

Gatesville ISD 6th Grade Hornet Choir

2018-2019 School Year

Mrs. Cherith Wells, GISD Choral Director
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GHS/GJH Choir Room: 254-865-8281 x. 5233

Mrs. Katelyn McCutcheon, GIS Music Director
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GIS Choir Room: 254-865-2526 x. 4428

Choir Schedule

1st period: 6th Grade Choir
3rd period: High School Women's Choir
4th period: High School Varsity Mixed Choir
5th period: Conference
6th period: Junior High Boys' & High School Men's Combined Choir
7th period: Junior High Advanced Girls' Choir
8th period: Junior High Girls' Choir

Membership Costs

- **All Choir students** are required to purchase a uniform t-shirt for \$15.00 on or before Friday September 14th. Students are welcome to wear them to school, but will also be required to wear them as a uniform for various events and performances.
- Family and friends are also welcome to purchase a Choir shirt, if they like!
- Shirts can be paid for all at one time, or in installments, as long as it's paid by the deadline. Also, a fundraiser will be completed before this deadline, so those proceeds can cover the cost of shirts, if needed.
- Various additional fees may apply throughout the year, if the choir student chooses to participate in some of the optional events that are offered.

Turning in Money

- Please don't try to hand a Director money, especially cash!
- Send it with your Choir student in a labeled envelope or baggie
 - Student's first and last name
 - The amount
 - What it's for
- Students will drop it in the Choir deposit box hanging in our office

Classroom Expectations

- Be on time
 - To class, tardies count
 - To rehearsals and performances, it's part of your grade
- Be prepared
 - Put ALL of your stuff along the wall
 - Get your folder and pencil
 - Get to your seat ASAP and start on the bell ringer
 - Follow rehearsal cues: sit, sit tall, stand, etc.
- Be respectful
 - Respect the Directors
 - Respect your peers
 - Respect the facility and equipment
 - Remember the Golden Rule!

- Be hydrated
 - Water is OK at your seat, in a sealable container
 - NO OTHER food, drink, candy, or gum is ever allowed
- Be unplugged
 - NO CELL PHONES at any time, leave them in your locker or backpack
 - No headphones/earbuds
- Be excellent!
 - Positive attitudes only!
 - Give your best effort!
 - Expect to grow!

>>>Students will be given a verbal warning, and if the noncompliance continues, they will be asked to sign the clipboard. If a student repeatedly signs the clipboard, we will notify parents. If the noncompliance still continues, an office referral will be written.

Grading

The choir grade is generally made up of DAILY GRADES (75%) and PERFORMANCE GRADES (25%).

Daily Grades consist of overall class participation, sight-reading, and knowledge of music.

- A+ (96-100) Student consistently meets all expectations every day (including demonstrating good posture and proper vowel formation when singing) AND demonstrates exceptional effort beyond what is required.
- A (90-95) Student consistently meets all expectations every day (including demonstrating good posture and proper vowel formation when singing).
- B (80-89) Student often meets most expectations, but is not consistent.
- C (70-79) Student has many days when he/she makes a minimal effort to meet expectations.
- F (below 70) Student fails to meet basic expectations on a regular basis.

Conduct Grade: As a performing organization, the highest standards of conduct are demanded in order to achieve excellence. Conduct grades reflect observed behavior and adherence to stated choir expectations.

Performance Grades are based on attendance and participation during choir performances, as well as the following criteria.

1. Be ON TIME for “call time”. (*That means IN YOUR SPOT, IN FULL UNIFORM at the specified time.*)
2. Have on all parts of uniform, cleaned and pressed. (*see uniform section below*)
3. Follow directions and focus immediately on the warm-up prior to concert.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of music being performed, as well as performance skills on stage.
5. Concert etiquette is also taken into consideration as part of this grade. Students are expected to sit in the auditorium and listen quietly and respectfully to all other choirs’ performances. Clapping between songs is appropriate, but yelling (at any time), moving around or talking during performances is unacceptable. Inappropriate behavior by students in the audience may be dealt with from the stage or by principals, if necessary. Choir members are expected to be the examples of good concert behavior each time we perform.

Performances

- All concert and rehearsal dates listed in the choir calendar in **bold** are MANDATORY for ALL Choir members. ******(see Choir Calendar below)******
- “Call” means what time the students are to arrive, not what time the performance starts. Students should be fully dressed in the required attire, have already used the restroom, and be in their assigned location BEFORE the listed call time.
- Since performances are the culmination of all preparation and rehearsal, it is imperative that students attend. The experience of a performance cannot be replaced by make-up work. Concerts are co-curricular and therefore are mandatory. However, just being at the performance does not constitute full credit: etiquette, conduct and proper performance attire will factor in.
- Any absence from a performance must be approved by a Director, 5 days prior to the performance.**
- An excused absence consists of personal illness, unavoidable school related obligation or unforeseen family emergency. A Director will determine the validity of the excuse and assign appropriate make-up assignment. The parent must contact a Director PRIOR TO THE PERFORMANCE via email or phone. (254-865-8281 x. 5233, leave a message if no one answers)
- Students who are absent from school more than one half day on the day of a performance *are not* allowed to perform, unless pre-approved by the Principal.
- Any unexcused absence will result in an automatic zero and no make-up option will be given. Unexcused absences are things like lack of transportation, scheduled to work, practice for another activity, doctor appointment, etc. Concerts are considered a major grade, therefore a zero on a concert can possibly result in a failing grade for the nine weeks.

INELIGIBILITY rules are set at state level and are not negotiable at the local level. “UIL no pass, no play”

- Students must have passed all classes the previous nine weeks (or be passing all subjects at the three or six weeks point following) in order to perform in competitions or concerts for which tickets are sold.
- Ineligible students must do make up work to receive a grade for the concert. They may choose to attend the concert and turn in a written report about the concert; or they may request an alternate make-up assignment to be determined by the Directors. ***In either case, it will be due by the day following the concert and 10 points will be deducted each day it is not turned in.***
- Students who fail to make up a concert in the stated manner within one week of the concert date, will receive a zero for the concert grade.

6th Grade Choir Calendar:

EVENT	DATE	CALL	LOCATION	DRESS	START TIME	INVOLVEMENT
Trash bag fundraiser	Aug 31-Sept 14	<i>Turn in all</i>	<i>order forms and</i>	<i>money</i>	<i>by</i>	<i>September 14th!</i>
Choir shirt orders	Now- Sept 14	<i>Turn in</i>	<i>size & money to</i>	<i>your Director</i>	<i>by</i>	<i>September 14th!</i>
Trash bag pick-up	October 8	<i>HS Choir</i>	<i>room before or</i>	<i>after the Fall</i>	<i>Concert &</i>	<i>load in to vehicle</i>
Fall Concert	October 8	5:30 pm	GHS Auditorium	Choir shirt	6:30 pm	ALL GISD Choirs
Veteran’s Day Prog.	November 9	8:15 am	GISD Stadium	Choir shirt	9:00 am	ALL GISD Choirs
GIS/JH Solo Festival	November 29	After school	GHS	Dress clothes	Sign up!	GIS & GJH
Winter Concert	December 10	5:55 pm	GHS Auditorium	Formal	6:30 pm	ALL GISD CHOIRS
GIS/JH Pre-UIL Concert	March 19	5:55 pm	GHS Auditorium	Formal	6:30 pm	GIS & GJH Choirs
GIS Spring Trip	April 5 ????		SpareTime, Temple	Choir shirt		Paid GIS students
GIS/JH Pop Concert	May 6	3:30 pm	GHS Auditorium	Costumes?	6:30 pm	GIS & GJH Choirs
<i>HS Pop Concert</i>	<i>May 16</i>		<i>GHS Auditorium</i>		<i>6:30 pm</i>	<i>If you’d like to come</i>

UNIFORMS

Each student will have an informal and a formal uniform. Directors will instruct students as to which uniform will be worn. Students must abide by the stipulations set forth by the Directors. NOTE: If these guidelines are not followed, up to 20 points can be deducted from a concert grade.

INFORMAL UNIFORM

All students: Choir t-shirt, dark jeans, and closed-toe shoes. Informal uniforms will be worn for some concerts and all extra-curricular performances and auditions.

FORMAL UNIFORM

6th Grade Choir members will wear “concert black” for formal concerts. This should consist of dressy clothing that is all or almost all black. A little bit of white is acceptable.

Boys: black slacks or pants, black (or white) button up dress shirt, black dress shoes

Girls: black slacks or pants, black or white blouse, black closed toe dress shoes. Girls may also wear black skirts or dresses, as long as they are long enough to cover the knees.

NO jeans, NO t-shirts, and NO tennis shoes will be allowed on stage

No jewelry is to be worn. (*Exception: very small, non-dangling earrings may be worn as long as they are not visible from the audience.*)

No cologne or perfume may be worn during performance.

Hair should be clean, well-groomed and out of the eyes. No bows or ornaments are to be worn.

Please sign up to receive text reminders from Mrs. Wells about Choir happenings!

SEND A TEXT TO 81010 (*as the phone number*)

The body of the message should be the “class code” exactly as it appears below:

1st period 6th Grade Choir: @gis6th

You’ll get a welcome text from Remind, it may also ask if you are a parent, teacher or student and it may ask for your name, if you are new to Remind.

Thank you for helping us keep you in the loop!

For your information.....

>>> Students in the GHS Choir program will have the opportunity to earn a Letter Jacket, in one of two ways. By earning enough points, or by participating in Choir all 4 years of high school.

>>> Students who are in Choir every year from 6th grade through 12th grade will be eligible for the Choral Excellence Award, recognizing their 7 years of membership and participation in the program!

Choir Student/Parent Acknowledgement

I have carefully read, understand, and agree to abide by the information found in the GISD Choir Handbook.

Student Email _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/ Guardian Email _____

Parent/ Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

- Please sign and return this page by **Wednesday September 5th**.
- You may also send the payment for shirts (\$15 each) at the same time, if you wish.

Please keep the remainder of the Choir Handbook for your reference during the year.

**We are looking forward to an amazing year in Choir,
thank you for being a part!**