

Sebastian River Middle School Choir



Handbook:

2018-2019

Director: Mr. Ethan Kinkle

Introduction

From The Director - 2018/2019

I warmly welcome each and every one of you to what is sure to be another tremendous school year. 2018-2019 marks my 7th year as a Choir Director, all of which have been here at SRMS. The high quality work the students do, and the wealth of outstanding parent support is what has made SRMS Choir the largest, most active Choral Program on the Treasure Coast, and one of the premier programs in the State of Florida.

Within this Handbook is a great wealth of information which will help us to achieve success this year. Each and every detail regarding every procedure and event has been given special attention to ensure as much accuracy as possible.

If you ever have any questions regarding your child's progress, or the program, please contact me and I will get back with you as soon as I can. It is going to be a memorable year, and I can't wait to get started!

Warmest Regards,

Ethan Kinkle

Ethan.Kinkle@indianriverschools.org

SRMS CHOIR BENEFACTOR PROGRAM

SRMS Choir Sponsorship
Established: May 12, 2015

We are excited to continue our new Benefactor Sponsorship Program. This program is designed so that any individual, family, or business can help our program grow. Our program is very active, with trips to Tampa for All State Choir, seasonal concerts, community Madrigal Performances, Indian River State College Honors Choir, Music In the Parks Festival (Tampa, 2015), (Atlanta, 2016), (Tampa, 2017) (Charlotte, NC, 2018) and various other annual performances. Your sponsorship is what allows us to continue to offer these outstanding opportunities for our students.

We have three different levels of commitment through sponsorships. An engraved plaque with your name and donation date (academic year) will be displayed in the Choir Room on our Benefactor Wall. Below are the sponsorship commitment levels:

Platinum \$300+

Gold \$225 - \$299

Silver \$150 - \$224

In addition, all sponsorships are listed in all concert programs for the entire academic year of the contribution. Finally, all sponsorships received by December 1, 2018 will be listed as "Tour Sponsors" on our SRMS Madrigal Tour shirts available in 2019. Here at Sebastian River Middle School, we strive to grow the choir each year and are excited to offer of families and community an opportunity to help us grow. If you know of individuals or businesses who would be interested in sponsorship, please pass along word. All checks can be made payable to "SRMS Choir".

Sincerely,

Ethan Kinkle

ethan.kinkle@indianriverschools.org

(772) 564-5185

EMERGENCY MEDICAL FORMS

All SRMS Choir Students must complete and turn in an Emergency Medical Form. Forms can be accessed at: <https://www.indianriverschools.org/srms-chorus>

Students will not be permitted to leave campus for ANY Choir Trip without this form completed. This includes mandatory performances such as MPA, and extra curricular trips such as College and University trips. All emergency medical forms are due no later than Friday, August 31, 2018, no exceptions. If you are joining Choir in the middle of the school year, you have exactly one week after your initial date to turn in this paperwork. They do NOT have to be notarized.

Student/Parent Choir Contract

In addition to the Choir Handbook, students and parents need to read, sign, and return the Student/Parent Choir Contract (available on the same site). This details behavioral expectations for all students, and chaperone etiquette. All Student/Parent Choir Contracts are due no later than Friday, August 31, 2018 no exceptions. If you are joining Choir in the middle of the school year, you have exactly one week after your initial date to turn in this paperwork.

SRMS Choir T-Shirts and Chaperone Polos

This year, we will be selling our SRMS Choir T-Shirts and SRMS Choir Chaperone Polos at the beginning of the year. T-Shirts will be \$10 and Chaperone Polos are \$25. In order for students to participate in ANY off campus field trip with choir, they must have a shirt purchased NO LATER than Friday, August 31, 2018. This is very beneficial for the safety of our students. Students are to wear their t-shirts to these off campus field trips unless designated by the director (MPA, All State, etc). In addition, any parent wishing to chaperone for ANY choir trip, we are requesting you purchase a chaperone polo. Again, the deadline for money collection is September 1st, so if you think you'd at all consider being a chaperone, we recommend proceeding with a polo purchase. Students joining choir in the middle of the school year will have exactly one week after your initial date to purchase a t-shirt.

SRMS CHOIR HANDBOOK SIGNATURE PAGE

Please return the back page of this handbook signed and completed NO LATER than Friday, August 31, 2018 to ensure child remains in good standing with the program. If you are joining Choir in the middle of the school year, you have exactly one week after your initial date to turn in this paperwork.

HOW TO BECOME AN SRMS CHOIR CHAPERONE

We are always in need of excellent chaperones to help make our trips a reality. If you're interested in adding your name to the potential chaperone list, please complete an SRMS Chaperone Form and purchase and SRMS Choir Chaperone Polo (see above), no later than August 31, 2018. If you are a returning parent, and purchased a polo a previous year, please state that on your chaperone form. When an event approaches and we need chaperones, simply e-mail the director at ethan.kinkle@indianriverschools.org and your name will be added to the list for consideration for that specific trip. I will e-mail each interested chaperone informing them if they are needed for a specific trip. Please keep in mind that only chaperones who have completed both requirements will be considered. Additionally, parents who show up to an event without their polo will not be permitted to serve as a chaperone for that event. This is to help keep everyone safe!

A NOTE ABOUT REFUNDS

ANY TIME MONEY IS COLLECTED, REFUNDS ARE ONLY GIVEN IN CASE OF EXTREME EMERGENCY AS DEEMED BY THE DIRECTOR.

Great Choirs Sound Great
Great Choirs Volunteer
Great Choirs Fund raise
MAKE SRMS A GREAT CHOIR

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF CHORAL MUSIC **SEBASTIAN RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Choral Music at SRMS shall include the following fundamental elements:

- I. Study of vocal techniques. Each student shall be provided opportunities to:
 - a. Breath correctly for singing;
 - b. Produce good vocal tone;
 - c. Sing with good diction;
 - d. Develop the voice.

- II. Study of Choral techniques. Each student shall be provided opportunities to:
 - a. Achieve choral balance and blend;
 - b. Achieve good intonation and tone quality;
 - c. Achieve rhythmic accuracy;
 - d. Achieve expressive, artistic performance.

- III. Music Theory. (depth of study to be related to the difficulty and sophistication of the music performed). Each student shall be provided opportunities to:
 - a. Know how to use the grand staff;
 - b. Know and use pitch and rhythmic notation;
 - c. Know and use key and meter signatures;
 - d. Observe dynamic markings;
 - e. Train the ear;
 - f. Solfege

- IV. Sight reading. Students will have opportunities to develop sight reading abilities through an ongoing method designed to increase music reading proficiency.

- V. Music History and Literature. Each student shall be provided opportunities to:
 - a. Experience and discuss a variety of choral styles, eras and composers through the performed and rehearsed music.
 - b. Listen critically to live and recorded performances.

- VI. Performance activities. Each student shall be provided opportunities to perform individually, in small ensembles and in large groups.

- VII. Creative self-expression. Each student shall be provided opportunities to express artistry in every performance activity.



Choir

2018

Course Syllabus



Teacher: Mr. Ethan Kinkle **Phone Number:** 772-564-5185 **Room Number:** Choir

Room

Email: ethan.kinkle@indianriverschools.org

Resources: Music Distributed In Class

The aims of MYP Arts are to encourage and enable students to:

- create and present art
- develop skills specific to the discipline
- respond to and reflect on art
- engage in a process of creative exploration and (self-)discovery
- understand the world
- make purposeful connections between investigation and practice
- understand the relationship between art and its contexts
- deepen their

IB Mission Statement & Learner Profile Attributes:

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right. *IB learners strive to be: inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective (Learner Profile).*

Arts Key Concepts:

Aesthetics deals with the characteristics, creation, meaning and perception of beauty and taste. The study of aesthetics develops skills for the critical appreciation and analysis of art, culture and nature. In the arts, the concept of aesthetics is perceived differently around the world and across cultures. Aesthetics does not only address the rules and principles of beauty but should also include cultural perspectives and perception through the senses

Change is a conversion, transformation or movement from one form, state or value to another. Inquiry into the concept of change involves understanding and evaluating causes, processes and consequences. The arts may be a reflection of change, or an inspiration for change. Change may be considered as external to the arts or incorporated within an artwork. In the arts, change can also be termed as metamorphosis or transformation—a marked change, in appearance, form, nature or character.

Communication is the exchange or transfer of signals, facts, ideas and symbols. It requires a sender, a message and an intended receiver. Communication involves the activity of conveying information or meaning. Effective communication requires a common “language” (which may be written, spoken or nonverbal). Communication is often regarded in the arts as a message between the artist and an audience, or between performers. Without intended communication the arts become solely self-expressive.

Identity is the state or fact of being the same. It refers to the particular features that define individuals, groups, things, eras, places, symbols and styles. Identity can be observed, or it can be constructed, asserted, and shaped by external and internal influences. In the arts we often explore the self and self-discovery through the concept of identity; however, identity may also refer to the identity of a genre, style, movement, particular artist or place.

Global Contexts

Students learn best when their learning experiences have context and are connected to their lives and their experience of the world that they have experienced. Using global contexts, MYP students develop an understanding of their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet through developmentally appropriate explorations of:

Identities and relationships <i>Who am I? Who are we?</i>	Scientific and technical innovation <i>How do we understand the world in which we live?</i>
Orientation in space and time <i>What is the meaning of “where” and “when”?</i>	Globalization and sustainability <i>How is everything connected?</i>
Personal and cultural expression <i>What is the nature and purpose of creative expression?</i>	Fairness and development <i>What are the consequences of our common humanity?</i>

Announcing 2018-2019 Travel SRMS Madrigals to Miami, the Everglades and Tampa

SRMS Madrigals will be participating in a most memorably tour in May 2019.

Specific information regarding the trip will be distributed as the school year starts and will be discussed during the Madrigal Parent Meeting (see date on the calendar).

This type of competition travel has become an annual tradition for this program as we continue to grow. It is expected that **ALL** participate as it is important to remain a unified team as we go out and travel. If you have any additional questions that weren't covered in the parent letter, please e-mail me at ethan.kinkle@indianriverschools.org.

This is going to be a highly successful trip!

FLORIDA ALL STATE CHOIR (all Madrigals)

Who: Sebastian River Middle School Madrigal Singers

What: Florida Music Educators Association All-State Choir (Auditions and Event)

Where: Vero Beach High School (Auditions), Tampa, FL (All State Choir)

When (see below):

Preliminary Audition: A preliminary audition will be held at school on August 30, 2018 during the Madrigals Class Period. All Madrigals will be participating in this preliminary audition, as the audition serves as a test grade. Audition will consist of a theory test, and individual sight reading. The top scoring students will then be registered to audition for the “Official” Round 1 of auditions below.

Auditions Round 1: September 15, 2018 – All State Preliminary Auditions @ Vero Beach High School– Students arrive BY 10 AM. Conclusion sometime around 1-3PM (ending time is VARIABLE) Written Theory Exam and Sight Reading– Parents transport students to and from site and will stay with students during the duration

Auditions Round 2: October 15, 2018 – All State Vocal Quality Auditions @ Vero Beach High School BY 3:30PM– 2nd Round of Auditions for All – State Choir – For those who passed the First Round. Parents will transport student to and from site.

All-State Choir: January 9-12 2019 – All State Choir (more details to come) in Tampa, FL – It is MANDATORY at least one parent/guardian attend with you. If we have SEVERAL students make All-State Choir, we will look into sharing rooms to significantly cut down on costs. More information to come.

Money Due: **\$25 for Round 1** Auditions by August 31, 2018

The biggest financial responsibility is covering the cost of hotel costs for the Hilton Downtown Tampa which is where we stay. If we have multiple students make it (we likely will), we will discuss sharing rooms to SIGNIFICANTLY cut down on the cost, which is around \$190 a night.

SRMS has an elite Choral Program, therefore participation in the Florida All State Choir is something that all of our students should strive for. By being selected to participate in Madrigals, you are a part of the select group at an elite program. Therefore, participation in All State Choir is something that should be a goal for ALL of us! For students who do not audition for All-State, a comparable audition/exam will take place in class.

INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE HONOR CHOIR

Who: Sebastian River Middle School Concert Choir Students (first to register will attend)

Where: Indian River State College, Fort Pierce, FL

When: September 28, 2018 – IRSC MS/HS Honor Choir – **9AM-4PM**, bring money for lunch
September 29, 2018- IRSC MS/HS Honor Choir – **9AM-4PM** Rehearsal – Dinner Break, then
Performance, Call Time **6PM**

Cost: \$25 – Make Checks Payable to SRMS Choir

Money Due: Friday, August 24, 2018

Concert Attire: SRMS Concert Dress/Tux (IRSC Participants will be fitted in September, before anyone else).

PARENTS:

This is a FANTASTIC opportunity for our students. The IRSC Middle School Honors Choir features students from Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, and Okeechobee County. They work with a clinician during the two day rehearsal period, and perform a concert the second night. It serves as a great opportunity for growth! The cost of the event includes the purchase of the music and lunch (which means your child can keep their music after the event)!

If your child participates, you are required to drop your child off for rehearsal both days and be there both days for the end of rehearsal to pick them up. At the end of the second day's rehearsal, you need to pick up your child and take them out for a quick dinner but please make sure you are there for the concert and are able to take them home. We typically all go out to a restaurant together. Parents, you **MUST** be at the concert. This ensures every student meets up with their parent afterwards, and heads home.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Beginning Choir

This class is designed to be the training course, or introduction to the choral program for students at SRMS. Students of all levels of musical aptitude and experience are encouraged to register for this course. The only prerequisite is a studious work ethic and willingness to contribute to a highly established team. Enrollment is unlimited. 6th Grade Choir is a training, or skill-building group, participating in a wide variety of concerts, productions and other performances.

A diverse selection of musical styles is explored, with particular emphasis on traditional choral literature.

Intermediate Choir

This class is designed to be the intermediate level course of the choral program. Intermediate Choir is a performance-based ensemble, participating in a wide variety of concerts, productions and other performances. This class is comprised of students by **recommendation from the director only**.

A diverse selection of musical styles is explored, with particular emphasis on traditional choral literature. Students must be members of this group in order to be considered for: Madrigals, All-State auditions and Solo and Ensemble participation.

Students in the class will perform at most concerts with the 8th Grade Choir, making up the SRMS Concert Choir.

Advanced Choir

This class is designed to be the focal point of the choral program. Advanced Choir is a performance-based ensemble, participating in a wide variety of concerts, productions and other performances. This class is comprised of students by **recommendation from the director only**.

A diverse selection of musical styles is explored, with particular emphasis on traditional choral literature. Students must be members of this group in order to be considered for: Madrigals, All-State auditions and Solo and Ensemble participation.

Students in this class will perform at most concerts with the 7th Grade Choir, making up the SRMS Concert Choir.

Madrigal Singers

This class is designated to meet the needs of those members of Concert Choir wishing more in-depth and intense involvement in the SRMS Choral Program.

This is a small, highly-select group of approximately 35-40 members. Members are selected by **audition only**. Madrigals is a performance-oriented group, participating in a wide variety of concerts and other performances throughout Indian River County and throughout the country. The music selection requires expert independence and skill. Only those Concert Choir members who are in good standing will be permitted to audition. Those who have shown exemplary attitude, responsibility and commitment will be selected. Students must remain in good standing in order to continue to participate in Madrigals. Members with outstanding fees, fines, or incomplete assignments will not be permitted to participate.

Madrigals participate in an annual educational performance tour (usually in April, alternating between in-state and out of state annually). Participation in this tour is an expected part of this class. Past tours have included trips to Atlanta, GA and Tampa. Fundraising efforts help ensure each student has the opportunity to participate.

Boy's Choir

The SRMS Boy's Choir is the only Boy's Choir in Indian River County. Boys of all levels of musical aptitude and experience are encouraged to register for this course. The only prerequisite is a studious work ethic and willingness to contribute to a highly established team. Enrollment is unlimited.

A diverse selection of musical styles is explored, with particular emphasis on traditional choral literature.

EXPECTATIONS

The Sebastian River Middle School Choir has great potential for growth. Whether or not this year will be a success, however, depends entirely on the degree to which this potential/talent is developed. Our mission is to cultivate both the desire and the skill necessary to bring every member of the choral program to the very limit of his/her abilities.

Be present to all rehearsals. For all class periods, **pencil and a notebook** are required.

Enter each rehearsal class period with an attitude of complete professionalism. Be on time. Come into each rehearsal quietly with the anticipation that you will accomplish something that you have never accomplished before. Work toward being mentally prepared to make your best effort for the day. Your effort directly affects the tone and success of a class rehearsal.

You must work as hard as you can at every rehearsal. You must always mark your music! Progress must be made at each rehearsal. Progress must be built upon from one rehearsal to the next. “The key to a great choir is its ability to remember” (Daniel Moe).

Each member’s effort is pivotal to the success of the SRMS program. If you’re not present for class rehearsals, it’ll be impossible to have a successful performance. Your attitude and your work ethic must reflect the fact that you are one of a select few.

Excessive absences will lower a student’s grade, as they are not able to be a consistent part of the team.

You must try harder than you ever have. If expectations are worthy of your gifts/abilities, and your efforts equal your expectations, you will achieve success.

Expect great things from yourself, the director and each other. Use your influence to help others become better. Learn from everyone. There is no room in this organization for Prima Donas. You must be wise enough to learn from every person and situation, from the very greatest to the very least. There is a great deal of disparity in every choral ensemble with regard to ability and experience. The only thing that can be equal is the effort in relation to ability and experience.

You will never be greater than your expectations; expect to be the best and work to achieve it. Be kind to those around you, including other students, the director and yourself. **Bullying** of any sort, as well as **unpleasant attitude** will not be tolerated under any circumstances and will lead to immediate removal from the class.

ADDITIONAL NOTE: Unnatural hair coloring and excessive styling will not be allowed on stage for any performance as it is a distraction to the team, and the audience. This will in turn affect a student’s grade, therefore please plan accordingly! Do not show up to an event out of code and attempt to “fix it”. As soon as you are noticed as being out of code, you forfeit participation in the event.

DISCIPLINE MATRIX

1. Verbal Warning
2. Loss of Daily Points
3. Parent Call/lunch detention
4. Office Referral

Gum is an automatic lunch detention since it is a **SAFETY HAZARD** in the choir classroom. If a student has a tendency to chew on his/her tongue, this is a habit they need to try to get out of as it looks identical to chewing gum.

How Does My Child Become Eligible for Extra-Curricular Choir Trips?

Extra-curricular Choir Trips (trips that are not a required part of the class), are offered to those students who have met the following criteria:

- Emergency Medical Form Turned In By: August 31, 2018
- Choir T-Shirt Ordered by: August 31, 2018
- Handbook Signature Form Turned In By: August 31, 2018
- Choir Behavior Contract Turned In By: August 31, 2018
- Fundraising Fair Share Met for Each Fundraiser as deemed by the director
- Must have a minimum grade of “B” in Choir at all times
- Must maintain a “C” minimum in all core area classes, with no “F’s” or “D’s”
- No Out-Of School Suspensions or more than 1 “In-School Suspension”, non negotiable.
- Must Maintain a “Running Attendance Rate” of at LEAST 90%.

If a student falls short in one of these areas, they will not be permitted to attend non-curricular trips. Students who join the class after the above deadlines have exactly 5 school days from their start date to turn in all necessary paperwork.

Fundraising Fair Share

The SRMS Choral Program is almost entirely self-sustained. That means that the money we bring in as an organization is what goes to sustaining and growing the program. Therefore, **EVERY** student who participates needs to be of the mindset of contributing to the program in all ways. **EVERY STUDENT IS EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN HIS/HER FAIR SHARE OF THE FUNDRAISING RESPONSIBILITIES!**

2018-2019 Fundraisers

This school year, we are holding monthly car washes in addition to two large scale seasonal fundraising campaigns. These are to generate funds for the general operating budget of the SRMS Choral Program as well as allowing students to earn individual credit they can use for **academic, curricular trips**.

Fundraising Schedule:

Fall Fundraiser: Kickoff: September 11, 2018 during school day
Order Forms and Materials Collected: September 18, 2018

Color Run Spring Fundraiser: Kickoff: Details Sent Out In Class
Race Registration and Sponsorship Collection Begin: TBD
Early Race Registration (t-shirt and race bib included) Ends: TBD
Date of Color Run: Saturday, February 23, 2019

We are using Great American Opportunities, one of the largest and most well respected fundraising companies in the world for our Fall Fundraiser. **Each student** is expected to participate fully in the fundraisers. There will be a rewards program that will reward students for their levels of success. **HOWEVER**, fundraising is NOT a grade. It is greatly encouraged, essential for the continuation of the Choir and rewarded, but NOT a grade. Money that is made from this fundraiser is deposited **DIRECTLY** into the SRMS Choir account and assist with operational costs for the program. A successful fundraiser is **ESSENTIAL** to maintain a successful Choral program and ensures a successful year.

We will be having an end of the year rewards theme park trip for students who reach their fair share in our fundraisers. Any student in good standing, who completes their fair share of fundraising will be eligible to attend. Specific details will be released as a surprise for the students.

Student who turn in any fundraising money **PAST** the due date will automatically become ineligible for non curricular choir trips (College Concerts, etc).

FUNDRAISING IS NOT A GRADE

Concert Etiquette

Concerts are the Choral Program's opportunity to showcase the work we do on a daily basis to parents, loved ones, and friends. Therefore it is essential that the following aspects of etiquette be followed for **ALL** performances.

General concert etiquette guidelines that everyone should know and observe:

1. NO electronic devices!
2. Turn Cell Phone to **Silent**. If you must use your phone, please LEAVE the auditorium before you speak.
3. Do not talk during the performance. It serves as a huge distraction to the students, and audience members around you and shows a lack of respect for the event.
4. If you are sitting with a small child, please sit near an exit door. If the child begins to scream, please exit the auditorium.
5. All children need to be supervised at all times.
6. Do not leave your seat unless it is an emergency.
If you must leave your seat, please move only during the applause (wait until the song is over).
7. Do not eat, drink, chew gum or make any other noise that would be distracting to the performers and audience members around you.
8. Please keep flash photography to a minimum as it may be dangerous or distracting to the performers and audience members around you.

GRADING POLICY

Daily Participation and Cooperative Learning

Given the performance-based nature of the choral class offerings, you must be present for class. Unexcused absences will not be permitted. In order for an absence to be excused, the student must be participating in an official school-sponsored activity, a religious holiday, or a personal/family emergency, illness or death. Please follow SRMS absentee protocol in order to have your absence deemed as excused. Students with lower than a 90% attendance rate will struggle academically in the class are subject to dismissal from

choir. **IF A STUDENT IS MISSING A MANDATORY AFTER SCHOOL REHEARSAL DUE TO EXTREME ILLNESS, PARENT MUST CONTACT THE DIRECTOR BEFORE THE REHEARSAL FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE DIRECTOR.**

In addition, daily participation credit will be withheld for disruption of rehearsal, talking, or conduct that is detrimental to the **team**. This will be monitored closely and point deductions will be recorded daily.

Concerts

Attendance at all performances is **mandatory**. Failure to participate in a performance will result in a failing grade for that particular event which will cause student to earn a poor grade in the class and will **not** be recommended to sing in choir the following year. If you participate in athletics, you must inform both the director and athletic coach of any commitments. If any scheduling conflicts arise, there is a traditional way in which this is handled. Your best option is to keep both parties fully informed.

All students are provided with a performance grading rubric which applies to ALL performances. Please make sure you and your child are fully aware of how the choir is graded for these performances as exceptions to the rules are made under **NO** circumstances. Participants in the Choir all receive the same grade for these assessments, unless there is extenuating circumstances (absence, tardiness, etc). Below is the rubric:

Florida Vocal Association		Final Rating
Choral Performance		
Time _____	Date _____	Use no + or - in final rating
Name of Ensemble _____		
School _____	Number of Singers _____	
City _____	District _____	School Enrollment _____
Selections _____		
Tone Quality		
1 2 3	Circle one:	Comments:
____ Resonance	A	
____ Focus and Placement	B	
____ Breath Support	C	
____ Vowels	D	
____ Consonants	E	
____ Beauty and Freedom		
____ Register adjustment		
____ Control		
____ Blend		
Technical Preparation		
1 2 3	Circle one:	Comments:
____ Intonation	A	
____ Pitch accuracy	B	
____ Rhythmic precision	C	
____ Choral balance	D	
____ Stability of pulse	E	
____ Entrances		
____ Releases		
____ Balance of accompaniments		
Musical Effect		
1 2 3	Circle one:	Comments:
____ Proper tempo	A	
____ Phrasing, musical line	B	
____ Dynamics	C	
____ Style	D	
____ Articulations	E	
____ Dramatic effect		
____ Expression		
____ Interpretation		
____ Response to conductor		
<small>Adjudicator will record a + or - by the factors relating to each category, indicating exemplary work or needing improvement in this area. The absence of any such markings indicates an average performance level in this area.</small> General Comments: (Include literature selection, appearance, misc.)		

Choral Performance Criteria Reference				
Tone Quality				
A A healthy, vibrant, resonant, and free tone that is consistently well-supported. Vowels are formed properly, resulting in a uniform, blended tone. Consonants clearly communicate the text. Register changes properly made throughout vocal range.	B An energized tone that often displays focus and resonance in extreme registers. Vowel placement and formation are often consistent, with most consonants audible. Adjustments are made to correct discrepancies in volume of individual singers.	C A generally good tone but sometimes breathy and with tension. Vowels are sometimes improper, creating a tone that is forced and strident. Consonants are sometimes audible, and some diphthongs not treated correctly. A few individual voices sometimes heard.	D Tone seldom possesses space, resonance, and focus. Freedom and support and/or beauty of tone are seldom achieved. Basic vowel formation is incorrect. Diphthongs lack definition, most words are not clear. Some individuals dominate the ensemble.	E Tone completely lacks space, support, focus, freedom, and beauty. Proper vowel formation is never achieved, and consonants are unidentifiable. Sections and individuals never adjust to blending problems relating to excessive vibrato and volume.
Technical Preparation				
A Intonation and tonal center are consistent throughout vocal registers. Pitch accuracy, rhythmic precision, and pulse awareness confirm a well-prepared performance. A proper balance is consistently maintained through various dynamics, textures, and ranges.	B Intonation is often accurate, with adjustments made in extreme ranges and difficult harmonic passages. Control of pulse is evident with a few minor problems. Balance problems in extreme dynamics and ranges are quickly corrected.	C Pitch is sometimes correct, with problems caused by harmonic faults. Accuracy of pitch and rhythm, steady pulse, and releases and entrances are at times accurate. Balance is sometimes maintained with similarities of volume and tone.	D Intonation is seldom accurate, showing a lack of listening skills and understanding of vocal adjustment. Rhythmic and/or pitch accuracy is seldom achieved. Pulse is dragging or rushing most of the time. Balance problems are frequent and a sense of ensemble is lacking.	E Tonal center is never established. Sense of steady pulse never occurs within the ensemble. Pitches and rhythms are poorly prepared. Entrances and releases are not executed. Sections are never in balance.
Musical Effect				
A The composer's intent regarding tempo, style, and markings are consistently followed. Dynamics, phrasing, articulations, and interpretative nuances are artistically executed. There is a consistent feeling of musical line, and a feeling of forward motion. Sensitivity and expression are evident to convey the composer's message.	B A musical performance that often exhibits proper tempo and style. Markings are often followed. Dynamic contrast, and appropriate articulations are present most of the time. Communication between conductor and singers, and dramatic effect are often evident.	C Tempo, style, and phrasing sometimes follow the composer's intent. Uses of dynamics, articulations, and nuances are sometimes stylistically correct, but contrived. Musical line sometimes achieves a climax, and at times the composer's markings are followed. Group and conductor sometimes display good communication.	D Performance seldom exhibits proper tempo and style, or does not follow musical markings. Phrasing is mostly mechanical or contrived. Dynamic range is very limited and/or too much contrast is used. Sensitivity or expression is seldom achieved at any level. There is rarely any dramatic effect.	E Tempo and style are never correct. There is an inaccurate use of dynamic ranges. There is never a feeling of phrase shape. The group fails to respond to conducting gestures and/or the gestures are inappropriate. There is total absence of emotional involvement.

Unexcused Absence Policy Be responsible to know about all Choir performances, rehearsals, and activities. Excuses that will NOT be accepted are:

1. "I had to work." – Make arrangements with your employer early.
 2. "I couldn't get a ride." – Be responsible. Arrange this early. Set up a car pool!
 3. "I didn't know about it." – Be responsible. Listen and read carefully all information.
 4. "I'm losing my voice." – You may not be able to vocally contribute, but you can still learn!
 5. "My parents are out of town." – Communicate and make arrangements before the conflicts arises.
 6. "Parent made me stay home to work or study." – Your commitment to Choir involves maintaining your academic standing. Manage your time so that you can be at rehearsals/performances.
 7. "Teacher made me stay after class." – Arrange to meet your teacher on a non-practice day.
 8. "I have an appointment." – Please schedule it at a different time.
 9. "Family or relatives visiting." – If it is important for them to see you, have them come to choir to watch you. Explain to them your prior commitments to the choir.
- NOTICE!** None of the above will ever be accepted as an excused absence.

After school rehearsal dates and concerts are **MANDATORY**, which means attendance is **MANDATORY**. If a medical emergency occurs and a student must miss that particular event, a parent music contact the director no later than 9AM the morning of the event. Additionally, a doctor's note will need to be provided to the director immediately upon student's return to school. Missing school due to a mild case of the sniffles is not encouraged, as it serves as a detriment to the student in **ALL** of their classes. If a student **MUST** miss school on the day of an event, their absence must be officially excused by the school, **AND** the director needs to be contacted directly no later than 9AM the morning of the event. A makeup assignment will be given to the student by discretion of the director. If the student does not turn in the makeup assignment by the due date, they will receive a "ZERO" grade for that particular event.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT FOR ALL STUDENTS IN ALL CLASSES. UNLESS A STUDENT IS HIGHLY CONTAGIOUSLY SICK, THEY NEED TO BE IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY OF EVERY WEEK. STUDENTS WITH 10+ ABSENCES OVER THE COURSE OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR ARE AT GREATER RISK OF ACADEMIC DEFICIENCY, AND WILL LIKELY NOT BE RETAINED IN CHOIR. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT - MAKE IT A PRIORITY!

Small Group Assessments

On a regular basis, students will prepare a segment of music that is specified at least three rehearsals in advance and perform that segment with their small group in front of the director. These will be graded on pitch, rhythmic accuracy, tone quality and textual unity and sense of ensemble. These assessments ensure personal responsibility and will benefit the entire ensemble.

Folders and Music

Folders and music will be issued to each student. Students must have a pencil with them to keep in their folder. Random folder checks will occur and will be graded on condition of music, markings and whether or not a student has a pencil. Maintaining your folder is paramount and is the responsibility of the individual member. Numbered folders and music will be issued in good condition. All folders and music are to be returned in good condition. Students with damaged or misplaced folders will be billed \$20 for replacement of folder and music. Therefore it is essential that you treat your materials well.

Don't Share Folders!! It is difficult enough to concentrate, use perfect posture, mark your music efficiently, and correct your own mistakes without having to share with someone else.

Music and Folders will be signed out at the beginning of each semester and will be signed in at the end of that semester. **Folders are not to leave the choir room without prior permission from the director.** Lost or damaged folders or music must be paid for by the member.

Practice Logs

Practice logs are to be completed and turned in weekly on Thursday. Students are to practice for 15 minutes 3 times a week and get a parent signature on the form. Forms are graded. If a student is absent on a Thursday, practice log is to be turned in the VERY next day student returns to school.

Photo/Video

SRMS Choir participates in a wide variety of events, concerts, festivals and outings. As a social component of choir, students often take pictures with friends and have family members video record concert performances. This media will occasionally make its way onto social media sites as this is a common part of life. If you prefer your child **NOT** have media opportunities with classmates, please contact me as soon as possible at ethan.kinkle@indianriverschools.org or 772-564-5185.

GARMENT POLICY AND RENTAL FEE

Garments will be issued on our annual Wardrobe Fitting Evenings in the SRMS Choir Room. **IN ORDER FOR A STUDENT TO RECEIVE A DRESS/TUX** – They must have all forms turned in by August 31, 2018. This includes, Choir Handbook Signature, Emergency Medical Form, and the Student/Parent Choir Contract. NO EXCEPTIONS. Attendance to **ONE** of these days is mandatory, as this is the only time dresses and tuxes are to be assigned. Please see calendar for the fitting nights. In order to receive a dress or tux on the evening of the fitting, students and parents are to bring their **\$25 Dress/Tux Rental Fee. STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ISSUED DRESSES/TUXES WITHOUT THIS FEE.** This fee goes to the general maintenance and upkeep of the outfits. Checks or cash will be accepted. Checks are to be made payable to “SRMS Choir”. Students will **ONLY** be assigned a dress/tux if they pay their rental fee.

All garments issued by the choral program are the responsibility of the individual member while it’s in their possession. Any damage to, or loss of garments will result in fines equal to the replacement value of the garment. Girls assigned dresses are responsible for hemming their own dress. Tape is **NOT** acceptable. Only thread hemming allowed. **DO NOT CLEAN YOUR DRESS OR TUX – MR. KINKLE TAKES CARE OF THAT!** If you are a parent and have helped out with garment sizing and distribution, please contact the director. He’d love to have your assistance.

Loss or Damage of items will result in replacement costs and fines. Full replacement for dress/tux is \$85. Light damage as deemed by the director (item may be re-used) will result in a \$25 damage fine.

Sebastian River Middle School Choral Program
Proposed Tentative Event Calendar 2018-2019

DATES MAY ADJUST SLIGHTLY OVER COURSE OF THE YEAR – INFORMATION REGARDING
ANY CHANGE OF DATES IS ANNOUNCED MULTIPLE TIMES DURING CLASS

Attendance For All Events Are Mandatory as Marked!! Director Must Know of Any Potential Conflicts by
August 31, 2018 for Director's Consideration!

August 16, 2018 – MANDATORY Choir Parent Meeting @ 7PM in Cafeteria

August 17th and 18th 2018 – MANDATORY SRMS Madrigal Retreat at Westminster Presbyterian
Church, 2555 58th Ave, Vero Beach, FL 32966 –Report Friday evening by 5:45PM. Retreat 6-9PM
Saturday – Donut Breakfast, 8:30-9AM, Rehearsals 9AM-Noon

August 30, 2018 – ALL MADRIGALS – All State Choir Preliminary Audition During Class (Graded)

August 31, 2018 – All beginning of the year Choir Paperwork is due for a GRADE, and final day for T-
shirt order collection - \$10

September 6, 2018 – MANDATORY Madrigal Parent Meeting @7PM in Choir Room, Trip Details
Discussed

September 7, 2018 - All State Choir after School Study Session – After School in Choir Room until
4:15PM- All Madrigals

September 10, 2018 - All State Choir after School Study Session – After School in Choir Room until
4:15PM- All Madrigals

September 10, 2018 – Madrigal Wardrobe Night @6PM-8PM in the Choir Room for all Madrigals –
BRING \$25 DRESS/TUX RENTAL FEE WITH YOU – Items will not be assigned without fee.

September 11-18, 2018 – SRMS Choir Fall Fundraiser Starts – Students Receive Materials At School –
Parents- Please Help Make This As Successful As Possible – Collection Day 9-18 – All Students Are
Expected To Participate

September 11, 2018 – 8th Grade non-Madrigal Wardrobe Night @6PM-8PM in the Choir Room for all
Choir Students – BRING \$25 DRESS/TUX RENTAL FEE WITH YOU – Items will not be assigned
without fee and paperwork.

September 11, 2018 - All State Choir after School Study Session – After School in Choir Room until
4:15PM- All interested Concert Choir students

September 12, 2018 - All State Choir after School Study Session – After School in Choir Room until
4:15PM- All interested Concert Choir students

September 12, 2018 – 7th Grade non-Madrigal Wardrobe Night @6PM-8PM in the Choir Room for all
Choir Students – BRING \$25 DRESS/TUX RENTAL FEE WITH YOU – Items will not be assigned
without fee and paperwork.

September 13, 2018 - All State Choir after School Study Session – After School in Choir Room until
4:15PM- All interested Concert Choir students

September 13, 2018 – 6th Grade Wardrobe Night @6PM-8PM in the Choir Room for all Choir Students –
BRING \$25 DRESS/TUX RENTAL FEE WITH YOU – Items will not be assigned without fee and
paperwork.

September 14, 2018 - All State Choir after School Study Session – After School in Choir Room until
4:15PM- All interested Concert Choir students

September 15, 2018 – All State Preliminary Auditions @ Vero Beach High School– Students arrive BY 10
AM. Conclusion sometime around 1-3PM (ending time is VARIABLE) Written Theory Exam and Sight
Reading – Madrigals who have paid the audition fee (TBD) – Parents transport students to and from site
and will stay with students during the duration

September 28, 2018 – IRSC MS/HS Honor Choir – 9AM-4PM, bring money for lunch

September 29, 2018- IRSC MS/HS Honor Choir – 9AM-4PM Rehearsal – Dinner Break with parents, then
Performance (Cost TBD)

October 10, 2018 – Mandatory after school rehearsal for ALL Intermediate and Advanced Ladies – 3PM
to 4:30PM in MPR. Graded Practice, MANDATORY

October 11, 2018 – Fall Concert @ First Baptist Church, Vero Beach – Student Call Time for all choir students is 5:15PM at the High School – Doors Open To Parents at 6:30 – Concert at 7PM

October 15, 2018 – All State Vocal Quality Auditions @ Hidden Oaks Middle School BY 1:15PM– 2nd Round of Auditions for All – State Choir – For those who passed the First Round. Parents will transport student to and from site.

*HOMECOMING PARADE – Details TBD

November 3, 2018 – Madrigal Beach Picture Day, Meet at SRMS by 8:30AM, Pictures 9:40-11:20AM, Lunch at Mulligans Vero Beach 11:30-1PM

November 8, 2018 – SRMS Choir Picture Day – All students will need to bring full Choir Attire with them to school. Photos During Class

November 10, 2018 – Madrigal Gig – Cowboy Run/Walk 5K National Anthem – Report BY 7AM at Riverview Park

November 30, 2018 – UCF Winter Choir Concert Trip – Details TBD

1st Annual Madrigal Dinner Concerts

December 5, 2018 – SRMS Madrigal Full Dress Rehearsal For Dinner – Report to Westminster Presbyterian Church, Vero Beach, Fed and Ready to Go at 4:45PM. 5-8PM Full Rehearsal (will release early once prepared)

December 6, 2018 – 1st Annual SRMS Madrigal Dinners, Night 1 – Madrigals and Volunteers Report to Westminster Presbyterian Church at 5PM. Doors Open to ticketholders, 5:30PM, Dinner Concert – 6-8PM.

December 7, 2018 - 1st Annual SRMS Madrigal Dinners, Night 2 – Madrigals and Volunteers Report to Westminster Presbyterian Church at 5PM. Doors Open to ticketholders, 5:30PM, Dinner Concert – 6-8PM.

December 2, 2017 Madrigal Gig – Environmental Learning Center – Meet at ELC by 6:30PM, Performance from 7PM – 8:00PM

December 3, 2018 @3:30PM Madrigal Gig at Pelican Gardens, Sebastian – Carpool from SRMS directly after school – DO NOT BE LATE!

December 12 (WED), 2018 – Mandatory after school rehearsal for ALL Intermediate and Advanced Ladies

December 18 Tues 2018 – Winter Concert @ First Baptist Church, Vero Beach – Student Call Time for all choir students is 5:15PM at the High School – Doors Open To Parents at 6:30 – Concert at 7PM

December 10, 2018- SRMS Madrigal Elementary Tour – Bring money for lunch
*CHRISTMAS PARADE

January 9-12 2019 – All State Choir (more details to come) in Tampa, FL – It is MANDATORY at least one parent/guardian attend with you

January 25-26, 2019 – Mandatory Madrigal Retreat at Camp Horizon, \$25

January 29, 2019– Solo and Ensemble Rehearsal after school until 4:15

January 31, 2019 – Solo and Ensemble Rehearsal after school until 4:15

February 4, 2019 – Solo and Ensemble Rehearsal after school until 4:15

February 6, 2019 – Solo and Ensemble Rehearsal after school until 4:15 w/ Mrs. Knott

February 7, 2019 – Solo and Ensemble Rehearsal after school until 4:15 w/ Mrs. Knott

February 8th – 9th 2019 – Solo and Ensemble Festival@ South Fork High School (Stuart)- All Madrigals – Parents transport student to event (caravan from SRMS) – (Cost TBD) – Madrigals Not Participating will have a comparable assessment in class

February 23, 2019 – Color Run Spring Fundraiser – at SRMS

February 27, 2019 (early release) 1PM-2:30PM Mandatory after school rehearsal for all Intermediate and Advanced Ladies for MPA. Students not present will NOT be participating in MPA per director discretion.

***March 1, 2019** – Mandatory after school rehearsal for ALL Choir Students – Festival Singers Combined MPA Rehearsal – 3-4:30PM in MPR. – Date subject to change per Band MPA performance date

March 4th – 5th 2019 – Music Performance Assessment – Location LIKELY VBHS- ALL CHOIR Students – Chaperones Needed – Attendance at MPA is MANDATORY and graded.

May 3-4, 2019 – Music In the Parks Competition – Madrigals “Tour of the Swamp” – ALL MADRIGALS ARE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE – Individual Fundraising Opportunities

May 8 (WED), 2019 -Mandatory after school rehearsal for ALL Intermediate and Advanced Ladies – 3PM to 4:30PM in MPR. Graded Practice, MANDATORY

May 10 (FRI), 2019 - Spring Concert @ First Baptist Church, Vero Beach – Student Call Time for all choir students is 5PM at the High School – Doors Open To Parents at 6:30 – Concert at 7PM

May 15, 2019– Madrigal Auditions – After School until 5:30 in Choir Room- All 6th and 7th Graders interested in participating in Madrigals for 2015-2016 NO AFTER SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION – PARENTS MUST PICK STUDENTS UP

May 16, 2019 - Madrigal Auditions – After School until 5:30 in Choir Room- All 6th and 7th Graders interested in participating in Madrigals for 2015-2016 NO AFTER SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION – PARENTS MUST PICK STUDENTS UP

May 18, 2019 – End of the Year Surprise Fundraising Fair Share Trip, All Eligibility Requirements must be met, and Dress/Tux must be turned in on time and undamaged. No Ticket Refunds.

MADRIGAL PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE (Dates TBD)

TBD- IB Parent Meeting – Madrigal Performance (January)

TBD- SRMS Academic Awards Night

TBD- Madrigal Performance at the IB Wave and Pebble Ceremony (end of May)

IN CLOSING

The beginning of a new year marks many new beginnings. Everyone is in a situation they have never been before.

8TH GRADERS: You are now the leaders of the group. You’ve been here the longest, and have a wealth of experience. The tone is set with you. Everyone else is looking up to you, so the rest of the choir is only as successful as the tone you set. This is also your last year at SRMS. Make sure to take those moments to reflect on the experiences you have. Every experience you have this year can be viewed as *the last* with regards to this class. Therefore, make **EVERY** moment count.

7TH GRADERS: You come in with some newly acquired experience, having successfully completed the 6th grade. The 6th graders are absolutely looking up to you for guidance and wisdom, however, keep in mind that the learning process is still around us, with 8th graders who have been in your shoes before. Be wise with your actions and attitudes, because they truly effect everyone. The progress you make this year has a direct effect on how successful not just this year, but next year as well. Make **EVERY** rehearsal count.

6TH GRADERS: Everything is a new experience for you. However, the success of the current program, as well as the future lies squarely on your shoulders. Take the responsibility very seriously. Use each opportunity as an experience in self improvement.

Use the lessons gained in class to improve your singing, but more importantly, your character. We are all counting on **EVERY** single one of you to succeed.

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT, ESPECIALLY GENTLEMEN

We all know someone who should be singing in choir, but for whatever reason isn't. We need to spread the word of the opportunities the SRMS Choral Program offers students. As is often the case with middle school choral programs, men are vastly outnumbered by women. This year appears to be following that trend, *however*, **WE** are the ones who can change that. Gentlemen (and ladies as well), if you know any men who should be singing in choir, encourage them. It is my goal to see growth in enrollment over the coming years, and I would love to see a greater balance of male to female singers. If we start today, we can make it happen. A choir's best recruitments are current members. You know what it's like, and can therefore spread the word. Let's buckle down and make it happen.

SRMS Choir Members of 2018-2019
Let's Get To Rocking And Rolling

Parent Signature Sheet

DUE NO LATER THAN 8/31/18

By Signing Below, I Acknowledge I Have Fully Read
And Understand What Is Expected of My Child, Myself,
And The Director of the Sebastian River Middle School
Choral Program

Parent Signature

Parent E-Mail

Student Signature
