

Cocke County High School

CCHS Choir Department Syllabus

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Cocke County High School Choir Department & CCHS Big Red Fire Choir

cchighschoolchoir



cchighschoolchoir



Code: yvykfxy

Course Description

Prerequisites: The courses currently called Primary Chorus, Music Appreciation, or Band must be completed and or individual study in piano or voice before registering for Secondary Chorus upon director approval.

General Education/High School Pathway Area: This course fulfills the requirement for a fine arts credit needed for graduation.

Fine Arts as your Program of Study: If you love my class or fine arts classes

at CCHS in general you can make this your program of study even if you don't want to make it your profession after high school.

Needs: Each choir member needs to bring in two boxes of store bought or homemade individually wrapped/bagged (snacks) for our Office Snack Sales at some point in the semester. Bottled water & tissue boxes are always welcome as well!

The choir classes at Cocke County High School are intended for students who have various levels of formal experience in singing. This class will cover fundamental vocal technique in both an individual and ensemble setting, as well as basic music notation, theory, and history. A variety of musical literature will be rehearsed during class, some of which may be performed on one of several upcoming concerts.

The CCHS Choral Department is dedicated to educating its members, student body and community of the professional, musical, and performance aspects of a choral ensemble. The students of the Choral Department must be devoted to learning professionalism (attitude, attendance, and cooperation), musicianship (music literacy, ensemble participation) and performance practices (stage presence). The CCHS Choir is to be excellent representatives of the department, school, and community. The stature of an ensemble is determined by the behavior of its members. Therefore, the expectation of upstanding behavior is extremely high.

Folder & Course Materials

- Students will be provided with a music binder to be used during class and for at-home practice. Once issued, these folders and the music contained therein become YOUR responsibility.
- Please bring a pencil to class
- We will be using highlighters and colored pencils periodically

****ALL STUDENTS MUST RETURN THEIR FOLDER AND MUSIC AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SEMESTER. GRADES WILL BE HELD, AND YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REPLACEMENT COST OF THESE ITEMS IF THEY ARE LOST OR DAMAGED! There will be a \$20 lost fee for any choir member that loses their folder and music throughout the semester.**

Course Requirements/Structure

Fundraisers:

****New goal for 2025-2026 School Year: Each choir member has a goal of earning \$250 in profit sales (per semester) for being a part of and participating in our various fundraising opportunities in order to fund our whole choir effort for various costs/expenses that occur each year. As with all activities, operating a choral program does involve some expense. In order to provide the experiences and exposure necessary to the success of our program without placing an excessive financial burden on the students we will do fundraisers. Funds raised will be used for transportation costs and/or hotel accommodations for class-related activities, as well as other expenses directly related to our program.**

**-Choir Shirt Sponsorship endeavor: August
-Fundraising: Cookie Dough: August
-Snack Stash Sales: August-end of year
-Pville Heritage Days: singing for donations
-Fundraising: Rada Knife Company: November
-Alumni Christmas: December**

-Carnegie Group Fundraisers: Bake Sale: 1st, Candy Gram/Boo Gram, VIP Seating Christmas Concert Specific: 1st four rows \$10 per seat, Paid Christmas Caroling Gigs, Christmas Movie Sing-a-long paid admission \$2 during abbreviated school day, Arts & Crafts Sale at Christmas Concert Bazaar,

Performances and Rehearsals

Because Chorus is a performance-based class, attendance in school, concerts and dress rehearsals are vital to the quality of the course. Students will not be excused from performance dates without a written excuse from their parent (illness, death in the family). If the director excuses the absence, a make-up assignment will be given which will be a 5 paragraph essay on a topic given at a later date. Athletes must complete a make up essay if they miss a performance because of an athletic event as well (this is just to be able to give a grade to each student in lieu of missing the concert).

Attendance and participation at rehearsals and concerts is mandatory. Proper concert etiquette is required, including not leaving a concert until its conclusion. Absentees receive a 10% grade deduction for an unexcused rehearsal and a 20% deduction for an unexcused performance. Students with an excused absence

(illness,emergency) who have followed the proper procedure may make up their grade on a case by case basis. See Mrs. Short for more information.

For our 2025-2026 Calendar of Events Please Click Here:

[CCHS Calendar of Events 2025-2026.docx](#)

Rehearsal Procedures

One must be a participant, not a spectator, in order to really understand it and be successful in it. Participation is part of the grading procedure. **Active participation** in all aspects of the daily rehearsal includes:

- Being ready to start class with folder in hand **before** the bell rings (not in the bathroom or walking through the door)
- Starting class as a team with stretches & warm-ups when the time is appropriate
- Not having your phone or digital device out during class since they will be stored in the phone pockets in class
- Getting rid of all food, gum, etc. before rehearsal
- Focusing on the person who is speaking or singing
- Demonstrating good singing posture
- Not talking when the director is actively rehearsing
- Making sure you have a pencil during every rehearsal in order to mark music
- Following directions from the director or whoever is leading
- Leaving personal problems outside the choir room (**HUGE ONE**)
- Everyone will make mistakes and no one is perfect (including Mrs. Short!) Let's be each other's greatest supporters and confidence

boosters!

- The choir classroom is a safe place to be! Please always abide by your class contract and be respectful and courteous of others!
- Mrs. Short will always give her students 110% of her energy, effort, and attention! You contribute the same for amazing things to take place!

These factors are basic to the formation of a good choir. They are not what is necessary to be an 'A' student – they are the minimum expectation of any choir member, anywhere. Grade points are assigned for each of the above skills or requirements for a successful and prosperous choir environment.

Graded Course Activities

Viewing Grades in ASPEN

Points you receive for graded activities will be posted to the ASPEN Grade Book. Click on the My Grades link on the left navigation to view your points. Your assignments will be scored and updated in Aspen in a timely fashion. Please allow at least two weeks after an assignment has been complete in order for a grade to be entered.

Letter Grade Assignment

Final grades assigned for this course will be based on the percentage of total points earned and are assigned as follows:

Your grade will be determined by three factors: 1) your attendance and participation and procedure compliance in rehearsal 2) completion of assigned written work in class or as homework, and 3) periodic performance assessments. These may consist of music currently being learned, sight-reading, or a combination of the two.

The grading formula that will be used is listed below:

****Every student starts out with 100 participation points per 4 ½ weeks. If each choir member is doing their very best to follow all rules & rehearsal/performance procedures, each student will receive full credit for participation. If procedures & daily procedures are not followed, each warning whether verbal or written will result in the loss of participation points for that term. The restroom is not used as a “hang out” spot and certainly not during class time. Use the restroom before class starts, before you leave the main building to come to the choir room, or at the end of class.**

Participation 60%

(includes all class participation and performances & concerts)

Written Assignments 20%

*(includes homework and written assignments
completed during class)*

Tests and Quizzes 20%

*(including both written and
periodic performance assessments, most likely occurring in a quartet/octet set up for part
assessments for learned music or in a singular set up for sight reading)*

Letter Grade	Percentage	Performance
A	90-100	Superior!
B	80-90	Good!
C	70-80	Passing
D	60-70	Low Passing
F	below 60	Failing

Greetings to all!

Before signing this page, please download the Parent Square App & sign in with your school Google email & click the Cocke County High School Big Red Fire Choir 2025-2026 Syllabus & read over it before you sign below!!!

*Both students and parents/guardians should read this handbook carefully. It should be signed and returned to the director by **the end of the second week of school in order to receive a free 100 quiz grade.***

I have read a copy of the Cocke County HS Choral Handbook, and I agree to adhere to these expectations.

I understand and agree to abide by these rules. Please write legibly! ☺

Student Name (print please!) _____

Student Signature / Date _____ / _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____ / _____

Parent Signature / Date _____ / _____

Parent Signature / Date _____ / _____

Telephone Number(s) (____) _____ - _____

and/or (____) _____ - _____