

CONCERT CHOIR GRADING POLICY – page one 2011-12 SCHOOL YEAR

Your grade is based on classroom and concert (including outside rehearsal) participation and actual class work and performance effort.

I. CLASS PARTICIPATION: The following grade scale **FOR THE SEMESTER** applies to **any and all** (including pre-excused field trips) absences from class. When you are absent you FAIL to participate:

0-3 absences A	8-9 absences B	14-15 absences C
4-5 absences A-	10-11 absences B-	16-17 absences C-
6-7 absences B+	12-13 absences C+	18-19 absences D

20 absences or more results in a failing (F) grade

- Missing a block day (a class meeting on a Thursday or a Friday) counts as **two** points on the fail to participate scale;
- **TARDIES** to class must be accompanied by a pass if they are to be cleared. Every two **unexcused** tardies will count as an absence on the grading scale. You are marked tardy if you are not in your assigned place, with music in hand, when the bell rings. Warm ups normally start each day **two minutes** ahead of the bell that starts the class period.
- **KICKOUTS** – If you are told to leave a regular class session due to misbehavior, you are to report to the music office and stay until the teacher has a conference with you at the end of the period. The teacher will excuse you to the next period. One participation point will be charged against your grade.

II. CONCERT/CLINIC/OUTSIDE REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE:

ALL CONCERTS AND OUTSIDE EVENTS WHICH ARE SCHEDULED MORE THAN SIX WEEKS IN ADVANCE ARE REQUIRED as they represent “major exams” in choir classes.

Request for absence from a concert/outside event **may** be considered if turned in at least **two weeks** in advance of the event. An alternate assignment **may** be made if the request is approved. If you are seriously ill during the day or a concert, you **MUST CALL IN ADVANCE** to the music office at 253-3705. Illnesses not phoned in advance **will NOT be considered an excused absence**. You may be asked to confirm by presenting a parent’s and/or doctor’s note upon return to school.

- An **unexcused tardy** from a concert/outside event check-in time will count as one classroom absence for every five minutes late (see “I. CLASS PARTICIPATION” above);
- An **unexcused absence** from an outside event other than a concert (i.e. a dress rehearsal or clinic) will lower your entire grade by one full grade letter;
- An **unexcused absence** from a **concert** will lower your entire semester grade **two** full grade letters (i.e. from an “A” to a “C”)

NOTE: You CANNOT MAKE-UP CONCERT/OUTSIDE EVENT TARDIES/ABSENCES BY SECTIONAL ATTENDANCE

Tardies to outside events due to other NAPA HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES (i.e. sporting events) **are excused** (no grade penalty incurred) **if the teacher is notified IN ADVANCE**.

NAPA HIGH SCHOOL POLICY states that should a student have two direct conflicting events that are school related (i.e. a concert and a game) the student may choose one without penalty **of any kind** from the teacher or coach of the other activity. You are **required to notify personally** Mr. Rogers or Mr. Butler **IN ADVANCE** of any possible conflict that would prevent you from attending a mandatory event! **PLEASE TURN THIS PAGE OVER!**

CONCERT CHOIR & WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE GRADING POLICY – page two 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR

KICKOUTS: If you are told to leave an outside event due to misbehavior, you will be charged with the grading penalty of an absence to that event – this absence cannot be made up.

III. ACTUAL CLASSWORK/PERFORMANCE EFFORT:

Your six-week, twelve week and semester grade will be reviewed according to your actual work and effort. The review will include such items as general effort, behavior, attitude, singing improvement, completion of assigned written work, folder checks, and a final exam/evaluation, etc. **THIS REVIEW CAN RAISE OR LOWER YOUR FINAL SEMESTER GRADE!**

SECTIONALS/EXTRA CREDIT REHEARSALS are scheduled to give you additional opportunities to learn your music and improve your singing ability. Attendance at these events can also help you raise the “I. CLASS PARTICIPATION” portion of your grade by canceling, **for grading purposes only**, classroom absences and tardies. Sectionals are normally scheduled during the intervention/enrichment periods or during lunch – there are three types of sectionals offered:

REQUIRED SECTIONALS – YOUR ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY. One classroom participation point will be charged against your grade if you are absent (unless ill for the entire school day). These sectionals are normally scheduled during the intervention/enrichment period on a VPA priority day or during lunch (you can bring your lunch);

- **OPTIONAL SECTIONALS** – You are NOT required to attend. These will be scheduled during the intervention/enrichment periods and possibly lunch). Each optional sectional attended cancels ½ point on the “I. PARTICIPATION POINTS” for class time missed.
- **TREBLE CHOIR & MEN'S CHOIR SECTIONALS** – you are NOT required to attend. Each optional sectional attended cancels ½ point on the “I. PARTICIPATION POINTS” for class time missed. If you are enrolled in either Concert Choir, you may also earn up to FIVE UNITS of credit for “Music Independent Study” and an “A” grade for Treble or Men's if you attend frequently **and** perform with these groups on their concerts. Units are prorated depending upon your attendance, but you **MUST** perform to get credit for the separate/additional choir class.

SECTIONALS are normally held during intervention/enrichment periods and possibly some lunch times in the choir room starting exactly ten minutes after the lunch break begins. On occasion sectionals are held outside of school time in the late afternoons or evenings, some for “Double credit” (one credit point for each half-hour attended). For example, you can get major sectional credit during the second semester by attending the “Sing-A-Thon” in January (Four hours of singing earns lots of participation points at the double-credit rate!) You may attend sectionals **IN ADVANCE** of any absences to help insure the class participation portion of your grade should you fall ill and miss class later in the semester.

FINALLY!

If you're here and you give a consistent, sincere effort to learning how to sing and perform, you will earn an “A” grade in your choir class. Every year approximately 90% of choir students earn an A or A- grade! Your six week and twelve week grade will be an indication of your current progress with the participation and sectional points prorated to calculate your grading mark at 6 and 12 weeks. **SAVE THE CHOIR CALENDAR** as it lists the dates that you have **MANDATORY EVENTS** that impact your grade!

