



Choir Handbook 2022-2023

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Instagram and Twitter:

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Search: Frisco High School Choir

Goals of the FHS Choirs

1. To promote, provide, and encourage interest and participation in choral music.
2. To develop individual vocal technique and an understanding of its relation to the choral ensemble.
3. To increase confidence in creative self-expression.
4. To promote the value of effort, cooperation, teamwork, dedication, and self-discipline.
5. To promote a sense of pride in the school and choir program.

Student Expectations/Consequences

Classroom Expectations:

- Exhibit a strong work ethic and a positive attitude at all times.
- When the director is talking, you are silent and listening.
- Show kindness, respect, and empathy for others.
- Make mature choices.
- Avoid distracting behavior.
- Have your music and a pencil every day.
- Care for all school property.
- No food or drinks (besides water) allowed.
- Observe all school rules and policies as stated in the FHS student code of conduct.

Classroom Consequences:

If a student fails to follow one or more classroom rules, the director is assuming they have **temporarily forgotten** what the rules are. The director is more than willing to remind students of what they have forgotten. After several reminders, however, it becomes apparent to the director that a student's "I forgot" is really an "I don't care."

Be aware that repeated reminders will be viewed by the director as an "I don't care" and could result in parent conferences, detention, disciplinary referrals, removal from choir trips and activities, and permanent removal from the choir program at the discretion of the director and principal.

Grading Policy

A student's choir grade will be based on the following: Singing Quizzes, Written Quizzes and Assignments, Rehearsals and Performances.

Excused Absences from a Rehearsal or Performance:

An excused absence is one that has been approved by the director, preferably ahead of time, and is accompanied by a phone call, a written note, or e-mail from a parent. Please inform me of school conflicts ahead of time, so that I may talk to the sponsor to work out a compromise.

Examples of some excused absences: Illness; Family Emergency/Death in the family; Weddings/Religious events; Other extenuating circumstances (determined by the director)

Unexcused Absences from a Rehearsal or Performance:

If a student does not provide proper documentation for their absence, it is automatically unexcused.

Examples of some unexcused absences: Lack of transportation (except in extenuating circumstances); Forgot; Homework; Doctor's Appointment; Work conflict (please ask off ahead of time)

Make-Up Work:

If a student misses a rehearsal or concert and it is excused (unless school related), they will need to complete a make-up assignment. Students will submit a video recording of themselves singing all songs from the concert into Canvas.

Uniforms and Fees

Formal Choir Uniforms

Ladies:

- Black formal dress (issued by school)
- Black **closed-toe** dress shoes

Guys:

- Black tuxedo (all parts issued by school)
- Black socks
- Black **dress** shoes

Jewelry:

- Jewelry should not be a distraction from the look of the group

Cleaning Formal Uniforms:

Students will be issued a clean uniform. All students are expected to keep their uniform in good and clean condition.

- **Ladies:** Dressed can be washed at home or dry-cleaned. If you are washing the dress at home, please either wash the dress by hand or use the delicate cycle of your washing machine. Dresses should be turned inside out before washing. Dresses can be put in the dryer on low heat for a short period of time to get the wrinkles out, but please be careful not to overheat them.
- **Guys:** Please either wash or dry-clean the white tuxedo shirts after every concert. Tuxes should be dry-cleaned throughout the year as needed.

Hemming of Uniforms:

- We will take care of this. Please do not hem your uniform on your own. Instead let us know if something needs to be altered on your uniform.

Cost of Replacing Lost or Damaged Formal Uniforms:

FORMAL DRESS	\$65.00
WOMEN'S JEWELRY	\$10.00

TUX PANTS		\$45.00
TUX SHIRT		\$20.00
TUX JACKET		\$55.00
TIE	\$7.00	
VEST		\$12.00

Informal Choir Uniforms:

- Choir t-shirt
- Jeans
- Tennis shoes

Choir Uniform Fee

Choir Fees will be as follows:

- **All students NOT in Harmony Pop Group:** \$60 total divided into two payments: \$20.00 paid to school in Online School Fees and \$40.00 paid to Choir Booster Club.
- **All students that ARE a part of Harmony Pop Group:** \$80.00 total divided into two payments: \$20.00 paid to school in Online School Fees and \$60.00 paid to Choir Booster Club.

Choir Payments

We encourage parents to use the Fisd online payment system called "Online School Fees" to pay all choir fees. If a parent wishes to pay by cash or check, however, we will also accept this form of payment. Please make sure all payments are turned in an envelope with the **CHILD'S NAME, AMOUNT, and WHAT THE FEE IS FOR**. Please make sure all checks are made out to "**FHS Choir**" and have the child's name in the memo portion.

Eligibility

Certain activities are classified as eligibility activities. The FHS staff will enforce all eligibility policies. TEA has a specific list of activities that are eligibility activities which include competitions, activities that charge an admission fee, and pep rallies. For more information about eligibility see UIL-TEA side-by-side which can be viewed through the TEA website or the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) website (www.tmea.org). In order to be eligible, students must have a grade of 70 or above in all classes, including P.E., athletics, electives and academic classes on both their progress reports and report cards. Students who are ineligible will continue to rehearse during their choir class, before and after school, and participate in curricular performances to earn their choir grade. *Ineligible students may not travel with the choir or participate in extracurricular activities.*

Choir Events that Require Students to be Eligible:

- Region/All-State Auditions
- Solo and Ensemble
- Choir Disney Trip- NO REFUNDS given for students who become ineligible

Supplemental Activities

All-Region/All-State Choir Competition: Students will have the opportunity to audition for the All-Region Choir in October. Interested students will receive a practice CD and printed music of the selections they are required to learn. Students will then audition with a short “cut” of the music and sightread for judges. If a student is selected for the choir, they will participate in the All Region Clinic and Concert. Students that earn a high enough place in the choir will also have the opportunity to continue on to Pre-Area, Area, and possibly make the Texas All-State Choir! Selection to the Texas All-State Choir is one of the highest honors a choir student can achieve! **The cost to audition is \$20.00.**

Solo/Ensemble Contest: This is an opportunity for students to sing a solo or an ensemble in front of a single judge for a rating. Either their private voice teacher or I will help students to select solos or ensembles that will be appropriate for their voices.

Private Voice Lessons: Students will have the opportunity to take private voice lessons during their class time, before school, or after school. An information sheet about private voice lessons will be available near the beginning of the school year.

Lettering in Choir

FHS choir students will be subject to a points system. Any student who is able to accumulate ***8 or more points*** will be eligible to purchase a FHS letter jacket. This policy is designed to reward commitment and high achievement. Excessive behavior problems can result in a student losing their lettering privileges. Please see Mrs. Bradstreet for a packet if you are ready to order one.

- **2 points:** completion of a full year in choir (at FHS or another school). Seniors will receive their final two points during the fall semester of their senior year.
- **2 points:** being selected for Harmony (additional choir class)
- **2 points:** auditioning for the All-Region Choir
- **2 points:** being selected to the advance to Pre-Area in Choir
- **2 points:** being selected to advance to Area in Choir
- **5 points:** being selected to the All-State Choir
- **2 points:** participating in UIL Solo/Ensemble Competition
- **2 points:** advancing to State Solo/Ensemble Competition
- **2 points-4 points:** earn 2 points per 10 approved services hours completed for the choir program (fill out required form under by going to "[Choir Service Forms](#)" under "Resource" tab of our website- www.friscochoir.com)