

## East High School Vocal Music Class Syllabus

### Mixed Choir (Per. 3)

Mr. Taylor – Room 401 E-MAIL: [william\\_taylor@dpsk12.org](mailto:william_taylor@dpsk12.org)

(720) 423-8422

Choir Website [eastchoir.com](http://eastchoir.com)

#### By the end of this class you will be able to:

- Sing a variety of styles of three and four part music with excellent vocal technique
- Demonstrate a marked improvement in singing quality between the beginning and end of the year
- Identify advanced music symbols and terminology
- Read and perform advanced music notation symbols for pitch, rhythm, dynamics and tempo
- Create arrangements of existing songs or melodies
- Listen to, describe and evaluate musical performances using musical terminology
- Explain the characteristics of various musical styles
- Understand and explain the cultural and historical contexts of given musical works
- Demonstrate capability to complete independent work and practice

#### Guidelines for Success

To be successful in this class you will need to:

Give your best effort → Always strive to improve → Be helpful and kind → Be positive → Work together like a team

#### Classroom Rules

1. Be seated with class materials when the bell rings
2. Remain at your assigned seat unless otherwise instructed
3. Stay on task and participate fully in all class activities
4. Respect and support all class members
5. Food, candy, drinks\*, hats, electronic devices (cell phones must be turned off and put away) are not allowed  
\*water is allowed

**Class Activities:** Students will participate in daily warm-up and note reading exercises, music theory lessons, singing of choral music and learning about music of various styles through listening and discussion. Students will participate in several public performances over the course of the year.

#### Grades:

**50 percent** of your grade will come from **class participation** and how well you follow the rules. Weekly Participation grades are based on a 20 point scale (See the class participation rubric for detailed descriptions).

Each student will start each week with 16 points (a low B).

Students receive extra points (up to 21) for consistently exhibiting the following behaviors:

- |   |                                   |                                    |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| First to follow directions                      | Consistently Focused and Engaged. | Positive leadership                |
| Exceptional effort and energy                   | Strong musical leadership         | Quiet practicing during down times |
| Consistently marks music reminders with pencil. |                                   |                                    |
- Each rule violation will result in a deduction from the weekly point total.

**40 percent** of your grade will come from **class work and tests** (music reading, music knowledge, part singing)

**10 percent** of your grade will come from **concert attendance and behavior**. Points will be deducted as follows:

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Missing a dress rehearsal  | Missing a performance unexcused             |
| Tardiness to a performance | Inappropriate behavior during a performance |

#### Absences

Students will not earn participation points on days that they are absent (4 points).

Students are allowed to make up 3 days of excused absence points per semester points as follows:

Assisting Mr. Taylor before, after school or during lunch for 20 minutes (must be scheduled in advance)

See the absence policy for more details.

#### Materials

Students will need to provide their own folder for this class to hold music, worksheets and handouts. Students will be able to store the folders at school, but are encouraged to keep the folder with them so that they can practice at home. Either way, students are required to have their music and a pencil in class every day.