



DICKERSON CHORUS *Fall 2021*

Welcome to the 2021-2022 year for Dickerson Chorus!

This choral program is dedicated to helping students find their musical voices through a comprehensive, rigorous, student-centered environment. Students will work both individually and with peers as they learn to read music, understand and apply music terminology, perform diverse choral repertoire, and make connections to the bigger world around them. I wish everyone the warmest welcome and look forward to what's to come. Have a fantastic singing year!

-Ms. Guerra

Sonya Guerra, Director

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www.dickersonchorus.org



Units of Study

Composition
Aural Skills
Music History & Cultural Context
Music Theory (Dynamics, Pitches, Rhythms, Tempo)
Score Reading
The Voice (Anatomy, Balance, Blend, Breathing, Health, Posture)

Materials

- .5" binder
- Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory BOOK ONE (red cover) **this is your textbook!!!**
- Pencils
- Loose-leaf paper in binder (approx. 25 sheets will cover the year)

Grading

Chorus is a performance-based class in which students will primarily be graded on performance in rehearsals and participation in the required performances. In order to be promoted to the next grade level of chorus, students must demonstrate musical comprehension of classroom material as well as performance. This is done by maintaining a minimum 70% average each quarter. Grades are determined based on the following percentages:

WRITTEN WORK (20%)

- Written Assignments
- Written Quizzes

SINGING CHECKS (40%)

- Weekly Grade: small group or section singing check-in during class each Friday covering something from that week - a page from a song rehearsed that week, a warm-up, etc





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(Grading cont.)

SINGING ASSESSMENTS (40%)

- In-class group singing assessments and projects
- SightReadingFactory
- Concert performances *** Concerts are performance demonstrations of mastery in the skills and concepts taught in class, the culmination of months of practice. Electing to participate in a performance ensemble includes consistent attendance in both class rehearsals and concert events. Chorus students must understand and assume the responsibility of these requirements. The absence of any person affects the entire group's performance. Performance dates are given well in advance. Unexcused absences may affect a student's ability to participate in future trips and other activities. Excused absences are given for family emergencies or illnesses. Students with excused absences must submit a video recording performing the songs they missed. Make-up performance grades start at 75%, as students cannot replicate the performance environment of watching a conductor, singing with others, and demonstrating stage etiquette. ***

Behavior

Students are expected to follow the policies set forth by Dickerson Middle School and the Cobb County School District. If a student has difficulty following classroom expectations, the following consequences will result:

- 1st Offense – Teacher acknowledgement and verbal warning
- 2nd Offense – Behavior is noted in signing of agenda
- 3rd Offense – Parent contacted, administration notified if necessary

Uniforms

Dickerson Chorus students are representatives of our school, our community, and sometimes our state. Uniforms are required to present an appealing stage appearance as an ensemble. Students will not be allowed to perform on stage without the appropriate attire.

Sixth Grade Chorus: DMS Chorus shirt (ordered through DMS Chorus); blue jeans; close-toed shoes

Seventh & Eighth Grade Chorus: black concert dress (ordered through DMS Chorus); black close-toed dress shoes OR tuxedo ensemble (ordered through DMS Chorus); black socks and black dress shoes
7th and 8th Grade: you are responsible for altering dresses or pants to appropriate length

Chorus Core Values

Respect – yourself and others

Teamwork – we are a chorus family

Excellence – excellent effort every day; make mistakes confidently



www.DickersonChorus.org





DICKERSON CHORUS

2021-2022 Calendar

events are subject to change; some events will be added later in the year

Events in **BOLD** are graded, required performances.

DATE		EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
August	9-13	<i>Elf Jr. Auditions</i>	Before School	Dickerson Theatre
September	2-3	District Honor Chorus AND Sixth Grade Statewide Auditions	Before School (sign up for time)	Chorus Room
	10	District Honor Chorus, Sixth Statewide, and All-State Chorus Audition FEES DEADLINE	By end of the day	Dickerson
October	26	Eighth Grade Chorus Fall Concert	6:30PM	Dickerson Theatre
	27	Seventh Grade Chorus Fall Concert	6:30PM	Dickerson Theatre
	28	Sixth Grade Chorus Fall Concert	6:30PM	Dickerson Theatre
November	5-7	<i>Elf Jr. Musical</i>	Fri-7; Sat-7; Sun-2	Dickerson Theatre
	9	District Honor Chorus	All Day	Pope HS
	13	All-State Chorus Auditions	TBD	Woodland HS
December	5	<i>Tentative</i> Select Sixth Grade Performance at East Cobb Tree Lighting	5PM	East Cobb Park
	10	<i>Tentative</i> Avenue Caroling (7/8)	5:30-6:30PM	The Avenue East Cobb
	TBD	Select Group Caroling at The Battery Atlanta	TBD	The Battery Atlanta
January	21	All-State Chorus Round 2 Auditions	Evening	Durham MS
February	17-18	Sixth Grade Statewide Chorus	All Day	The Classic Center (Athens)
	17-19	All-State Chorus	All Day	The Classic Center (Athens)
March	14-15	Large Group Performance Evaluation (7th and 8th Grade)	TBD	Campbell HS
	22	Spring Sing (6th Grade)	During school; 6PM concert	Pope HS
	24-27	<i>Tentative</i> Eighth Grade Chorus Trip	TBD	TBD
May	tent. 10	Choral Department Spring Concert	7PM	TBD

ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE HANDBOOK CONTRACT WITH THEIR PARENTS, LINKED ON CTLs AND THE CHORUS WEBSITE, OR VIA THE QR CODE HERE →

