

*Riverview High School*  
*Chorus Department*

Handbook 2018-2019

**Director:** Elizabeth Stewart

11311 Boyette Road  
Riverview, FL 33569

[www.sharkchorus.org](http://www.sharkchorus.org)

### **Class Objectives**

- ✓ Grow as a responsible, disciplined member of a performing group.
- ✓ Receive instruction pertaining to the development and improvement of vocal techniques in solo and choral performance.
- ✓ Discover the fundamental principles of music theory and how it is structured in notated music.
- ✓ Learn the historical background of the music that is studied.
- ✓ Understand the role and value of music in your life.
- ✓ Listen to, analyze, describe, or evaluate music and musical performances.
- ✓ Foster creativity in improvisational singing and/or arranging and composing vocal warm ups or songs

### **Grading Scheme**

**35%:** Class participation, quizzes, quartet formation, and conduct. There will also be random assessments of student progression in music theory, vocal production, harmonization, and musical creativity.

**5%:** Concert reflections

**60%:** Participation in concerts and other required performances.

### **Daily Materials**

- ✓ Pencil (no pens)
- ✓ ½ inch black binder
- ✓ College ruled notebook paper

### **Concert Expectations**

Remember, all school and county rules as outlined in the HCPS Student Handbook apply when at any performance. When you are performing, you are representing the Riverview High School Chorus program. Full participation is expected at all concerts. To receive full credit, you must be on time to all performances and attend these concerts in full, with the appropriate uniform(s). If an emergency should arise, please contact the at least director 24 hours beforehand. All concerts usually start at 7:00 p.m. and student call times are 30 minutes prior to any performance event. When you arrive at the concerts or events, make sure to check in and check out with the designated student leader. Non-chorus or event participants are not allowed back stage; this includes the auditorium stage, the music hallway, dressing rooms, and classrooms. Performers should arrive fully dressed in their assigned uniform.

If a student has an excused absence from a concert, the highest grade they can receive for a concert is a 70%. Students who have an unexcused absence from a concert will be graded on an individual basis at the discretion of the director.

### Sheet Music Expectations

Each member will be required to purchase a black binder to store music. This folder will be used for the entire school year. You will be issued music throughout the year. This music should be kept in your folder and be with you in class every day. You will be charged replacement cost for any lost or damaged original music. Music shall be marked with PENCIL ONLY. Replacement costs for each piece of music range from \$1.00 to \$8.00. You will be assigned an unsecured slot in the choir room for folder storage. If you choose to keep it in your slot, you are still responsible for the contents therein. Any folder left out will be collected and placed in the appropriate choir's bin. If for some reason, you do not receive a piece of music, share with your neighbor for the day, then at the end of class, talk to the librarian or Ms. Stewart. Only appointed students will be allowed in the library.

### Rehearsal Expectations

- ✓ There is to be no talking or disruption of any kind once rehearsal has started unless otherwise directed.
- ✓ When the tardy bell rings, you need to be in your seat with all the needed materials for that day. If you walk into the class after the bell, you will be marked "unexcused tardy" unless you present a pass.
- ✓ Be respectful and professional to all persons in the class. This includes not;
  - Using profanity
  - Making derogatory comments toward anyone
  - Moving from your seat while someone is speaking
  - Talking while another section is working
  - Packing up before instructed to do so
  - Inappropriate public displays of affection.
- ✓ Electronic devices may not be used during rehearsals, before or after concerts. I see it; I take it no questions asked. Any confiscated devices will be turned into the main office and must be picked up by a parent or legal guardian.
- ✓ Food, gum, or drinks are not allowed in class. Bottled water is the only thing permitted in class. Help us keep our carpet clean.
- ✓ Adhere to all procedures and guidelines set out in the HCPS Student Handbook.
- ✓ We work from bell to bell. Please be on time to class every day!

### Varsity Letters

To earn a letter/bar in Chorus, you must;

- ✓ Attend all rehearsals and performances
- ✓ Maintain a B average in the class both in conduct and academics.
- ✓ Other factors include: attitude, participation in extra events, leadership, and citizenship.
- ✓ Demonstrate musical achievement
- ✓ Serve as a positive role model

### **Payments**

The chorus accepts the following forms of payments; cash, check, PayPal, Credit Card, cashier's check, and money order. Please make checks and money orders out to "RVHS Chorus Boosters." All payments are to be deposited into the box on Mrs. Stewart's office desk, in an envelope with the student's name, enclosed amount, and the reason for the payment. Envelopes will not always be available for students to use so please anticipate on providing your envelopes. Please do not hand your payment to a student leader or leave it on Mrs. Stewart's desk. If you need to set up a payment plan, the parent must contact Mrs. Stewart via email to arrange payments prior to the payment deadline. All monies must be paid in full before we can order uniforms, polos, or pay for trips.

### **Fundraising**

We plan on doing many various types of fundraisers this year to cover the cost of trips, as well as music and supplies for our Choral program. We are a competitive choir; therefore, students are required to participate in fundraising throughout the school year to insure enough money to cover trip costs and choral department expenses.

### **Field Trip Eligibility**

It is the goal of the chorus program to provide trips that will enhance your Music Education experience as a developing high school performing artist, and to boost the morale of entire choral department as a whole. To participate in music enhancement activities and trips you must;

- ✓ Have an A average in Chorus
- ✓ Have an A average in conduct
- ✓ Be passing all other classes with a B or higher
- ✓ Be in good conduct in all of your classes
- ✓ Maintain a weighted GPA of 2.5 or higher to be eligible for trips of any kind

\*This includes All County, All State, Solo & Ensemble, and both state and choral level MPA.\*

### **Student Leadership**

Mrs. Stewart will appoint student leaders only when she needs them and they are expected to serve the choir in a respectful manner.

Their goal, as leaders, is to reinforce the positive potential of the vocal ensemble in which they sing, never to challenge the director.

Expectations:

- ✓ Do not talk down to the members on the choir
- ✓ Remain calm and be patient and demonstrate what teamwork is about and be consistent!
- ✓ Convey a respectful attitude toward other members of the council and your student peers. LEAD BY EXAMPLE!

## Parent Chaperones and Volunteers

### Chaperones

- ✓ All chaperones must fill out online volunteer application
- ✓ All chaperones on overnight and out-of-county trips must be fingerprinted by HCPS

### Volunteers

- ✓ All volunteers must fill out online volunteer application
- ✓ Volunteering during school hours must be arranged in advance
- ✓ All volunteers must sign in and out in the main office

## Chorus Booster Association

President: Tracey Long

Vice President: Heather Stanley

Secretary: Pamela Cooper

Treasurer: Marj Rainey

Fundraising Coordinator: Scarlett Waldron

Uniform Coordinator: Tacy Troncoso

Transportation Coordinator: Cathie Cornett

Webmaster: John DeMarco

Administrative Liaison: Yolanda Dowling-Dickey, RVHS Assistant Principal of Student Affairs

### Uniform Guidelines

- ✓ Both gentlemen and ladies need to have their hair neat and out of their face.
- ✓ Do not wear flashy or distracting jewelry (stud earrings only!), and heavy perfumes or colognes.
- ✓ If you do not purchase a formal uniform by the end of the 1st semester, you will be removed from chorus.
- ✓ Tennis shoes are not allowed on stage (dress or dance shoes only)
- ✓ Ladies need to wear the designated flat black shoes for choral performances, (heels or character shoes are not permitted with formal uniform regulations.)
- ✓ **All visible tattoos must be completely covered during performances.** Failure to comply will result in being removed from that specific show.
- ✓ All uniforms are purchased, not rented

Ladies		Gentlemen	
Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Long blue choir dress Black flats	Chorus polo Black slacks* Black flats	Tux jacket Tux bowtie Tux shirt Cummerbund Tux pants Black socks* Black dress shoes*	Chorus polo Black slacks* Black socks* Black dress shoes*
Cost: \$105.00	Cost: \$25.00	Cost: \$115.00	Cost: \$25.00

\*not included in the uniform cost, must be purchased on your own

### Contact the Chorus

Director: Elizabeth Stewart, M.M.E.

Office: 803D

Director Email: [Elizabeth.stewart@sdhc.k12.fl.us](mailto:Elizabeth.stewart@sdhc.k12.fl.us)

Office Phone: (813) 671-5011 ext.282

Booster Email: [sharkchorus@gmail.com](mailto:sharkchorus@gmail.com)

Website: [www.sharkchorus.org](http://www.sharkchorus.org)

### Get Connected!

Twitter: @sharkchorus

Instagram: @sharkchorus

Snapchat: @sharkchorus

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/sharkchorus3371](http://www.facebook.com/sharkchorus3371)

Remind: Sign up with the codes below to get text notifications! We use this as our principle means of instant communication in regard to assignments, rehearsals and performances so it is imperative that you join the remind group.

VISION	@visionI9
Harmonix	@harmonixI9
Mixed Chorus	@mcsharkI9
Women's Chorus	@wcsharkI9
Boosters & Parents	@I9boosters

Text the appropriate code above (with the @ symbol) to 81010