

## 6th Grade Choir Handbook 2017-2018

**\*Parents and students: Please sign and return the last page of this handbook to Ms. Bronson by Friday, Sept.1<sup>st</sup>\***

Welcome to 6<sup>th</sup> grade choir! As your choir teacher, I am excited to begin this year with you! We will work hard this school year to learn new music and become the best musicians possible. This guide will inform you of your responsibilities as a student in the 6th grade choir, as well as the responsibilities for the parents of students in this choir. Please read through this document carefully so that you and your parents completely understand the expectations that exist for you in the choir program.

### **Participating in Choir**

As important as individual practice is for developing skills, daily participation in group rehearsal is equally important as an active application of those practiced skills. If a student misses a rehearsal, it is impossible to make-up, unless the entire choir comes in together to make it up (obviously this is impossible and unfair to other students). After missing a class, students need to check in with the director to see what they missed when they were absent, which may include written work given during class. **Students need to make up all work within each grading period.**

### **Performance Participation**

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade choir will have two performances this year. Remember that choir is a performance class, and as such, participation in performances is **REQUIRED!** Notification via signed parent note or email must be given **TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE** of the concert day to receive an excused absence, **NO EXCEPTIONS.** A make-up assessment will be provided.

After this point, the only excuse for missing a performance is extreme illness or family emergency. Absences affect the confidence level of the choir in performances, and it is important that each student respects the hard work of their peers, themselves, and the choir as a whole.

### **MUSIC**

This year the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir will be provided copied music to work from. Each student will receive a folder to store their music and resources throughout the year. The music and folders need to be kept in great condition and not torn apart. If caught destroying or defacing music or folders, a fine will be placed on the student's account and a note will be sent to parents/guardians.

### **FINES**

Students will use their folders to keep their music, theory worksheets, and any other music resources. Music, like everything else, has become increasingly expensive. Students will be fined for destroyed music. Students are not to write on or tear folders or music (pencils are used in music under director instruction when necessary).

## CONCERT ATTIRE - MANDATORY

Students need to have the following for their performances:

### Boys

Black Pants (no jeans or sweats)  
Black Socks  
Black Dress Shoes (no tennis shoes)  
White collared shirt (no print)

Boys: No hats.

### Girls

Black skirts or black pants (no jeans or sweats)  
**\*Skirts must be knee length or longer\***  
Black, flat shoes with black socks or nylons (no high heels)  
White Blouse (no print)

Girls: Be mindful of jewelry –  
Earrings must not be distracting  
No necklaces or bracelets allowed

## Assessment/Reporting Policy

All grading practices will follow the Standards-Based Grading method of a four-point scale for skill and standard proficiency. The scale, aligned directly with learning standards, gives the student, teacher and parents a clear picture of how each student is progressing on a set of important skills and standards, as well as work completion and classroom behaviors. Each assignment is tied to a specific standard and will be reported with the following vocabulary.

### Standards Proficiency Reporting Scale

- DIS - Distinguished** – exceeds grade level standard
- PRO - Proficient** – meets grade level standard
- APP - Approaching** – needs assistance to meet grade level standard
- BEG - Beginning** – work is below grade level standard
- NE - No Evidence**

Students will be assessed on standards regarding both Individual and Ensemble Musicianship, as well as their daily work and practice and classroom behaviors in accordance with Cashmere Middle School grading policy. Each category is broken down into specific learning standards, listed below.

### INDIVIDUAL MUSICIANSHIP

- Sight Reading
- Vocal Technique
- Musical Knowledge
  - Music Theory

### ENSEMBLE MUSICIANSHIP

- Performance Etiquette
- Small Group Work
- Execution of Performance

## PERFORMANCES

\*There are **2 required concerts** for 6<sup>th</sup> grade choir. Please post these dates **NOW** on your calendar at home.

<b>*December 7 (7:00 pm)</b>	<b>Winter Concert</b>	CMS Performing Arts Center	6 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Choirs 5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Bands
If Needed	Solo/Ens. Night	CMS Performing Arts Center	All S/E participants
January 27	Solo/Ensemble	Wenatchee High School	Piano/Voice Students
March 26-28	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Play	CMS Performing Arts Center	By audition
<b>*May 24 (7:30 pm)</b>	<b>Spring Concert</b>	CMS Performing Arts Center	6 <sup>th</sup> choir & 6 <sup>th</sup> band

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## CASHMERE MUSIC BOOSTERS

The Music Boosters are the support group for the music program. It has been their responsibility to raise funds to buy and maintain uniforms, pay for travel, and buy non-musical equipment (flags, props, etc.) predominantly for the high school ensembles. However, in the last year, our funds from the middle school ASB have been cut back. The funding has covered costs for NCW Honor Choir, All State and All NW recipients, solo/ensemble participants, band uniforms, etc. We are in great need of having a middle school contingency of parents that would be willing to help organize and run one fundraiser this year so that our students can still participate in these wonderful events. Please fill out the form below if you are interested in being a part of this event. I have also listed other events that will require volunteer helpers. Thanks in advance for all your support!

**CASHMERE MIDDLE SCHOOL  
6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CHOIR GRADING POLICY  
2017 – 2018**

**PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS PORTION OF THE FORM TO MS. BRONSON**

WE UNDERSTAND THE PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS STATED IN THE ABOVE GUIDELINES AND  
ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS SET FOR THE 2017 – 2018 SCHOOL YEAR AT  
CASHMERE MIDDLE SCHOOL.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**The Music Boosters meet via email every month. Any adult is eligible and encouraged to  
join the Music Booster Organization.**

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**Cashmere Choral Department**

**Invites You To**

**Be Part of a Very Successful Program!**

Please check the areas you're available to help the teachers & the kids (\*please realize that this is not a final commitment, but it gives me a place to start when looking for help at event times). Please put your email on even if you're unavailable to help with events, this way you will get the newsletter every month. Thank you!

**Concert Helpers (Setting up donation table/chairs/ticket sales, etc.):**

\_\_\_\_\_ Winter Concert

\_\_\_\_\_ Spring Concert

**Miscellaneous:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Volunteer in Classroom

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# CMS

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir Handbook

### 2017 – 2018

