

# GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

PATRICK TAYLOR, DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS

ERIN SCHILLING, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS

## Choir Student Expectations and Grading Policy

It is the policy of the Greenwich High School Choir Program that students be assessed solely on the basis of effort, class participation and attendance. Each and every student is expected to contribute to the musical success of the group through his or her *demonstrated* dedication, commitment, maturity and diligence during rehearsals and concerts. The directors strongly believe that any student, regardless of musical skill or aptitude, can achieve high levels of excellence in these areas.

All students will begin each quarter with 95 points, the equivalent of an A. This point total will be adjusted up or down throughout the marking period as the students strive to meet the expectations listed below. The student's grade will thus be the number of points earned by the conclusion of the marking period.

In order to maintain a grade of 95 points, a student must meet the following expectations at every rehearsal and performance:

### *Students will...*

***be on time.***

***attend every dress rehearsal and concert (see below).***

***attend every class unless excused by the attendance office.***

***bring their music to every rehearsal in a protective folder.***

***bring a sharpened pencil with an eraser.***

***care for their music (no tearing, folding, curling or marking with ink).***

***engage in proper singing posture.***

***conform to the performance dress code set forth by the director.***

***refrain from eating, chewing gum or drinking any liquid other than bottled water.***

***refrain from talking, except when called upon.***

Points will be added and subtracted to a student's grade as follows:

<u>Behavior</u>	<u>Points per occurrence</u>
Exemplary attention and sheet music marking	+1
Exemplary singing posture	+1
Marked enthusiasm	+1
Leadership	+1
Administrative assistance (collating/folding/stapling/filing)	+1-5
Writing a GHS Choir Concert review	+1-5
Demonstrated musical improvement	+1-5
Stage crew assistance	+2
Tardiness	-1
Failure to have a pencil	-1
Inadequate singing posture	-1
Talking during rehearsal or performance	-1
Chewing gum, eating or drinking	-1
Abuse or loss of music	-2
Forgetting music	-2
Unexcused absence (cut)	-5
Inappropriate or improper concert attire	-5
Missing a dress rehearsal (see below)	-5
Missing a concert (see below)	-10

All concerts and dress rehearsals (see attached schedule of events) should be considered exams and are mandatory. The only acceptable excuses for missing a dress rehearsal are GHS games/matches (not practices), religious observances, family emergency or personal illness. The only acceptable excuse for missing a concert is family emergency, religious observances or personal illness. Notification from a parent regarding such situations must be made in writing as soon as possible, preferably before the event. Conflicts regarding playoff or championship games/matches will be resolved on a case-by-case basis.

## 2009-2010 GHS Choir Department Calendar

(These events are required for all students.)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Tues., October 20*	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Dress Rehearsal, Fall Concert	GHS Auditorium
Wed., October 21*	7:30 PM	<b>Fall Concert</b>	GHS Auditorium
Tues., December 8	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Dress Rehearsal, Holiday Concert	GHS Auditorium
Wed., December 9	7:30 PM	<b>Holiday Concert</b>	GHS Auditorium
Tues., March 30	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Dress Rehearsal, Spring Concert	GHS Auditorium
Wed., March 31	7:30 PM	<b>Spring Concert</b>	GHS Auditorium
Tues., June 1	6:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Dress Rehearsal, Pops Concert	GHS Auditorium
Wed., June 2	7:30 PM	<b>Pops Concert</b>	GHS Auditorium

(\*Chorale will not perform in the Fall Concert.)

**Students will be expected to be ready to perform at least one hour prior to each performance.**

**Students in Chorale and Concert Choir may elect to audition for the CT Region/All-State Choirs (see below).**

### Chorus Trip (optional)

(Any chorus student may elect to participate.)

(Subject to student interest and administration / board of education approval. More information to follow.)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Thurs., April 29 - Sun., May 2	Overnight	To Be Determined	To Be Determined

### Additional Required GHS Select Choir Events

(More required events may be added as the school year progresses; there will be at least one month's notice.)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sat., November 21	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	CT Western Region Chorus Auditions	Danbury HS
Fri., December 4	3:15 PM - 4:30 PM	Tree Lighting Ceremony*	Town Hall
Fri.-Sat., January 15-16	All Day	CT Western Region Music Festival	New Canaan HS
Sat., January 30	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	CT All-State Chorus Auditions	North Haven HS
Thurs.-Sat., April 8-10	Overnight	CT All-State Music Festival	CT Convention Center, Hartford
TBA, June	4:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Graduation*	Cardinal Stadium

\* Chamber Singers only

### Performance Dress Code

#### Men

Black tuxedo, black bowtie and cummerbund, white tuxedo shirt with tab collar, black shirt studs, black dress shoes and black socks. Complete outfits (except socks and shoes) may be purchased through the GHS Music Department for \$100 and become the property of each student. **Payment is due on or before Friday, September 11, 2009. Make all checks payable to "Greenwich High School". Please see separate handout for further tuxedo purchasing information.**

#### Women

Women will purchase a new formal black dress from GHS and will be responsible for hemming their dress prior to the first concert. Black stockings and appropriate black shoes (as discussed in class) must be worn with the dress. Jewelry and other accessories must be formal in nature and must not be distracting. Women are requested to wear their hair in a style that does not cover their face. The cost of the dress will be \$75. **Payment is due on or before Friday, September 11, 2009. Make all checks payable to "Greenwich High School".**

**Students must remember that perfumes, colognes, and similar fragrances can be irritating to other singers and should not be worn during dress rehearsals and concerts.**

**GHS Choir Policy Acknowledgment**  
(Please sign and return this page by Friday, September 11, 2009.)

I have read and understand the attached grading policy, dress code and behavioral expectations pertaining to membership in a GHS Choral Ensemble and, having noted the dates and times of the required events, agree to abide by the terms stated herein.

Signed,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student name (please print)                      Student Signature                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian name (please print)                      Parent/Guardian Signature                      Date

**E-mail Addresses**

I hope to use e-mail more often this year to communicate with students, parents or various groups of both. Toward that end, I hope you will be willing to share your e-mail addresses. Since e-mail addresses are often difficult to read when handwritten, I ask that you please print the address twice, once in lower case and once in upper case. Thank you!

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student e-mail address (lower case): \_\_\_\_\_

Student e-mail address (upper case): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent e-mail address (lower case): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent e-mail address (upper case): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent e-mail address (lower case): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent e-mail address (upper case): \_\_\_\_\_

