

Sharyland North Jr. High
Choir Handbook
2014-2015



Abner Rodriguez
Choir Director

North Jr. High
5100 Dove Ave.
McAllen, TX 78504
(956) 686-1415
Ext. 3542
abnerrodriguez@sharylandisd.org

Director's Note:

Hello. Welcome back. The choir had a very successful showing last year. I hope that we can supersede our accomplishments. I am very excited to start the new school year and I hope you are too. This manual will give you an overview of our choir policies and goals. I look forward to working with the students and seeing their talents develop.

Abner Rodriguez
North Junior High
Choir Director

Mission Statement

The North Junior High School choral music program provides students the opportunity for individual musical growth and vocal development. You are privileged to be a member of one of the performing choirs. Students study and perform music of all styles, historical periods, and cultures. Students learn the value of team work cooperative learning, critical listening, and self-evaluation. The North Jr. High choir program is open to any student without regard to handicap, race, religion, gender, ethnic heritage or national origin.

Mrs. Leticia Leal
North Junior High School
Principal

Performance and Rehearsal Information

Choir is a performing organization. There will be at least three major concerts throughout the year. These include fall concert winter concert and spring show. Parents will be provided with a schedule containing the appropriate activity dates. Sometimes conflicts may arise with regard to rehearsals and performances. A student's presence in a concert is of the utmost importance. These concerts take place in the evenings; however, they are still part of the curriculum. Students will be allowed to make up a concert absence only in the most extreme cases. The format for the make up session will be determined after a conference with the parent, student, and teacher has taken place. All absences must also be verified in writing by the parent. The format of the make up session is at the teacher's discretion. There may also be additional rehearsals scheduled outside of class hours. These are crucial to maintain the high quality of our performing groups.

Objectives

Throughout the year, the following will be learned and practiced during the daily lessons:

- Sight-Reading
- Recognition and application of music symbols and terms
- Rhythm reading
- Application of good vocal quality
- Production of proper singing vowels

Grading Policy

Since rehearsals and performances do not consist of graded written material, most grades must be based upon individual student effort and participation. The North Jr. High Choir will abide by the campus and district grading policy.

District policy dictates major grades are worth **60%** and minor grades are worth **40%**.

Major Grades 60%- These include, but are not limited to: **Concert performances, written tests, singing/performance tests, sight-reading tests.**

Minor Grades 40%- These include but are not limited to: **Warm ups, quizzes, sung or played, daily participation.**

Choir Uniforms

Students will be provided with a choir uniform for concerts. The students will need to purchase a pair of black jeans or slacks to go with these. Each student is responsible for the return and care of the uniform. If a uniform is lost or damaged, each student must pay the cost to replace it.

Choir Equipment

Music and folders

- students must take good care of all music issued
- each student must have a pencil in their folder at every rehearsal
- music may be taken home to rehearse but it must be brought back the next day for in class rehearsal

Fundraising

The North Jr. High choir will participate in at least one fundraiser during the school year. The funds raised will be used for class trips and other incentives. All students are encouraged to participate. Student/parents are financially responsible for all items and/or money due.

Materials Required

1. Pencil, not a pen
2. A 1 inch 3-ring binder with dividers
3. Choir T-shirt (\$10.00) will be purchased through the choir program.

Tardy Policy

All students are required to stand in their assigned place with their folders and pencil ready to sing when the tardy bell rings. Tardiness will not be tolerated.

Choir Calendar of Events

Fall

Thursday - October 16, 2014 - Fall concert, 6:00pm (SNJH Cafeteria)

Saturday – October 25, 2014 - Solo & Ensemble Contest, 8:00am-5:00pm
-Morris Middle School (McAllen)

Friday – October 10-24, 2014- Choir fundraising

Thursday – December 4, 2014 – Choir Winter Social afterschool

Thursday – December 4, 2014- Winter Concert, 6:00 pm
(SNJH Cafeteria)

Thursday – December 11, 2014 – Christmas caroling to elementary schools,
banks, nursing homes, etc.

Spring

Thursday – February 19, 2015 -Pre - UIL performance 5:00pm – 6:00pm
(SNJH Choir Hall)

Tuesday- Thursday - March 3-5, 2015 - U.I.L. Concert and sight-reading
Contest from 8:00am –5:00pm (PSJA Southwest HS)

Saturday - April 11, 2015 - All Region Choir auditions, Alton Memorial JH
School 8:00am – 5:00pm (Alton)

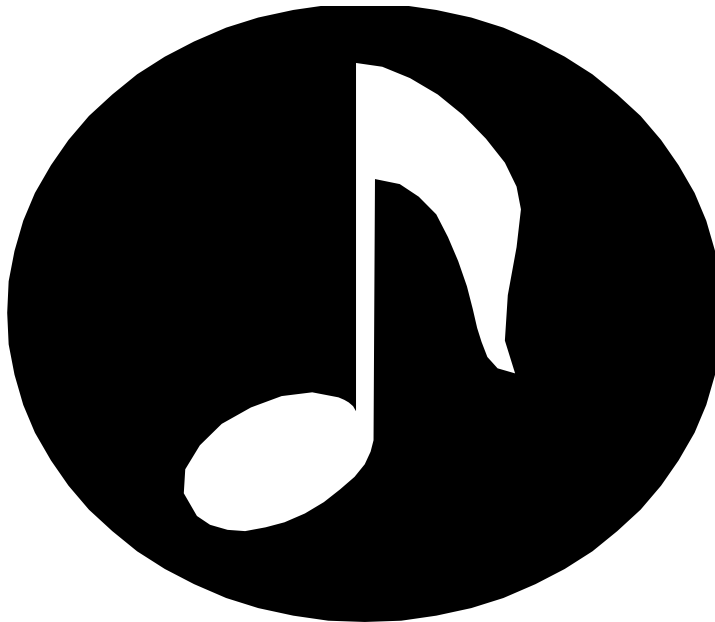
Saturday – April 25, 2015 - All-region clinic and concert, UTPA or McHi

Thursday - May 21, 2015 – Spring Show SNJH Cafeteria at 6:00p.m.

Classroom Procedures

- 1) Be in your assigned place with your folder/materials when the bell rings.
- 2) During class rehearsals please raise your hand and wait to be recognized before you comment or ask a question.
- 3) Follow instructions the first time they are given.
- 4) Be polite and respect everyone at all times.
- 5) Keep all objects such as gum, candy, and pencils, away from your mouth.

Thank you for your support. I am looking forward to a wonderful year!



Statement of Agreement

I have carefully read the choir handbook and agree to follow all rules and regulations.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

This agreement needs to be turned in to Mr. Rodriguez no later than 3 days after receiving it.

----Detach this page only----
(Keep the rest of the handbook for your reference)