



2020-2021 Parent & Student Guidebook



MISSION STATEMENT

The Permian High School Choir Department provides choral music education of the highest quality to young people who represent highly diverse social, economic, and cultural backgrounds.

We aim to ignite a love of singing and to nurture the full expression of each individual's potential for artistic and personal excellence through the collaborative experience of choral music performance.

In partnership with parents and our community, we empower young people with the tools to become caring, responsible, and skilled individuals who find fulfillment in life-long learning and love of the arts.

WELCOME & PREFACE

Dear Permian Choir Parents and Students,

It is a privilege to welcome you as a member of the Permian High School Choral Program! The Mojo Choir has a strong tradition of musical excellence and is recognized as one of the most exceptional programs in the State of Texas. Membership in this organization requires the willingness to work hard and have fun while maintaining a serious commitment to excellence. Every year is a new challenge – new combinations of personalities and talent, new audiences, new music, new members, and new leadership from Choir Council Officers; this year is certainly no exception.

We have all been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in different ways. Our Choir has also been affected. Last year, we were never returned from Spring Break! We missed out on UIL Concert & Sightreading Evaluations, the Black Magic MOJO Show, our Spring Concert, and our End-of-Year Banquet. Perhaps the most significant loss was lack of opportunity to connect with one another in-person. This experience has proven that being a member of the Mojo Choir is about much more than just the music. With this in mind, we have chosen to build on our theme from last year ("Together We") by choosing the theme of "One Voice" for this year.

Our program and this handbook are designed with the belief that communication and support are keys to achieving our musical and organizational goals. Typically, it is created to provide you with important information about the choral program and guidelines for performing groups, grading and lettering policies, calendars, and much more. This year, it will serve as a resource for our updated policies and procedures given the nature of the strict guidelines provided to us by the state and the school district. Please read this handbook carefully. The guidelines and rules which follow are designed to provide a quality experience for everyone and are necessary in order to have a successful year. Your support of these policies will result in a more positive experience for all involved. As a member of the Permian Choir Program, you are accountable for the information contained in this handbook.

The enclosed calendar is provided to help you with your planning. There are several dates on the calendar that are tentative, pending the state of our community and regulations from the state and the school district. It is not a complete listing, but the best that can be provided to you at this point in time. Periodic calendar updates will be given to the students throughout the year. In addition, please check the choir web site: www.permianchoir.com for updated information about the choir handbook, Booster Club information, Mojo Choir Council, choir calendar updates, and maybe even some pictures of choir activities.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Many problems can be solved through effective communication. Best wishes for an outstanding school year!

Sincerely,

Ken Sieloff
Director of Choirs

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Permian Choir Website
www.permianchoir.com

CHOIR CLASS SCHEDULE

Period	Time	Class	Lead Teacher
1 st	9:25-10:15 AM	Belle Chanson (Non-Varsity Women)	Mrs. Burton
2 nd	10:20-11:10 AM	Panther Chorale (Non-Varsity Men)	Mr. Harris
3 rd	11:15 AM-12:05 PM	Voca Lyrica (Varsity Women)	Mrs. Burton
4 th	12:05-1:05 PM	Lunch/Homeroom	
5 th	1:10-2:00 PM	Kantorei (Varsity Mixed)	Mr. Sieloff
6 th	2:05-2:55 PM	Black Magic	Mr. Sieloff
7 th	3:00-3:50 PM	Music Theory & Cantus (Varsity Men)	Mrs. Burton (Music Theory) Mr. Harris (Cantus)
8 th	3:55-4:45 PM	Conference	All

CHOIR CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Belle Chanson

Lead Teacher: Mrs. Burton

A non-varsity women's chorus focusing on voice building and performance. This group is comprised of 9th-12th grade women. This class meets 1st period (9:25 – 10:15am).

Panther Chorale

Lead Teacher: Mr. Harris

A non-varsity men's chorus focusing on voice building and performance. This group is comprised of 9th-12th grade men. This class meets 2nd period (10:20 – 11:10am).

Voca Lyrica

Lead Teacher: Mrs. Burton

A varsity women's chorus focusing on performance. This class is comprised of the women from both 3rd period (11:15 – 12:) and Kantorei (5th period, 1:10 – 2:00pm). This group meets on Monday nights as scheduled. Special practices may be required.

Cantus

Lead Teacher: Mr. Harris

A varsity men's chorus focusing on performance. This class is comprised of the men from both 7th period (3:00 – 3:50pm) and Kantorei (5th period, 1:10 – 2:00pm). This group meets on Monday nights as scheduled. Special practices may be required.

Kantorei

Lead Teacher: Mr. Sieloff

A varsity mixed chorus focusing on performance. This class meets 5th period (1:10 – 2:00pm). Members of Kantorei are also part of Cantus and Voca Lyrica. This group meets on Monday nights as scheduled. Special practices may be required.

Black Magic

Lead Teacher: Mr. Sieloff

A select performance pop ensemble chosen by audition, this class meets 6th period (2:05 – 2:55pm).

ADDITIONAL COURSES

Music Theory Advanced Placement (AP) 7th period (3:00 – 3:50pm)

Lead Teacher: Mrs. Burton

This class is offered to any student at PHS who has previously had instrumental and/or vocal training and who desires to further enhance his/her skills and possibly consider a career in the field of music.

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Membership in the Permian Choir program is open to every student enrolled at Permian HS regardless of previous musical experience. All students are assessed and provided with the opportunity to work in an ensemble that corresponds with demonstrated skills and musical experience. As a member of this program, students are expected to behave in accordance with both the ECISD and Permian Choir Code of Conduct and put the reputation of this organization above their own. In order to maintain the integrity of the program and provide a positive learning environment for all students, consistent in-class discipline problems, multiple placements in AEC, discipline referrals for fighting and/or other aggressive acts will result in a loss of privileges within the organization, including but not limited to: removal from an ensemble, loss of traveling privileges, suspension from performances, and/or removal from the program entirely.

CLASS SUPPLIES

Music – All music is furnished at no expense to the student. (Some music for individual competition must be purchased by the student). Music is expensive and students are expected to take care of it. Music is to be kept in the choir folder at all times. If music is lost or damaged, the student will pay for the replacement of the music.

Folder – All students in the Permian Choir are issued a black choir binder. Students should store their music and/or materials distributed throughout the year in this folder. Students will receive a daily grade for having their assigned folder and materials in hand at the beginning of rehearsals. Lost, damaged, or defaced folders must be replaced immediately.

Pencil – Each folder will be supplied with one pencil. Students should sharpen this pencil at the beginning of class if necessary. Pens are not acceptable and should not be used to mark in music.

CELL PHONES

Our goal is to maintain 100% focus on camaraderie and musical excellence during rehearsals and performances. Therefore, cell phone use is strictly prohibited.

Rehearsals: upon entering the classroom, cell phones should be placed in the student's backpack and remain out-of-sight at all times. The only acceptable time to use a cell phone is when instructed to do so by the director.

We will strictly follow the Permian HS cell phone policy - if any choir director (regardless of who is teaching) observes a student using a cell phone during a rehearsal, that phone will immediately be confiscated and turned into the office (not returned at the end of class). There will be NO exceptions to this rule! Failure to turn over a cell phone on the first request will immediately result in a second request. Failure to turn over a cell phone after the second request will result in disciplinary action from a principal.

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Google Classroom will be utilized in all classes as an assessment and assignment tool. Please ensure that you have signed into your choir's Google Classroom to receive and submit assignments. Login information for each Choir will be available on the Permian Choir website (www.permianchoir.com).

GRADING SYSTEM

Students will be assessed in accordance with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for High School Fine Arts. Furthermore, grades in the Permian Choir program will be earned and based on personal accountability. Students who work hard and are committed on a daily basis will be successful! A choir member's six weeks grade will be an average of the following:

Summative Assessments (50%) – Assessment/Application of Acquired Knowledge & Skills

- Formal Concert Performances – Live performances are the best methods of evaluation through which the student can demonstrate knowledge of appropriate choral tone, vocal technique, understanding of stylistically appropriate performance practice, communication skills, and appropriate audience etiquette.
- Formal essays & descriptive writing
- Formal assessments of music theory
- Individual sightreading performance assessments
- Repertoire performance assessments
- Digital portfolios and other major classroom projects

Formative Assessments (45%) – Assessment of Daily Work & Ensemble Rehearsal Skills

- Daily rehearsal preparation & participation
 - *Is the student prepared for and engaged in the learning process?*
- Student contributions to rehearsal
 - *Is the student positive and productive in their work? This can be assessed through a wide variety of interactions and assessments, but will be measured primarily through engagement with the instructor and peers.*
- Student response journals, feedback, critiques, and other written observations
- Assessments of music theory knowledge and aural skills (independently and in groups)
- Assessments of sightreading skills (independently and in groups)
- Assessments of rhythmic and melodic dictation skills
- Student score preparation
- Performance during sectionals / other required rehearsals – points will be deducted for any behavior that inhibits an ensemble from achieving its established goals

Planner (5%)

- Each student must maintain a planner as a student at PHS. This portion of the grade will align with PHS guidelines for maintaining a planner.

MAKE-UP WORK

All assignments and assessments will be posted in Google Classroom for students to access and review. Performances for this year (live or virtual) will be assembled and executed in a variety of formats, providing students with a variety of ways they can earn credit for their work. Make-up work or extra time to complete assignments will be provided to students in keeping with ECISD policy. It is the responsibility of the student to ask about any missed assignments when they return and discuss with the teacher the timeframe in which the work must be completed. Students that miss any written/aural skills assessments or assignments because of an absence will have two days/per missed day to make up the assignment. Assessments not completed within this period will result in a zero. Performance assessments will be made up by appointment with the director.

REMOTE (ONLINE) DAILY ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION (2020-2021)

Attendance Requirements for Choir

1. Students must attend choir class every day
 2. Students must login using Zoom within the first 2 minutes of class
 3. Students must have their camera turned on at all times*
- All absences will be unexcused unless marked excused by the attendance clerk
 - You must call the attendance clerk within 5 days or it will remain unexcused
 - Students who enter the room late will be marked tardy

*If you are unable to use your camera, contact the main office at Permian to obtain a working device

Daily Participation Grade

1. Students must actively participate in the class
 2. Students must have appropriate materials, including music, and sing along with the class
- Students who actively participate will receive a daily participation grade of 100
 - Students who do not actively participate will receive a grade of 0

REHEARSAL / CONCERT ATTENDANCE

Participation in rehearsals and performances *outside of class time* is part of the choir program at Permian High School.

- Choir is a performance-based class. Concerts AND rehearsals are required.
- Punctual attendance is required at all rehearsals and concerts. Absence/Tardiness will not be tolerated.
- All rehearsals and concerts are required unless excused in advance by the student's primary director and Mr. Sieloff.

Concerts are **NOT** considered extra-curricular activities by the University Interscholastic League (UIL), therefore attendance and participation is mandatory and a major part of the student's grade.

GUIDELINES FOR EXTRA REHEARSALS & CONCERT ATTENDANCE

General

- If a student misses a rehearsal or concert due to a last-minute issue, Mr. Sieloff and the student's primary choir director should be contacted as soon as possible.
- All communication regarding unanticipated absences from rehearsals or concerts must be made with the student's director within 24 hours.

Excused Absence

- The student must submit an "Absence Request" prior to the event.
- Defined as an absence resulting from illness, serious illness in the family, or bereavement.
- Excused absences for concerts and rehearsals outside of class time are at the discretion of Mr. Sieloff along with the student's primary director.

Unexcused absence

- Will result in a zero test grade which will significantly impact a student's average for the grading period and may result in a student's dismissal from his/her respective ensemble.
- See "Make-Up Procedure" for information about making up the grade for a missed rehearsal or performance.

ABSENCE REQUESTS

- If a student knows prior to the rehearsal or concert that he/she will be tardy or absent due to an unavoidable conflict, the student must submit an ABSENCE REQUEST form which can be found on the Permian Choir website (www.permianchoir.com select "Student Portal" in the main menu). Absence Requests submitted less than 24 hours before a rehearsal or concert will not be accepted and will result in an unexcused absence.
- It is the responsibility of the student to communicate a conflict ahead of time to their primary director so that we may help resolve a conflict if possible.

VERY IMPORTANT: Since ample advance notice is given for concerts and extra rehearsals, a job will not be considered as an excused absence. Also, Driver's Education will not be considered as an excused absence for concert attendance.

- Conflicts with other Permian activities scheduled at the same time should be brought to the attention of Mr. Sieloff, along with the student's primary director, and we will contact the PHS teacher or coach in charge to seek an excused absence from the conflicting activity. These are handled on a case-by-case basis.
- UIL activities and competitions, according to the school district, receive top priority. Students are not permitted to miss UIL activities and competitions/concerts of one organization for rehearsals, practices, or recreational activities (such as banquets) of another organization.

MONDAY NIGHT REHEARSALS

Monday evenings must be reserved and free of any conflict for all members of the Permian Choir program for the second semester. All-Region practices may also occur on Mondays in the Fall Semester. Monday night rehearsals will be announced well in advance and schedules should be kept open in the second semester in order to attend. Students who are aware of a conflict in advance of a Monday Night Rehearsal should inform their primary director as soon as possible and submit an Absence Request on the Permian Choir website (www.permianchoir.com select "Student Portal" in the main menu).

VERY IMPORTANT: Do not schedule activities (especially classes) on the evenings of your extra rehearsals! You should not schedule to work at this time. These rehearsals are for the benefit of the entire choir department as we prepare for special performances and competitions. Students will be notified if a rehearsal is to be abbreviated or cancelled.

REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS AND GUIDELINES

The success of a choir is determined by the way it rehearses. How it rehearses is determined by the conduct and cooperation of the student. Be patient, attentive, careful, and cooperative in observing these rehearsal expectations. When a director has to discipline and control rather than direct, the rehearsal and eventually the choir is headed for failure. Good behavior and attitude, and self-discipline are essential to producing a GREAT CHOIR. If you are successful, the choir is successful.

1. Always be early so you are on time for all rehearsals and performances. You should be in your place, with required materials by the time the second bell rings or the rehearsal is to begin. PHS tardy policy is enforced.
2. Please take care of restroom breaks before the rehearsal begins. Notify teacher of health concerns in advance.
3. Enter the choir room with a mature, energetic, and positive attitude.
4. The use of cell phones is not permitted during rehearsals or performances. Cell phones must be placed in backpacks upon entering the classroom.
5. Be responsible and professional. Always have your folder, music, and pencil.
6. Maintain respect for the choir facilities. You may not play any piano without permission from a director!
7. Keep the room orderly and clean. Do not bring food, candy, or drinks in the choir room unless given permission by the director. If you are not taking your music home, make sure you return it to the correct folder shelf. The choir room is not to be used as your personal locker.
8. No gum in rehearsals. You cannot properly sing with gum in your mouth.
9. Respect everyone around you.
10. Be conscious of good posture at all times.
11. Keep your eye on the conductor during rehearsals and performances.
12. Listen to the teacher or conductor at all times. Talking while the conductor is rehearsing or giving instructions is never appropriate.
13. Take a mature attitude toward corrections. Don't be a know it all!
14. Rehearsals are not over until the director dismisses the choir. Do not begin to put your folders away until instructed to do so.
15. Stay involved in the rehearsals from start to finish. Rehearsals are not for personal grooming, catching up on the latest gossip, or doing homework.
16. Approach rehearsals as well as performances with OPTIMISM, ENTHUSIASM, DETERMINATION, AND YOUR WHOLE-HEARTED ATTENTION.
17. **Take pride** in the Permian Choir program. You are part of something very unique!

See "Virtual Learning Expectations" and "Face-To-Face Learning Expectations" for additional information

CONCERT ETIQUETTE

Please review the following rules of concert etiquette. Should any student be removed from the concert (either on stage or off) they will receive no credit and will not be given a make up assignment. It is imperative that all students behave in a professional manner.

When Performing:

1. Enter the stage quietly and quickly. DO NOT wave to anyone in the audience and DO NOT talk to anyone next to you on stage. Face the audience and smile.
2. During the song your attention should be on the conductor at all times. DO NOT look into the audience or at your neighbor or you may miss an important cue. Even if you are not singing, your focus should still be on the conductor.
3. DO NOT chew gum. This isn't allowed in rehearsal and isn't allowed on stage.
4. DO NOT talk between songs. The conductor may address the audience during this time to tell them about the songs you are singing. Face the audience and smile.
5. When your performance is over, wait for your conductor to cue you to move off stage. Exit the way we practice in rehearsal...quietly and quickly, and to your assigned seats. Do not move out of the seating chart when moving to your seats in the auditorium.
6. Remember any sort of disruptive behavior will be recognized by the audience. You are part of a group. You ALL work very hard and ALL deserve to be heard by your friends and family. If certain individuals call attention to themselves throughout the performance, it will take attention away from the entire group. Remember...keep your hands at your sides and stand with your weight on both feet. You will sound and look your best this way.
7. Finally, HAVE FUN and enjoy the music you worked so hard on!

When In the Audience:

1. While the performance is in progress, remain seated and quiet. DO NOT leave the auditorium unless the situation is emergent. If this is the case, try to leave only between songs, not in the middle of them.
2. DO NOT hum or clap along with the performers, unless specifically invited to do so.
3. Show your appreciation for the performance by clapping after each selection. You will know the performance is finished when the conductor's hands are down. Whistling and cheering ARE NOT appropriate at a formal concert.
4. DO NOT talk or whisper during the performance. Listeners and performers are also distracted by sounds from programs, candy wrappers and other noises.
5. Be respectful and supportive of your classmates on stage. DO NOT laugh at or mock performances.
6. DO NOT bring a cell phone or any other noise making electronic device into the auditorium.

FORMAL ATTIRE

Permian Choir members will be issued formal attire to wear in most concerts and at all UIL and festival competitions. You are expected to treat formal attire with care and pride. **The cleaning of all formal attire items will be handled by the Choir program at the end of the year.** Periodic cleaning and care of your formal attire items will be your responsibility throughout the year.

ALL WOMEN

- Women will be issued a black, floor-length dress.
- Non-Varsity women must wear black closed-toed shoes (not sandals). These are to be provided by the student.
- Varsity women will be assigned a black shoe as part of the uniform.
- Personal jewelry is limited to small earrings and small bracelets. No necklaces.

KANTOREI and CANTUS MEN

- Varsity men will be provided with a tuxedo package which includes a black tuxedo tail jacket, black tuxedo pants, white pique vest, white pique bowtie, and black tuxedo shoes.
- White pique tuxedo shirts will be purchased by the choir program for each student; this shirt will be paid for through assessment collection. Students will not return these shirts at the end of the year. Tuxedo shirts must be pressed before each concert, and must appear well-kept.
- **Long black dress socks** are to be provided by the student.

PANTHER CHORALE MEN

- Panther Chorale men will be provided will be provided with a black shirt, black tuxedo pants, white vest, and white long tie.
- Solid black dress shoes and long black **dress socks** are to **be provided by the student**.
- Students who do not have the financial ability to provide solid black shoes should notify Mrs. Burton when receiving formal attire. Waiting until the night of the concert is not acceptable and may result in removal from the program.

Kantorei members will also receive a garment bag that should be used only for formal attire storage throughout the year. These garment bags must be returned at the end of the year. The replacement cost for lost or damaged bags is \$50.

As of August 12, 2020:

Formal Concert Attire will not be issued to students.
In the event that in-person concerts occur, a decision
will be made regarding Concert Attire.

STUDENT FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Our goal as a choir department is to keep all student fees to a minimum. The following list contains most of the anticipated costs (mandatory and optional) that are associated with choir. Please note that all payments can be made online at www.permianchoir.com, on CutTime, or with check/cash. Checks should be made payable to Mojo Choir.

Students will be shown the procedure for depositing money into the lock box in the Choir Room. All money turned into the PHS Choir should be deposited in the lock box and NOT "handed" to a choir director. Before depositing CASH in the lock box, all students are encouraged to receive a receipt from a director. Directors / Booster Club are not responsible for "lost" cash payments if a receipt is not requested.

Non-Varsity Choir Assessment (Belle Chanson & Panther Chorale): \$75.00

Assessments must be paid by all members of Belle Chanson and Panther Chorale. This fee covers all miscellaneous expenses not covered by ECISD, in particular: a choir t-shirt, formal attire purchase and maintenance, rehearsal/performance meals, party expenses, and contest entry fee supplements.

OPTIONAL All-Region Entry Fee (\$15.00)

Participating in the All-Region process develops our students' skills and work ethic. We strongly suggest this for all of our students. This fee pays for the entry into the contest. *This fee is included in the Varsity Choir Assessment. The deadline to enter is October 1st. This fee must be paid before that date.*

Varsity Choir Assessment (Voca Lyrica, Cantus, & Kantorei): \$100.00

Assessments must be paid by all members of Voca Lyrica, Cantus, and Kantorei. This fee covers all miscellaneous expenses not covered by ECISD, in particular: a choir t-shirt, formal attire purchase and maintenance, rehearsal/performance meals, party expenses, and contest entry fee supplements. This fee automatically includes the All-Region entry fee.

FUNDRAISING

Choir members will have the opportunity and option to participate in numerous fundraisers during the school year. For several of the fundraisers, the profit from each student's sales will be credited to that student and applied toward expenses in choir. We encourage students in all grade levels to participate in the fundraisers to begin raising money for this year or future trips.

PRIVATE VOICE LESSONS

Private voice lessons are strongly encouraged for any and all members of the Permian Choir program. These lessons will enhance and improve vocal and musical development. Voice lessons take place during the choir class period, once per week. This year, voice teachers may also schedule lessons outside of the regularly scheduled class time and school day. Please contact one of our private voice teachers directly if you are interested. The charge is \$23 for a half-class and \$40 for a full-class lesson.

Kimberly Corman – 432.413.2622
David Cox – 817.729.7282
Kathy Lollar – West Texas Music Academy

If you need assistance selecting from these voice teachers, please complete the form in the packet. We are more than happy to guide you to the teacher that has openings in your student's class period.

LETTER JACKETS

To receive PHS Choir letter jacket, choir students must complete at least one year of satisfactory choir membership before they may order a letter jacket (or service stripe), be a "member in good standing" during his/her choir tenure, and must have participated in all required performances, concerts, contests, etc. Choir members must accumulate a total of 95 points to earn a letter jacket. Each additional service stripe requires an additional 50 points. Points are cumulative beginning in the 9th grade.

Each choir student may be awarded only one (1) letter jacket while a high school student in ECISD (not one per activity), but may letter in as many activities as he/she is able (per UIL rules). **In order to qualify for a letter jacket or service stripe, students must complete the required form and return it to Mr. Sieloff by the announced due date.**

TMEA	10 points/year for auditioning for the Region Choir 15 additional points for advancing to Region 20 additional points for certifying for Pre-Area 25 additional points for certifying to Area *If a student makes the All-State Choir he/she earns their letter immediately
UIL SOLO & ENSEMBLE (S&E)	5 points for performing a solo at S&E 10 additional for performing a Class 1 solo 10 additional points for a 1 st division rating advancing to State S&E 10 additional points for participating in the State S&E event 5 points for performing in a Class 1 Ensemble at S&E 10 additional points for a 1 st division rating advancing to State S&E 10 points for participating in the State S&E event 5 additional points for performing a Class 2 solo at S&E 5 additional points for a 1 st division rating 5 additional points for performing in a Class 2 Ensemble 5 additional points for a 1 st division rating in a Class 2 Ensemble *If a student takes a Class 1 solo to Stat S&E and earns a 1 st division rating, he/she earns their letter immediately
Concert & Sight-Reading	10 points for earning a Sweepstakes at C&SR 5 points for earning a 1 st division in concert 5 points for earning a 1 st division in sight-reading
Private Lessons	5 points per semester for participating in private voice lessons. (Private teacher and director must verify)
Black Magic & The Gents	5 points per semester for participating in Black Magic and/or The Gents
Service Points	10 points per semester for serving as a member of the Choir Council 5 points per semester for serving as a section leader
Choir Camps	2 points per day/evening of participation (Verification by director)

Due to the cancellation of many activities last year, adjusted requirements will be implemented for the 2020-2021 school year. These adjustments will be announced in-class and online.

COMMUNICATION

- Website** In an effort to communicate with parents in an easier and more efficient manner, we will post information on our website: www.permianchoir.com.
- Facebook** For most events, we will post reminders on our Facebook page. Feel free to like our page. It can easily be found by searching for Permian Choir on Facebook.
- Remind (text messages)** Many people prefer to receive text alerts for events. Both students and parents can sign up for these messages through Remind. To do so, please text **@phscho** (with the @ sign) to **81010**. We do send a lot of messages through this system. If parents would prefer to receive just major reminders for concerts and events, we have setup a special system for you. Please text **@phschoirp** to **81010**.
- CutTime** We will be using an online computer database/record-keeping system for choir called "CutTime." On this system you will be able to provide updates to your contact information, check your student's financial balances, and check the choir calendar. Please take a moment to provide us with your contact information ASAP. Login information will be included in the beginning-of-year meeting.

ALL-STATE CHOIR AUDITIONS

Throughout the year, students will be provided the opportunity to compete for special honors and membership in select choral groups. These events require dedication and a commitment to hard work. Competition and challenges encourage growth both as a singer and an individual. These events are valuable learning tools for all of our students. All students wishing to participate in these events must meet UIL Eligibility Guidelines and be members in good standing.

All students in the Permian Choir are strongly encouraged to participate in the TMEA All-State Choir Auditions and/or the Freshman/Junior High Region Choir Auditions. Participation in these auditions exposes students to literature and performance opportunities not typically experienced in the traditional choral classroom. These auditions are competitive and require deliberate practice on the part of the student. More details regarding this audition process can be found on the choir website, www.permianchoir.com. *Additional fees apply.*

This year's audition process will be conducted online. Region Choir Performances are not permitted to take place until after the final audition of the All-State process scheduled for January of 2021.

SOLO & ENSEMBLE CONTEST

Each year, students in the Permian Choir have the opportunity to study, prepare, and perform vocal solo repertoire. We offer students this opportunity to promote the development of individual musicianship and rehearsal skills. For those students that desire to take their work beyond the practice room, we offer them the opportunity to participate in the UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest. Students that participate in this event are evaluated based on their fundamental technique, musical preparation, and the authenticity of their performance. More detailed information will be distributed and posted online as each event approaches. *Additional fees apply.*

ELIGIBILITY

A commitment to academic excellence in all areas of education is the desire of both our school and this choral program. Assistance is available to all those who seek help. If a choir student desires help, but doesn't know where to go or what to do, please do not be afraid to ask us. We are here to help you and are prepared to go to great lengths to ensure each student experiences success. Communication is the key. Success for one is a success for us all.

Events governed by UIL eligibility requirements	Required events not subject to UIL eligibility requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UIL Concert & Sightreading Assessments • TMEA All-State & Region 6 Events • Off-campus trips and concert performances • Any performance to which admission IS charged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-class performance and rehearsals • Regularly scheduled rehearsals & sectionals outside of the school day • Any department performances where admission IS NOT charged

Eligibility rules set forth by the State of Texas for participation are as follows:

1. All students are eligible the first six-weeks of school.
2. At the end of the first six-weeks, if the student is failing (below 70%) one or more on-level classes, he/she will not be permitted to participate in extra-curricular activities for the next three weeks.
3. A student may regain eligibility if all grades are passing on subsequent 3-week progress report or the next 6-weeks report card.
4. If a student is passing all classes on the 6 week report card, a failing grade on a progress report will not result in loss of eligibility, i.e. progress reports can only help you to gain eligibility, not cause you to lose it.
5. While students in Pre-AP and AP courses (as designated by the district) are exempt from this particular eligibility standard, students in these courses are still required to maintain an average of 70 or higher to receive credit for the course. Continued performance at this level may result in a loss of credit for the course and/or the loss of "elective" slots in their schedule until such time as they can recover credit for the course.

NOTE: Grades for eligibility are effective at the end of the school day on the date set-forth by the state on the academic grading calendar. Turning in assignments and grade changes after this date will not affect eligibility until the next official grading date. Any student receiving an incomplete on his/her report card is considered ineligible until the incomplete is cleared with the teacher and a formal grade change form is submitted to the office.

Eligibility is a major consideration when students audition for membership in varsity ensembles. Members of auditioned and varsity-level ensembles who are consistently ineligible may be removed from these ensembles so that they may focus their time on academics. We are here to help you succeed and will go to great length to assist you both in choir and your academic classes. However, we can not help once the grades are officially posted. Communication is key!

SOCIAL & ELECTRONIC MEDIA

With the continued increase of communication via electronic media it is extremely important to understand the implications of texts, Facebook posts, tweets, etc. Any student found representing themselves, their peers, or this organization in an unfavorable, questionable, or illegal manner through electronic media (websites, blogs, text messages, social networking sites, etc.) will be subject to disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by school officials and directors, including, but not limited to, suspension from program activities and/or dismissal from this organization.

COVID-19-RELATED PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES

This information is subject to revision throughout the school year.

Entering the Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students will be granted access to the choir room by a teacher at the start of every class period (this will allow teachers to sanitize between each class period) - Students will be required to sanitize hands upon entering any choir space - Students will follow indicated directional arrows/paths to find assigned seat - Students will maintain 6 feet of space between themselves and other students - Students will NOT be permitted to congregate/gather in groups to socialize
Backpack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Backpacks will be kept underneath each student's chair
Cell Phone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cell phones will be placed in backpacks and only utilized when instructed to do so by the teacher - We will strictly follow the Permian HS cell phone policy - if any choir director (regardless of who is teaching) observes a student using a cell phone during a rehearsal, that phone will immediately be confiscated and turned into the office (not returned at the end of class). There will be NO exceptions to this rule! Failure to turn over a cell phone on the first request will immediately result in a second request. Failure to turn over a cell phone after the second request will result in disciplinary action from a principal.
Choir Binder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All students will use a binder for choir music and materials this year. The binder will be provided by the choir program - Students will keep their choir binder in their personal backpack - Students are expected to bring choir binder to class every day - If a student fails to bring their choir binder to class, it will be reflected in their daily participation grade - A date will be designated for all students to pick up their binder and music from the choir room. This pick up will be mandatory for all students, both virtual and hybrid
Restroom Breaks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restroom breaks will only be permitted at the very beginning or very end of class
Singing	<p><u>Singing will take place in every class, every day, for all students (hybrid and virtual)</u></p> <p><u>IN-PERSON</u>: Students will wear a face mask while singing during class</p> <p><u>VIRTUAL</u>: Students will sing from home and provide evidence of singing through synchronous (live streamed) participation via Zoom/Google Meets during the class period and/or by submitting recordings of their singing to Google Classroom</p>
Food & Beverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water bottles will be the only food/beverage items allowed in choir spaces
Turning In Assignments	<p><u>DIGITAL</u>: Students will complete assignments and vocal recordings through Google Classroom</p> <p><u>WRITTEN</u>: Students will take a picture of completed written assignments and turn them in via Google Classroom</p>
Director Offices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No more than three students and one director may occupy an office at one time - Individuals must remain 6ft apart while in an office space - Masks must be worn while in an office space
Choir Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students must have permission to occupy the choir library - No more than six individuals may occupy the choir library at one time - Individuals must remain 6ft apart while in the choir library - Masks must be worn while in the choir library
Music Theory Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students must have permission to occupy the Music Theory Classroom - Students must remain 6ft apart - Students must wear a mask while in the Music Theory Classroom

VIRTUAL LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

BE ON TIME Log on a few minutes before class Eat <u>before</u> you join	BE PREPARED Establish a good (quiet) work space at home Computer is charged Camera is on	HEADPHONES Have your headphones on Make sure they are plugged in and volume on If using AirPods, make sure they are charged	PRESENTATION Wear appropriate clothing Sit up straight. Do not join class while laying on your side Be in camera view at all times
MUTE YOURSELF Listen when the director or another student is talking	PARTICIPATION Be focused Be attentive Be an active participant	CHAT RESPONSIBLY Raise your hand to speak Type your questions in the chat box Stay on Topic (no side conversation)	BE RESPECTFUL R-E-S-P-E-C-T Be kind Be considerate

FACE-TO-FACE LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

ENTERING THE CLASSROOM

1. Sanitize Hands

Foot pump hand sanitizer in every room
Use your foot!
Do not gather to chat

NOTICE
FACE MASK
REQUIRED

2. Walk Directly To Seat

You will be assigned a square/seat
Follow directional arrows on the floor (there's a pattern)

NOTICE
FACE MASK
REQUIRED

3. Prepare for Class

Backpack under the chair
Cell phone in backpack
Materials ready

NOTICE
FACE MASK
REQUIRED

MAINTAIN 6FT DISTANCE AT ALL TIMES

EXITING THE CLASSROOM

1. Prepare

Gather materials and put them in backpack
Complete EXIT TICKET (with phone)

NOTICE
FACE MASK
REQUIRED

2. Wait To Be Dismissed

Dismissal will be organized
Do not get up and wander around

NOTICE
FACE MASK
REQUIRED

3. Exit

Follow directional arrows on the floor (there's a pattern)
Do not gather and chat
Use hand sanitizer as you leave

NOTICE
FACE MASK
REQUIRED

MAINTAIN 6FT DISTANCE AT ALL TIMES

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

MATERIALS

Binders (instead of folders)
Everyone will have their own materials
DO NOT share materials

BACKPACK & CELL PHONE

Backpack goes under chair
Cell phone goes in bag

FOOD / DRINK

NO food allowed in room
Water bottles permitted!

NOTICE
FACE MASK
REQUIRED