the county and state. While students are on these trips they are expected to follow all school rules including dress code.

1. To travel with chorus, students **must** maintain at least a C in all academic classes. There is not reasonable cause for them to be pulled from their academic classes when they cannot keep up.
2. Students who are not in good academic or good behavior standing will not be allowed to attend a chorus outing. It is an honor and a privilege to participate in outside activities, and it should be the desire of the student to work hard in order to go on said trips.
3. If a student arrives for a field trip without the appropriate attire or out of dress code, that student will not be allowed to travel with the group and a parent must return to pick them up.
4. If a student breaks school rules or acts inappropriately during a field trip, the student's ability to travel with the group for future events will be revoked indefinitely.

## Chorus Contract Granite Falls Middle School

This contract will be effective beginning Tuesday September 6, 2022 in order to ensure student success in chorus. This data will be used to determine future participation in the choral music program at GFMS.

### **BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS:**

1. Students will need to stay in their assigned seats during the entire class period.
2. Students will avoid blurting out comments during class and will raise their hand to be called on to speak.
3. Students will actively participate by singing our music and the Daily Do, listening when a video is played or when the teacher is talking, and by clearly reading the rhythm activities, as assigned.
4. Students will limit off-topic conversations and avoid turning around to speak to classmates, unless instructed to do so.
5. Students will place cell phones in their book bag by the beginning of class and not use them until the school day ends.

### **REWARDS IF GOALS ARE MET:**

1. The student will be able to participate in choral music activities and events.
2. Personal satisfaction.

### **CONSEQUENCES IF GOALS ARE NOT MET:**

1. A verbal warning during class will be given by the teacher.
2. The student will be moved to a different seat away from others in the class in order to work on an alternate assignment.
3. A parent contact will be made via Talking Points, email, or telephone.
4. The student will be given an office referral.

By signing this contract, all parties agree to meet the expectations outlined above and will give their best effort in chorus class.

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 (Signature of Student)

Date

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 (Signature of Teacher)

Date

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 (Signed Name of Parent/Guardian)

Date