**SCOTT COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOLCHORAL DEPARTMENT POLICY 2016-2017**

PHILOSOPHY OF SCHS VOCAL MUSIC*I believe that music is a lifelong skill that continues to grow and mature as long as the student is willing to continue to learn. The choral classes that are offered at Scott Community High School are offered as an elective; therefore, I believe that since students choose to take these courses, a commitment must be made to obey the rules, be a supportive member of the choirs and be willing to become a better singer. Each student in the choral classes will make the commitment to do the best that he or she can do in order to make their choir the best it can be.”Hard work beats talent when talent doesn’t work hard”—Kevin Durant*

GRADES

**50%** **Daily Participation Points**

**4pts** Posture--Believe it or not, posture is a very important aspect of good singing. Good posture promotes good deep breathing for supportive singing. Also, good posture makes you appear as if you are attentive and 100% involved.

**4pts** Effort--Your 100% effort is expected. This is the only way we will be 100% successful as a choir. Other effort factors I will expect from you:

a. Be cooperative and responsible b. Be punctual to class with materials needed \*You will be expected to be in your assigned seat with folder, IPad and a pencil when the bell rings. When the bell rings, you will be expected to be working on Book Work assignments listed on the board. If you fail to do this, it will affect your effort grade c. Listen attentively and quietly d. Have a positive mental attitude

**2pts** Conduct--Your ability to conduct yourself in a mature manner will highly affect the rest of the choir. Other conduct factors I will expect from you:

a. Exhibit self-discipline and self-control b. Refrain from exhibiting behaviors that will interfere with other students’ learning c. Behave in a manner that demonstrates self-respect, respect for others and maturity

**35%** **Concerts and Scheduled Performances**--You are expected to be at all concerts and performances. If you work, make sure NOW that you ask off for concert dates. Work is not a valid excuse! If you miss a performance without communication between Ms. Kennedy and your Parent/Guardian before the absence occurs, you will lose this 35% of your grade.

**15%** **Book Work** --There will be sporadic book work checks each semester. Reading music is a crucial skill in music, therefore, we will be working on mastering this skill throughout the school year. Book work consists of:

a. Correct Solfege written in book work assignment b. Proper music notation including placement of notation, correct spelling of notation, and that notation is drawn to his or hers best ability

c. Theory Assignments

d. Random folder checks/Check List items

**Daily Participation**--For you to learn the music, you must be present a majority of the time. You cannot earn daily participation points if you are not present, therefore, in the event of your second and following non-school-related absences, points will be deducted. You receive 2 non-school-related absences per semester. Points will be deducted if the student is not fulfilling his/her responsibility in the categories listed above. If your grade is becoming a concern, there is an “Extra Credit” folder in the classroom with opportunities make-up points. I highly encourage the use of **pre-arranged absence forms** for absences you are aware of before they occur (i.e. Doctor/Dentist/Eye appointments, family vacations/celebrations, etc.). If the absence was unforeseeable, you must see me the day you return to class for the opportunity for make-up.

**Tardy Policy**-- This policy ties directly into daily participation points. Every non-excused tardy will result in points being deducted. You may only have 3 non-excused tardies per semester. Once you have exceeded your allowed tardy limit, detention will be served for every following, non-excused tardy. (An excused tardy must include a written note from the office and/or teacher who kept you late.)

CELL PHONE/MOBILE DEVICE POLICY: These gadgets should not be used during rehearsals unless instructed by Ms. Kennedy to use them. They may be used for personal reasons ONLY when rehearsal is not in process and students are given permission to do so. No exceptions to this policy! Devices will be confiscated and taken to the Principal if used at inappropriate times and in inappropriate ways.

FOOD/DRINK POLICY: **NO FOOD OR DRINK** except bottled water IN THE VOCAL MUSIC ROOMS!!!!!

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE! DO NOT CHEW GUM ON SINGING DAYS. IF YOU ABUSE THIS, IT WILL AFFECT YOUR GRADE!

WARDROBE: I ask that all students represent themselves, their fellow colleagues, and school when performing for an audience. For performances, students are asked to wear the specified attire listed below. Along with this attire, all students are required to look presentable by having their hair pulled back and combed. No accessories that could distract from the performance allowed. If you abuse the wardrobe suggestions, it will affect your grade!

**Mixed Chorus:** Robes will be worn. Black pants with fully-enclosed flat black shoes and black socks will be worn underneath robes. White T-Shirts are acceptable tops underneath robes.

**Encore Guys:** Black pants with fully-enclosed black shoes and black socks will be worn. You will buy a vest and tie to match the Encore ladies. Colors will be decided upon as a group.

**Sugar and Spice/Encore Ladies**: Encore and Sugar/Spice outfits will be decided upon as a group. Black, close-toed flats will be the required foot attire.

OFFICERS: Officers will be elected during the second week of school. For each choir, they include: **President**: Acts as a positive role model to the choir, spokesperson for the choir and helps address any concerns. Will “Meet and Greet” any new students in choir. Help Ms. Kennedy with fundraising management and other tasks. Act as student director.

**Secretary**: Checks bell attendance at rehearsal and attendance for concerts. This person must be trustworthy, organized, have a good attendance record, and be punctual. It also helps if this person is very assertive.**Assistant Secretary**: Takes over secretarial duties when secretary is absent.

**Section Leaders**: Upperclassman with vast choral experience appointed by Ms. Kennedy. Will lead sectionals and be the eyes and ears of the section to help detect musical issues.

**IMPORTANT 2016-2017 MUSIC DATES**

October 25: Encore/Sugar & Spice performance at First Baptist Church @7:30pm

October 26: *Yo, Vikings!* @ Oakley

November 2: Matinee *Yo, Vikings!*

November 3: Opening Night, 7:30 p. m., *Yo, Vikings!*

November 5: District Choir/Band KMEA Auditions, Dodge City

November 6: Closing Night, 2:00 p. m., *Yo, Vikings!*

November 9: *Yo, Vikings!* @ Dighton

**November 15: 1st TRIP PAYMENT DUE ($150.00)**

November 22: *Yo, Vikings!* @ Plymell

December 3: District Choir/Band KMEA Concert, Dodge City

December 11: Cinnamon Roll Fundraiser

**\*\*December 15: SCHS Band and Vocal Christmas Concert, 7:00 p. m.**

December 16: *Yo, Vikings!* @ Buffalo Jones, Garden City

December 19: *Yo, Vikings!* @ Holcomb

December 21: Elementary Sing-A-Long (Musical Leads only)

January 26: Real Men Sing, Lindsborg

**January 30: LAST TRIP PAYMENT DUE ($100.00)**

February 4: Regional Piano Festival

February 11-13: Select Ensemble Choir/Band Trip @ Kansas City

February 18: State Piano Festival

**\*\*February 22: GWAC Music Festival, Scott City**

February 23-25: KMEA Convention and State Choir Festival, Wichita**\*\*March 7: SCHS/SCMS Vocal Festival Concert 7:30 p.m.**

April 4: Solo/Small Ensemble Recital @ 6:30 p.m, SCHS

April 8: SCHS Regional Solo and Small Ensemble Contest @ Location TBAApril 13: SCHS Large Group Contest@ Location TBA **(Mixed Chorus ONLY)**

April 29: SCHS State Solo and Small Ensemble Contest @ Andover High School

**\*\*May 9: SCHS Pops Concert and Awards Presentation 7:00 p. m.**

May 13: SCHS Graduation-Senior Performance

**\*\*=Mixed Choir performance dates**

**BOLD=All Vocal Students required at these concerts**

\*Dates are subject to change/be added. Frequently consult our online calendar and Ms. Kennedy’s social network homepage for updates and changes to our schedule: [www.usd466.com](http://www.usd466.com)

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By signing below you state that you have read and understand the above syllabus, rules, grading, and expectations. Please tear off bottom and return to Ms. Kennedy by **Monday August 22nd, 2016**. Failure to return signed sheet will result in loss of daily participation points until signed sheet is turned in.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Contact Number: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_