**MBSS Concert Choir**

Course Objective; to give students the experience, confidence and skills needed to sing in a choir and independently, to gain an appreciation of music of different genres and the different roles of vocalists, musicians and instruments in ensembles.

**Grading**

​50% - Classroom Performance and Assignments
\* Most classes, students will get a mark out of 5 which asseses their demonstration of the rehearsal technique and instrument/vocal technique that we teach them. Worksheets and assignments will also fall into this category.
20% - Playing Tests
\* There will be regularly scheduled playing tests through the year. More info on these will follow in class.
20% - Theory Tests
\* There will be theory tests through the year.
10% - Attendance at Concerts/Festivals
\* All of our performances are considered curricular, and will be a part of student grades. Please discuss with Mr. Perry or Mr. Kafka if you cannot make a performance.

**Attendance**

Choir is a performance based class and to meet the standards of the course students must attend class regularly and be at all scheduled performances. Students that are frequently late or absent will receive a significantly lowered grade. There may be additional rehearsals scheduled outside the timetable in preparation for a performance. Notice will be given well in advance and students will be expected to attend these rehearsals.

**Daily Expectations**

Students are to arrive to class on time with:

* their music in a folder or binder
* a pencil

Students should be prepared to sing and or listen to instruction by the start of the class. That means arriving a few minutes early to set up! When students leave the class at the end of the period the room should be left as it was found. That means chairs; stands and any trash are put away before being dismissed.

**Extra Help and Support**

Student support is readily available by appointment with Mr. Kafka. Please do not hesitate to ask questions or schedule a meeting. Open communication is encouraged between the teacher, students and parents. Contact information is available below and at the music department website. Mr. Kafka will do his best to respond to emails in a timely manner, however as we approach concerts and reporting periods responses may be delayed.

**Suggested Materials and Routines for the Home**

* Regular structured practice is essential for student improvement and the development of the ensemble. Every day if possible. It is better to practice 10 minutes per day than one hour once per week.
* A quiet location where the student will not disturb or be disturbed by anyone is essential. Practice rooms are also available at school.
* Private lessons. They help strengthen and augment everything we do in the classroom. Students that take private instruction often become leaders and positive role models for others in the classroom.

**Students looking for extra musical challenges** are encouraged to see Mr. Kafka. Extra materials and activities can be made available.

**Consumption of food and beverages** is not permitted at any time in the band room or practice rooms.

**Use of electronic devices** during class time is frowned upon. Unreasonable use at the teacher's discretion will result in having the device taken away and returned at the end of class. A third offence will require a parent to reclaim the device from the principal's office.