**Largo High School**

**Chorus Handbook**

[**largohighschoolchoirs.weebly.com**](http://largohighschoolchoirs.weebly.com/)

Welcome! I am thrilled to have every one of you here this year, and I hope this syllabus helps you to plan and coordinate all of the exciting things we have going on this year.

**Required Materials for Class**

**1 composition book or notebook of your choice**

**Pencils** - **nothing in pen will be accepted**

Internet access outside of class

Water Bottle

Staff Paper (Optional)

**Expectations**

All Pinellas County Schools and Largo High School rules will be enforced. This is the one aspect that is the most crucial to what we do in class. Due to the fact that this class is much more group based than individual, it is imperative that we all adhere to rules and guidelines to be able to have a successful class and a productive year. Our goal is to not just educate, but to build a community that every child feels safe and welcomed in.

To receive full credit, students should bring all materials necessary for class each day and be prepared to partake in all activities, both musical and non.

There will be periodic music check quizzes, and students will be singing in front of the class at no more than 2 to a part (though they will mostly be 1 per part). As a performance class, it is one of our standards that students perform in class, and as such you will have to sing on your own.

**NOTE THAT NO FOOD OR DRINKS EXCEPT PLAIN WATER IN A BOTTLE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN THE CHOIR ROOM DURING CLASS. THESE MUST BE DISPOSED OF BEFORE CLASS OR LEFT OUTSIDE THE ROOM.**

**Grading Policy**

* 25 points per week for preparation – each unexcused absence will deduct 5 points per absence from this grade. To receive full credit, you must come prepared to sing and with a pencil every day. If a student is absent, there must be an excuse documented by the attendance office for them to receive the credit for that absence.
  + Ways to lose points include but are not limited to; talking, not having music/notebook/pencil every day, electronic devices, being out of area, phone use
* Written assignments will vary in value based on the content being taught and how difficult the material is.
* Quizzes – written or vocal – will be worth between 25 and 50 points each.
* Tests are worth between 50 and 100 points. Our goal is not to become singers but instead fully rounded musicians. The difference is that one knows how to sing and the other knows how to sing along with understanding how music works and how to distinguish the good from the bad. In other words, professionals not amateurs.
* Concerts are the most important part of our class since it is where students get to put to use what they have been working on during class in a culmination.
  + **There is no way to earn a passing grade in either semester if concerts are missed without a prior excused absence approved by the director and fulfillment of alternate assignment research paper.**
* Extra performances that may arise as the year goes on will be worth an additional 100 points per instance. Students will be notified with ample time to make arrangements before each performance.

**Electronics**

Unless asked to use electronic devices, cellphones and other devices should be placed away in backpacks or in designated slot.

I will be using the Remind app (available on iPhone app store and Google play) to send out reminders of due dates and paperwork. Parents and students are encouraged to subscribe to the text messages sent from this application. To subscribe, text the code for your class to 81010. Codes are:

LHS Concert Choir - @largosatb

LHS Mixed Choir - @largomixed

LHS Madrigal Singers - @largomads

Parents can also subscribe to the same code per class from the app if you choose to download it for yourself – **HIGHLY** **RECOMMENDED**.

**PARENTS!**

\*Visit our Choir’s **WEBSITE** <https://largohighschoolchoirs.weebly.com/> which will be updated throughout the school year as additional event dates become available.

\*You can sign up for the above FREE **Remind** service as well! This will help you to know when your child has assignments or needs to turn something in.

\*Please participate in our **Choral Booster Association** – we need you for our program to continue! More information on this to come later this year as we get more information from our school and district.

**Contact Us**

If you would like to contact me for any reason, please visit the Largo High School Choirs Website (<https://largohighschoolchoirs.weebly.com>) and submit an email in the CONTACT ME section on the right hand side of the main page. You may also reach our Boosters under the RESOURCES tab of the website or at [lhschoralboosters@gmail.com](mailto:lhschoralboosters@gmail.com).

**Student Contract**

**Complete Student Contract at the link below by Friday, August 20, 2021.**

<https://forms.office.com/r/4yGw3yrNCM>