The

Boca Ciega

High School

Chorus Handbook

2020-2021



**Alex Drucker**

*Director*

**Michael Vigue**

*Principal*

**Purpose**

This handbook has been assembled to clearly state our policies, procedures, rules, and expectations. It is your responsibility as parents and students to read and understand the contents of this handbook. It is expected that these procedures will be followed.

Please refer to this handbook throughout the year as questions or concerns arise. The signature sheet along with other forms must be turned in immediately, and will testify to a mutual understanding of departmental regulations. As always, the Pinellas County School Board Code of Student Conduct is in effect during all school related trips, programs, and activities.

**Philosophy**

The Choral Department seeks to provide a musical outlet for any student at Boca Ciega High School, regardless of their musical background or any other consideration. Music is a vital part of a complete education and participation in the choirs at Boca Ciega can provide students with educational, creative, leadership, and social skills. Music literacy, music history, and music theory are integral parts of the curriculum in addition to a high standard of performance.

**Goals and Objectives**

* To encourage each student’s interest and participation in music.
* To instill the values of effort, commitment, cooperation, self-discipline, responsibility, dedication, and respect of oneself and others.
* To perform varied and challenging musical repertoire at a high level.
* To gain a greater understanding of many dimensions of music.

**Supply List**

Students will need:

* Pencils
* BCHS AVID 3-4in D-ring Binder
* Sleeve Folder (black)
* Water Bottle

**Selection of Music**

A wide variety of choral music will be used and will include classical music, folk music, multicultural music, spirituals, sacred music, musical theatre, and pop. Music will be selected from all musical periods, and will be taught along with background information on each period. Many languages will be used, and proper pronunciation will be taught. Each piece of music is chosen on a purely educational basis. All students are required to participate in the activities of each class.

**Electronic Policy**

Personal electronic devices are NOT allowed out during class (unless permission is given beforehand). They must all be put away in backpacks and bags. If a phone is seen or heard during class, participation grade will be lowered. Electronics being out goes against our rules of participation of being actively engaged in the classroom and with our group for the instructional time allotted.

**Classroom Rules and Procedures**

* Be on time to class – in your seat and ready to participate when the bell rings.
* Leave your cell phones, MP3 players, and other electronics turned off/on silent and out of sight at all times.
* All backpacks, purses, books, and other personal belongings are to be placed outside of the rehearsal space by the bookshelves. Students should only have their folder and a pencil at their chair.
* Pick up folder with pencil in it and go to seat quietly.
* No food, candy, gum, or drinks are allowed. The only exception to this rule is water in a closed container.
* A designated time will be allotted for bathroom usage, before and after this time students are not allowed to use the restroom.

**Handling of Music**

Students will be responsible for providing a black sleeve folder in which to keep all of their music. Music will remain in the folder, and the folder will be taken home and brought back to class every class meeting. Students are never to take the music from another folder or to leave it on the floor. At the end of the rehearsal, folders are to be returned to your AVID Binder. If a student leaves a folder on the floor, in a chair, or anywhere other than its assigned slot, his/her grade will be affected. Music is not to be abused in any way. This includes rips, markings in anything other than pencil, lost pages or other damages which will make the music useless. A pencil is to be kept in the folder so that markings can be made in the music. If music is returned damaged or not at all, the student will owe the current price of the music.

**Discipline**

Each disciplinary situation will vary depending on the degree of the infraction(s). However, with general behavioral issues, including (but not limited to) lack of participation, excessive talking, disrespect to the teacher or others, etc., the following will apply:

First offense – a conference will be held between the student and Mr. Drucker

Second offense – a phone call home

Third offense – referral

**Grading Criteria**

***AVID Folder – 15%***

Students at Boca Ciega are required to have a 3-4in D-ring Binder for their respected classes. This folder will be checked by Mr. Drucker every two weeks and be graded. If you miss a class, it is YOUR responsibility to see Mr. Drucker for grading to occur. Any students who do not meet the rubric requirements or does not see Mr. Drucker when absent for the AVID folder will be given a grade of 0% for that grading period. A section of that Binder should be reserved for your period of chorus and it should include the following:

1. Black Sleeve folder (for music)
2. Pencil
3. Any assignments done in the chorus classroom.

***Daily Participation – 20%***

The student’s participation in classroom activities, in the sole judgment of the director, will be based on the classroom procedures and rules stated above, in conjunction with the following:

* Students are to remain on task in rehearsal, without individual conversations. (This includes NOT having phones out during class, NO EXEPTIONS!)
* Have a positive attitude and be willing to try.
* Maintain appropriate posture.
* Respect everyone and everything in the classroom.
* Periodic student self-assessment.

***Assignments – 20%***

Each student will need to provide their own AVID folder where music and any other assignments will be kept. Notebook checks will be conducted periodically throughout each nine-week grading period. Notebook activities will include exercises in music theory, music literacy, and music history. It is the students’ responsibility to maintain their notebook and make up work as necessary.

***Tests, Quizzes, and Assessments – 20%***

Students will participate in written and aural testing throughout each grading period. Assessments will cover information learned in daily classwork assignments (musicianship, notation, vocabulary, listening, dictation, history, etc.) and rehearsal (vocal technique, rehearsal and concert etiquette, sight singing, part checks, etc.)

***Extra Evidence – 10% (Vocal ens. only)***

Every Vocal Ens. and Int. chorus student must participate in or attend extra musical activities every grading period. Examples include (but are not limited to):

* Audition/participation for All-State Chorus
* Audition/participation for All-County Chorus
* Participation in Solo and Ensemble
* Attendance and written summary for a musical performance in the community (other schools, Master Chorale of Tampa Bay, St. Pete Opera, Florida Orchestra, community musical productions, etc.)
* Tri-M Music Honor Society Membership and volunteer work

***Chorus Concerts – 25%***

While chorus is a curricular class, it also requires extra-curricular obligations. Public performance is an essential part of this course. **All performances (including the winter concert, Music Performance Assessment(s), and spring concert) are REQUIRED as a part of your grade.** Failure to attend will result in a 25% drop in your overall grade.

It is impossible to recreate a performance for students who fail to attend. No make-up assignment will be allowed for any student with an unexcused absence. If a student misses a concert with an excused absence (as defined by Pinellas County Schools), they must complete write a research paper on an approved musical topic of their choice. It must be at least 5 pages, double spaced, in 12-pt font.

**Uniforms**

Everyone in chorus is required to rent a uniform for the year to be worn at formal concerts. The uniform rental fee is $25 for the year and includes a chorus T-shirt for informal performances. Uniforms will consist of a black choir robe with a gold stole. Men are responsible for providing their own black dress shoes, and black socks, black pants and an all-black shirt to wear under the performance uniforms. Women are responsible for finding their own black dress shoes, black pants, and all-black shirt to wear under the performance uniforms. All women’s shoes should be FLATS, close-toed, and have at least a strap across the back of the heel. NO SNEAKERS, NO HIGH HEELS and NO FLIP FLOPS! If you are on free/reduced lunch and need assistance with the uniform fee and/or t-shirt cost, please email Mr. Drucker at DruckerA@pcsb.org.

**Contacting the Teacher**

If you wish to contact Mr. Drucker, you may send an email to DruckerA@pcsb.org. If you wish to speak by phone, please send an email with your phone number and I will call you as soon as possible.

**Parent Volunteers**

Parent Volunteers are always needed and highly valued! Parents are necessary to chaperone concerts and trips, help in the production of concerts and events, handling of uniforms, and serve as valuable contacts in the community. Please fill out the attached form and return it with your student if you are interested, along with a photocopy of your driver’s license or ID.

If you can assist in driving students, please also fill out the Driver’s form and attach a copy of your driver’s license and current driver’s insurance card. You can find this form under Field Trip Vehicle Information on the PCSB website.

**2020 - 2021 Schedule of Events**

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**DATE EVENT LOCATION**

*Sept. TBA All State Decision Deadline See Mr. Drucker*

*Canceled All State Musicianship Test PPHS*

***Sept. TBA* Voice4Peace BCHS Auditorium***Oct. 23rd*  *End of 1st Q*

*Oct. TBA All State Vocal Test TBD*

*Nov. 23rd-27th* *Thanksgiving Break – No School*

**Dec. TBA Winter Concert Dress Rehearsal BCHS Auditorium**

**Dec. TBA Winter Concert BCHS Auditorium**

*Dec. 21st -Jan. 1st Winter Break – No School*

*Jan. 4th Schools Re-open*

*Jan. TBA All-State Chorus Rehearsals/Concert Tampa Convention Center/STRAZ*

*Jan. TBA All-County Rehearsal Day*

*Feb. TBA All-County Concert Day Ruth Eckerd Hall*

**Mar. 2-5th District Choral MPA’s Trinity Presbyterian Church, Clearwater**

Mar. 31st End of 3rd Q

Mar. 15th -19th Spring Break – No School

**May, TBA Spring Concert Dress Rehearsal BCHS Auditorium**

**May, TBA Spring Concert BCHS Auditorium**

June9th Last day of school for students

**Bold events are required.**

*Italicized events are optional. Except for Vocal Ensemble, they MUST PARTICIPATE in ALL!*

Regular events are general calendar dates or miscellaneous.

**This is not a complete or final list. The chorus may not participate in all above dates. Additional events will be added, and it is the student’s responsibility to stay informed about upcoming performances. All mandatory rehearsal and performance dates are subject to change due to the Covid-19 situation, but when they are made official, they will be announced on Canvas and on the board/out loud in class. Notice of at least one week will be given for any after school rehearsals, and at least two weeks’ notice for formal performances.**

**Please fill out the following handbook agreement form and return by Friday, August 28th. This will count as your first quiz grade!**

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Student Name Date T-Shirt Size

(Required)

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Student Signature Date T-Shirt Size

(Optional – must provide additional payment $15.)

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Parent/Guardian Name Phone number

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Parent/Guardian E-mail Phone number

Parents: Please indicate any of the following ways in which you would consider assisting the chorus program.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chaperone for trips during school hours

\_\_\_\_\_ Chaperone for trips during non-school hours

\_\_\_\_\_ Concert assistance

\_\_\_\_\_ Uniform assistance

\_\_\_\_\_ Playing the piano or other instrument(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for concerts

If you have expertise in anything else that may be of assistance please indicate here:

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