

# Beginning Choir Syllabus 2021-2022

## Welcome to the World of Music!

San Elijo Middle School



### Introduction:

Beginning Choir is a 6-8th grade elective at SEMS. It is designed to allow students to learn how to sing for the first time, gain additional experience, and practice beginning to intermediate level music in a group ensemble. It meets every day. Beginning choir is considered a regularly scheduled core subject and all attendance and grading procedures apply.

### Objectives of Performing Arts:

Students will be expected to demonstrate:

- a knowledge of basic music theory and how it is applied to the vocal arts
- the acquisition of sufficient technical skill to produce satisfactory tone and ability in their chosen vocal range
- a working knowledge of music vocabulary and symbol identification.
- an ability to perform before an audience, demonstrate an understanding of skills in music performance techniques, including appropriate concert attire.

### Tools for Success:

- Folder for music (*generously provided by Band Boosters*)
- Pencil
- Bottle of water for class
- Membership in the Google Classroom
- Knowledge of the [www.semschoir.com](http://www.semschoir.com) website
- Concert Attire: Black SEMS Choir Shirt, Black Pants or Skirt, Black Socks or Tights, Black Shoes (black on black athletic shoes ok)

### Grading:

Beginning Choir Grades are based on the following breakdown:

- Concerts/Performances: 30%
- Singing Tests/other assignments: 20% (late assignments are subject to -1 point per day that they are late)
- Class Rehearsal and Bringing Materials to Class: 50%

***All choir students are expected to attend all performances as part of their semester grades. If an emergency/conflict arises, students/parents must email their director ASAP for further instructions.***

**\*\*Participation and effort are the most important aspects of choir class.\*\***

## **Behavior Expectations/Classroom Rules:**

The Choir room at SEMS is a special place where you are safe to grow and learn. The great behavior of our students is part of what makes this happen. We all make mistakes at one time or another, but the important thing is to correct and learn from these mistakes. As a music student, you are expected to follow the class rules at all times.

### **Class rules:**

- Respect Others
- Support Others
- Speak Appropriately
- No Food or Gum
- Learn and Improve

Not following classroom rules or exhibiting poor behavior can result in the following consequences:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Lowering of class rehearsal grade/citizenship grade
3. Parent Contact
4. AP Referral

## **Singing Tests**

There will be singing tests during each semester. Students are expected to practice the assigned passages and be prepared for these assessments. Advanced Choir members and the director are available for additional help. The first few assessments will be live and solo, so the director can assess students' vocal placement. Later on, students may submit the assessments via the Google Classroom or email.

Our choir website is [www.semschoir.com](http://www.semschoir.com) and is kept up to date with all events, details, forms and announcements. If you have further questions, please feel free to email your director:

**Shannon McInnis** [shannon.mcinnis@smusd.org](mailto:shannon.mcinnis@smusd.org)

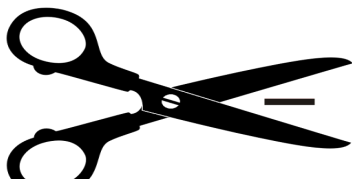
**My office is in 502, and I have a desk in 501 as well. You can contact me during lunch, before and after school, and via email.**

**Important Beginning Choir Dates to Remember**

- Choir Picture Day – Fri, October 15<sup>th</sup> (during class and after school)
  - Students must bring/wear their concert attire as described in syllabus
- Winter Concert (held at SEMS) - Tues. Dec 9 6:30pm
- Coffee Concert (held at SEMS) – TBA-March 11 or 18, 2022
- Spring Concert – May 25, 2022



**Beginning Choir performs at all three concerts.**



**Choir Member Agreement – Beginning Choir**

As a student and parent of the Beginning Choir at San Elijo Middle School for the 2019-2020 school year, I confirm that I have read the syllabus for this class and agree to abide by all policies and rules expressed. I understand that this class is a performing arts class and that my attendance at performances is essential to the success of the entire ensemble.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name(printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

Please return this bottom portion to your class by Friday, August 20.  
This is your first graded assignment! 😊