

Middle School Choir Syllabus
2025-2026
Mr. Brayden
Choir Director
kize.brayden@sequoyaheagles.net

Course Description:

In choir, you will learn to develop singing techniques and prepare selected pieces of music for concerts every semester. Concerts are a required part of this class.

Required Materials:

- Pencils (Mechanical preferred, not required)
- Notecards
- Notebook Paper
- Box of Kleenex
- (Optional) 1 tub of disinfectant wipes or paper towels (Paper towels are very much in need)
- (Optional) Case of water (Students are free to bring their own water bottles but if you feel like providing water bottles for those who cannot bring their own we would really appreciate it)

Parents please fill out and sign the information page and send it back with choir fees by Friday, August 23rd.

Sincerely,
Kize Brayden

Daily Procedures:

RESPECT EVERYONE

- 1) You will need the following items every day at your chair or riser position: pencil, folder, music that has been provided
- 2) Pick up your music folder every day when you walk in the door, I should not need to tell you to go get it after warmups have started
- 3) Some days there will be a bell ringer on the board, these are short and simple. If there is a bell ringer with the days date next to it these are expected to be done as soon as you get to class. Warmups will start shortly after class time has started and you should have your bell ringer done by then.
- 4) Backpacks are not allowed on the risers, you may leave them against the wall of the classroom.
- 5) Use the bathroom and get a drink of water between classes please, I know emergencies happen but if it is an everyday occurrence you will have to find another time to take a break.
- 6) Emergencies: If you are ill or have some sort of emergency and need to go to the bathroom during class, please let me know in some way. I am not sure how Sequoyah

has kids ask to go to the restroom but previously I have worked with kids raising their hand with crossed fingers to ask to go to the bathroom. This works well because it does not interrupt the lesson or song.

- 7) Water bottles with lids are the only drink allowed in my classroom without prior permission.
- 8) Please raise your hand before speaking if you have a question or comment
- 9) Please do not write on choir room property unless explicit permission is granted
- 10) Keep your hands and feet to yourself
- 11) Do not play the piano without permission
- 12) Absolutely **NO GUM** is allowed in my classroom
- 13) You will be given break times to sit so you are not standing all class, please do not goof around during this time or breaks will be limited.
- 14) You may sharpen your pencil before class, mechanical pencils are preferred for the chance that your pencil may break or go dull.
- 15) Throwing objects is not allowed
- 16) Just because you are out of sight does not mean you are out of mind, be respectful of my class, myself, and each other even when I may not be watching you.

Attendance:

Attendance is a vital part of this class and each day you miss is important. Attendance at performances is especially important. **Attendance is mandatory to all rehearsals and performances unless otherwise noted.**

Excused Absences Include:

- Extreme personal illness *with* Doctor's Note
- Family Health emergencies verified by family
- Approved Academic conflicts
- Required Religious observances
- Extra-Curricular School conflicts approved by the director *in advance*.

Again, communication with the director is crucial when an absence is known. The director should be notified **two weeks** in advance of the event in question. The best method of communication would be via email or through phone contact, preferably by the parent or guardian of the student. Absences that are not excused will be given a makeup assignment.

Consequences of misbehaviors: Any step may be skipped depending on the severity of misbehavior

1. Gentle verbal warning
2. One on one discussion + Mr. Bulman will be notified of behavior
3. Contact Parent + Detention
4. "Write up" for administrators

GRADING PROCEDURES:

- **PARTICIPATION POINTS (40%):** Failure to follow any of the above rules will result in the loss of PARTICIPATION POINTS. There will be 5 participation points given each day. Each infraction will be judged by its severity, so loss of points will vary. If there is a

continued problem of disobeying classroom rules, the principal and parents will be contacted and detention will be given.

- **PERFORMANCES (40%):** Dates and times will be released well in advance of the event to give you ample time to work out any schedule conflicts that may occur. A concert grade counts for a majority of each student's grade since choir is a participation based class. It is imperative that each student participates in all required concerts or they will not receive a passing grade. If there are any conflicts with future events, I need to hear from a parent/guardian as soon as possible and a make-up assignment will be given.
- **Class Worksheets (20%):** Students are expected to fully participate with all class assignments. ****If there is any implication of cheating by use of the internet or another classmate, all students involved will receive an automatic zero and will not be allowed to make up the assignment.**

I will be happy to answer any questions you may have in regards to the grading system. Just send me an email and I will respond as soon as I can.

Cell Phone Policy:

- **Middle School Students-** The same Zero phone policy will continue at the middle school. All students should lock their phones in their lockers at the beginning of the day. Having a phone in class will result in an automatic detention.
- **High School Students-** The same Zero phone policy will continue at the high school. All students should lock their phones in their lockers at the beginning of the day. Having a phone in class will result in an automatic detention. If you have any concerns about this, please contact the high school office.

DISTRICT HOMEWORK/CLASSWORK POLICY:

- Homework and projects are due on their DUE DATE.
- 25% will be deducted each day an assignment is late.

CHOIR DRESS CODE:

- **Community Outreach-** Dress code for any community outreach will be the choir T-Shirt and school appropriate jeans. Some outreach opportunities may be outside, so appropriate outerwear can be worn.
- **Concert Attire-** Reach out to me if you cannot afford concert attire.
 - **No big earrings, small jewelry allowed. Please do not make me police this heavily.**
 - **Option #1:** White undershirt with a white long sleeve button down
 - Black Slacks
 - Black Dress Shoes with long black socks **NO TENNIS SHOES**
 - **Option #2:** Black Dress that completely covers shoulders and goes down to at least mid ankle in length.
 - You may wear black tights
 - Black flats **NO HEELS**

CHOIR FEES:

These fees help the choir program to exist and continue to pay for music and other essential equipment. Please, if you are struggling with financial hardship I encourage you to reach out to me at kize.brayden@sequoyaheagles.net and see if we can work anything out in regards to choir fees. I don't want any kid to feel excluded from any activities because of finances out of their control and I will do everything I can to help. If you would like to help pay for kids struggling with financial issues please contact me at kize.brayden@sequoyaheagles.net

Item	Price	Checkmark if wanted
Choir Fee (Required)	\$20	✓
All-District Registration (7th and 8th grade only)	\$10	
All-State Registration (7th and 8th grade only)	\$20	
Solo/Ensemble Fees (8th Grade only)	\$12	

CHOIR CLOTHES:

Please provide sizes for the choir clothes listed in the table below. The student choir T-Shirt is provided, everything else is optional and will be an extra cost.

Student Choir T-Shirt	(Included in Choir fee)	Size:
Extra Choir T-Shirts	\$12 each	Quantity: Size(s):
Choir Jacket	\$40	
Total:	\$	

USEFUL DATES:

10/4 - All-District Auditions

11/1 - HS & JH All-State 1st Round Auditions

11/4 - All-District Concert @ First Baptist Church 420 S Detroit Ave Tulsa, OK 74120

11/15 - HS (10-12) All-State 2nd Round Auditions

11/18 - JH (7-9) All-State 2nd Round Auditions

12/15 - Sequoyah Winter Concert

1/17 - JH All-State Concert (Date not yet posted but almost always happens the week before HS)

1/24 - HS All-State Concert

THE VOICE OF SEQUOYAH
Information & Acknowledgement Page
Please Sign and Return this Page Only

We have read the Sequoyah Handbook and The Voice of Sequoyah syllabus in its entirety. We fully understand the expectations and requirements stated within these documents. Our signatures indicate that we accept all procedures and grading policies as stated.

Student Information:

Student's printed name: _____

Student's grade: _____

Guardian Information:

Parent/Guardian's printed name: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian's Email: _____

Parent/Guardian's Phone Number: _____

Image Acknowledgement

I give my permission for my child's image to be recorded by photograph or video for educational purposes or for promotional purposes of the Sequoyah Choirs. **This does not mean that we will be posting your child alone for promotional purposes. This is an agreement for them to be photographed whilst performing with the whole choir.**

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____

Choir Folder Understanding

I understand that choir folders will be provided to my student for this semester by the school. Each folder's condition is written down and accounted for before they are handed out to students. **If my student damages their choir folder beyond reasonable wear and tear I will be responsible for replacing the choir folder.** Each folder costs \$20 that will only have to be paid if they are broken.

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____

RETURN SIGNED SYLLABUS AND FEES BY Friday, August 22nd!

*The syllabus is one of your first grades for the semester, so turn it in on time!

***The sooner you turn in your choir fee, the sooner I can get the t-shirts ordered.**