



## 2019-20 Student/Parent Handbook

**Mrs. Katie Villarreal**  
**Director**

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# Esperanza High School

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August 27, 2019

## Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to a new year in Esperanza High School's Choral Music Program. I am very excited as your director for this new school year to continue with the music heritage that EHS has had over the years in strengthening a wonderful choral program. I believe in continuing this legacy by providing an outstanding music education, high performance standards, and working with fantastic students --your children-- who make the EHS Choirs what they are.

This syllabus has been designed for parents and students to relate as much information as possible about the EHS Choirs and activities. Additionally, please check Remind, google classroom, our choral music web page ([www.esperanzachoralmusic.org](http://www.esperanzachoralmusic.org)) as well as the monthly newsletter in order to find the latest updates and Calendar Events on EHS Choirs and Activities.

One of the challenges of running a choral program like ours is the financial obligation it raises. Uniforms, buses, festival fees... all these things cost money. Our students are able to enjoy the privileges of this program in large part because of donations and fundraising done by individuals, families, and other organizations, such as the Esperanza Vocal Music Boosters. WE have to fundraise most of the costs involved in order to run a top-notch choral program each year. **How Can You Help?** You may sign up to help with a fundraiser or may choose to sponsor the choirs. Even deciding to have your student purchase their uniform instead of borrowing it saves money. *Whatever you can do, it is greatly appreciated.*

Finally, I want to remind you that **your support** is part of the picture too, whether it's by helping as a chaperone, attending a performance, or volunteering to help with a fundraiser, etc. **WE NEED YOU** and WE appreciate all you can do to make this year another banner year! Team work makes the dream work!

Sincerely,

Katie Villarreal  
Director of Esperanza Choral Music



## **Esperanza High School Choral Music Courses:**

### **Concert Choir**

This is a beginning/intermediate level choir for mixed voices treble and bass. Students will learn how to use the various parts of their voices and will begin to sing in 2, 3 and begin 4-part harmonies. They will learn proper diction for both the English and Italian languages as well as others. Students will begin learning or continue learning the fundamentals of music theory and the vocal mechanism.

**Remind: @c8336b** or to receive updates for this class, text the number 81010. In the message write @c8336b. **Google Classroom: n4k8bx**

### **Vivace (Advanced Women's) Choir**

This is an intermediate/ advanced level treble voice ensemble. Students must be able to sing in 3 to 4-part harmony with few singers per part. They must be willing to learn choreography as well as music for stage performance. They must have some music theory and ear training knowledge. An audition and a 2.0 grade point average are required. **Singers must also be able to commit to the rigorous performance schedule.**

**Remind: @cdc2d7** or to receive updates for this class, text the number 81010. In the message write @cdc2d7. **Google Classroom: v43udkd**

### **Vocal Ensemble**

This is an advanced level mixed choir. Singers will be required to be able to *independently* sing and entire vocal part. Singers must be able to sight read and learn music aurally very quickly. This choir will be performing 6 to 8 part harmony choral works. **Singers must also be able to commit to the rigorous performance schedule.** An audition and a 2.0 grade point average are required.

**Remind: @fk2ab6** or to receive updates for this class, text the number 81010. In the message write @fk2ab6. **Google Classroom: v8dj38a**

## **Brief Outline of Course Content:**

All areas of course content is taught throughout the year in a developmental continuum, which gradually increases in depth and breadth.

**1. Compositions** (pieces of music) are presented which are of sufficient difficulty to provide challenges for all students. The choirs each study between 15 and 30 compositions each year, from a variety of eras and styles. These compositions provide the basis for teaching all of the following content areas:

a. **Music theory** includes the study of notation, music terminology, ear training, interval recognition, and the piano keyboard.

b. **Music history** provides the social and cultural setting, which influenced the compositions being sung.

c. **Vocal technique** includes the study of breathing, vowel formation, articulation, consonant formation, and application to the compositions being sung.

d. **Sight singing** is an ongoing process of increasing auditory and vocal acuity, both melodic and harmonic part-singing.

**2. Performance decorum and rehearsal discipline** provide the basis for a sophisticated, mature, aesthetically pleasing presentation of the compositions being studied. WE practice professionalism in all WE do.

**3. Ensemble performance techniques** include the maintaining of a vocal part and the recognition of the manner in which each part fits with the others with regard to balance, blend, and timbre.

## **Classroom/Performance Requirements**

### **Daily Attendance**

Because Choir is a class where instruction and class work ONLY happen during school time, **excellent attendance** is the most accurate indicator of individual and group success. NOTE: Excessive absences/ tardies may result in the student's dismissal from the ensemble.

# Rules

There are only a few rules in the classroom.

1. Your best begins right here (*give your best each day*)
2. Cooperate and participate as a team.
3. Work quietly during independent work, even when finished.
4. Raise your hand if you have something to say.
5. Practice proper rehearsal etiquette (*talking, gum, food, drink, cell phones, etc. are inappropriate*).
6. Respect others, in class, on campus, and other schools. (*Students are expected to have self-respect, respect towards their peers and uplift them while in class. Students are expected to respect the Teacher, Accompanist, and ANY other authority figures present within the classroom. Students also must be respectful towards other ensembles while attending festivals, field trips, competitions, etc.*)

**\*\*\*As in following the EHS School Rules, Cell Phone usage is prohibited within the classroom and on stage at ALL times, unless otherwise designated by the instructor.**

## Consequences

If one of the rules is not followed, the student will be warned, after which more directed action (isolation, parent contact, etc.) will be taken, and more severe consequences (student intervention, referral to admin, restriction from certain activities and field trips, etc.) may be necessary in certain cases. Note that these rules also apply to activities outside the classroom.

## Extra Rehearsals

After-school rehearsals for Vocal Ensemble and Vivace *may* occur on the day prior to each of the major performances (please refer regularly to School's Website for Calendar dates). Additionally, in preparation for other performances, students in this ensemble may have regular after school rehearsals depended as needed. Any extra rehearsals are mandatory and students receive points for attending.

## Performances

Performances are part of the choral curriculum and are evaluations (TESTS) of what we've learned. **In the event of illness or family emergency, please have parent/guardian contact Mrs. Villarreal 24 hour hours prior to scheduled event, or immediately following the absence to excuse it. ONLY then will the student be presented with an alternate assignment**

## GRADING

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
0-59	F

A student's grade is made up of four categories: Participation/ Effort, Performances, Tests/Quizzes, and Class work. **The basic participation/ effort grade for a student is 85 (B), not 100%** (Students move up or down from 85% not 100%)

- Daily participation and effort: 35% / Performances: 35% of Grade
  - All students may receive a maximum of **7 points** per day (Performance: **35 points**) but begin each day with 6 points (performances: 30 points), or 85% adding or subtracting to their total for the following:
    - Excellent work (*Student shows focus and energy, demonstrates proper posture and a positive attitude, follows directions and participate in discussions. In performances, shows appropriate facial expression and visibly has all text memorized. Demonstrates proper concert etiquette both onstage and off. Follows class rules (see IC).* **+ 1 point (Performance: +5)**)
    - Perfect Attendance (*No tardies or absences in on grading period*): **+15 points per quarter (does not apply to Performances)**
    - Off task/ Disruption (*Student lacks focus and energy, does not demonstrate proper posture or a positive attitude, does not follow directions, complete assignments, or participate in discussions. in performances, does not show appropriate facial expression, visibly does not follow class rules:* **-1-5 points (Performances: -1-10)**
    - Severe (*sent out/ defiance*): **- 6 points (Performance: -30)**
    - Absent: **-2 points (Performance: -5 points)** (Excused tardies exempted with parents note)
- Tests/Quizzes: 20% of Grade
  - Written Theory, text memorization, history quizzes, tests, and exams.
  - Vocal Skills tests (prior to concerts) and exams (scales, sight-reading, etc.).
- Class work/Written work/Assignments: 10% of Grade
  - Theory work, homework and other assignments.

### **Policies:**

**GPA Policy:** All choir students will maintain a 2.0 GPA or higher.

**Tardy Policy:** Students who are not seated in their chair beginning the Theory Focus by the end of the tardy bell are considered tardy. This will result in the loss of the daily grade point for Promptness and Preparedness. If tardiness becomes a problem, parents will be called first, and if the problem persists, students will be referred to admin.

**Absence/Attendance Policy:** Students with absences from rehearsal will lose ALL FIVE of their daily points. There is no way to make these points up because there is no adequate way to simulate the experience of participating in rehearsal. A few missed rehearsals will *not* significantly impact the grade; however, if a student is absent excessively it will impact the final grade. Extra Credit will be offered once a quarter to provide a significant buffer for missed classes and assignments. If a student is out for an extended period of time, it is important to notify Mrs. Villarreal as soon as possible to provide adequate alternate assignments until the student returns to class.

**Fundraiser Policy:** WE will be working directly with the Esperanza Vocal Music Boosters with fundraisers. If the fundraiser is not a pre-sale item, parents must sign a form before students can take anything home to sell. **STUDENT INVOLVEMENT is essential!** Students are **expected** to participate in the choir fundraisers to contribute to all financial needs of the choir. For those parents who would rather make a direct donation in lieu of fundraising, this can be indicated on the Handbook Form (Back of this booklet). Students are **strongly encouraged, BUT NOT EXPECTED** to bring in sponsorships from family members, friends, places of business, or corporations. As you know, many of the extracurricular activities (Ensembles, Choral performances, trips, festivals, etc.) are not financially supported by the Department of Education. As such, a Student Performance donation will be accepted in order to provide financial support to continue these successful programs. **Due to our 501(3) C status, donations are non-refundable. OTHER FEES such as CO-CURRICULAR FEES** include those costs incurred for extra choir-related activities and events outside the regular school curriculum. These activities include special events, and Choir tours. Fees for these events will be paid by each participating student.

**NO ONE is ever kept from attending due to lack of funds, and students or parents in need of financial assistance should bring it to the attention of Mrs. Villarreal as soon as possible.**

**Extra-Curricular Field Trip Policy:** If a student has an outstanding balance from a fundraiser or does not have a 2.0 GPA, this will affect the student's ability to participate in extracurricular field trips (i.e. field trips that do not affect the class grade [for example, Universal Studios]) Students are expected to be their best self and represent the EHS Choirs and Esperanza High School with the utmost respect, citizenship, and integrity. Students are expected to demonstrate appropriate behavior and etiquette on and off stage, while on a field trip and representing Esperanza High School Choral Program at all times. Remember, when you travel with the ensemble, you represent the Choirs, your school, and the community. Anything you do, in or out of uniform, will reflect on the people you represent! There is a **zero tolerance policy for Tobacco, Alcohol, Drugs, and Dangerous objects: All School guidelines are in effect for all Choral performances and activities. When riding Buses, students will not board until instructed to do so. Students will remain on the bus and seated until instructed otherwise. Yelling is not permitted at any time. Moving from seat to seat is not permitted. Quiet talking is permitted. Buses are to be clean and free of trash at the end**



of all trips. **Public Displays of affection:** holding hands in full view is permitted on the bus only. Necking, hugging, kissing, and so forth are NOT permitted. Staff will determine boundaries which are acceptable.

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District charges a transportation fee for students to use buses to and from extracurricular activities. **The transportation fee for the Esperanza Choirs is currently listed at \$25. Fees are payable to Esperanza High School in the Finance office. The District has an online system for all transportation forms. Please use the following link to FAMILY ID and Transportation page fill out for your student participating in the EHS Choirs:**

<https://www.familyid.com/esperanza-high-school>

**Food and Drink Policy:** Students will be allowed to have sport top water bottles in class. No other food, drink, or gum is allowed in the classroom, especially during rehearsals and performances.

**Perfume, Cologne, Scented Lotion, Body Spray etc. Policy:** scented items such as those listed are not to be worn during performances or applied inside the choir classroom.

**Bathroom Break Policy:** Each rehearsal is extremely short. Every minute WE have together is precious. Plan your time wisely and use the bathroom before school, at break, or at lunch. Using the restroom during rehearsal time will result in the loss of the daily point for engagement. Emergencies will be taken into account.

**Uniform Policy:** Students who are issued dresses and suits are responsible to maintain them during the year and then return them DRY-CLEANED after the last performance in May. Unreturned items will be billed to individual student accounts. The EHS Choirs is not liable for lost, damaged, or stolen garments, and the student/parent/guardian will be held accountable to pay for the damaged or stolen uniform.

## **2019-2020 Esperanza Choral Music Events:**

**\*\*\*Please note that dates are subject to change and visit [www.esperanzachoralmusic.org](http://www.esperanzachoralmusic.org) for the up to date choir events.**

- ❖ **9/13-** Esperanza Football Choir Night sing National Anthem. 6:30pm (invite middle schools)
  
- ❖ **10/17-** Fall Concert 7pm at the Aztec Theatre
- ❖ **10/22-** Vanguard University Festival **Vivace** 6:00pm-8:00pm
- ❖ **10/23-**Vanguard University Festival **Vocal Ensemble** 1:00pm-3:00pm
- ❖ **Oct. TBA-** (VE) \*\*Disneyland's Candlelight Processional Audition
- ❖ **10/29-** Middle School Choir Exchange- Aztec Theatre During School
- ❖ **Nov. 11-** (Vivace and VE) Anaheim Veterans Day Ceremony - Museo of Anaheim
- ❖ **11/18-** District Winter Festival Rehearsal - 3:30pm-5pm- Valencia High School Choir Room
- ❖ **12/3-** District Winter Festival Rehearsals and Performance- Vineyard Church
- ❖ **12/10-** Winter Concert 7pm at the EDHS PAC
- ❖ **3/3- 3/ 5 -** District Festival 7pm Vineyard Church
- ❖ **3/6/19 -** Solo and Small Ensemble Night. 7pm, doors open at 6:30pm in the Aztec Theatre
- ❖ **3/27/19-** CSU Fullerton - Meng Stage, CSUF, Vocal **Ensemble, Vivace**
- ❖ **4/11/19-** District Men's Festival 9-11am BYMS (All male choir students)
- ❖ **4/30-** SCVA Choir Festival (All Choirs)
- ❖ **5/19-** Rock'n the 80's Pop's Concert 7pm EDHS PAC
- ❖ **June TBA** Choir Awards Banquet
- ❖ **6/11-** Graduation Performance, Chapelle Stadium 6:30. (VE)

## APPENDIX

### **WHY STUDY MUSIC?**

- I. Music is a Science.** It is exact, specific, and demands exact acoustics. A conductor's score is a chart or graph, which indicated frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody, and harmony all at once and with the most exact control of time.
- II. Music is Mathematical.** Rhythmically, it is based on divisions of time into precise fractions which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.
- III. Music is a Foreign Language.** Most of the terms are in Italian, German, or French. The notation is certainly not English but a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. Music itself is the most complete and universal language.
- IV. Music is History.** Music reflects the environment and time of its creation, including its national and cultural sources.
- V. Music is Physical Education.** It requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lip cheek, and facial muscles, and extraordinary control of the back, stomach, and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.
- VI. Music Develops Insight and Demands Research.** Organized, independent thought is required.
- VII. Music is all of these things, but most of all, Music is Art.** It allows a human being to take all these technical terms, facts, and techniques and use them to create emotion. That is one thing science cannot duplicate: humanism, feeling, emotion, call it what you will.

### **YOU SHOULD STUDY MUSIC...**

**NOT** so you can major in music,

**NOT** so you can play or sing all your life,

**NOT** so you can relax,

**NOT** so you can have fun,

**BUT. . .**

**SO** you will be human,

**SO** you will recognize beauty,

**SO** you will be sensitive,

**SO** you will be closer to an infinite beyond this world,

**SO** you will have something to cling to,

**SO** you will have more love, more compassion, more gentleness, and more good - in short, more life. For of what value will it be to make a prosperous living unless you know how to live! **THAT IS WHY YOU SHOULD STUDY MUSIC!**

## 2019-20 EHS CHOIRS HANDBOOK FORM/AGREEMENT

Name of student \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Class of 20\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

### WE HAVE READ AND AGREE TO COMPLY WITH THE POLICIES STATED IN THE CHOIR HANDBOOK, INCLUDING:

1. Classroom/Performance Requirements INCLUDING Academic Expectations (2.0 GPA or Higher), and all the policies stated there within this handbook.
2. Grading
3. Financial Expectations

**X: STUDENT SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email (*please print carefully*): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

**X: PARENT SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone # (work): \_\_\_\_\_ (home): \_\_\_\_\_

(cell): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email (*please print carefully*): \_\_\_\_\_

**I give permission for my student to view PG and PG-13 movies (circle if only one):**

**X: PARENT SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**ASSISTANCE: Please check at least one of the following items with which you can help.**

- General Assistance
- Choir Field trips
- Sponsorships
- Fundraiser Sales
- Concerts
- Choir Booster Association Officers

**I AM AVAILABLE TO HELP (check all that apply):**

\_\_\_\_\_ During the school day

\_\_\_\_\_ Evenings

\_\_\_\_\_ Weekends

## 2019-20 EHS CHOIRS UNIFORM AGREEMENT

Each uniform is checked out and noted on damages or issues prior to student check out. The student will be made aware of any uniform issues. Parents and students are only responsible for damages that occur to the uniform while in their care.

Name of student \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Class of 20 \_\_\_\_\_

### UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

1. For each performance the student is required to wear the uniform, it is expected to be clean.
2. Students are expected to wear and **properly** care for the uniform for the **2018-19** school year.
3. When returned, the uniform is expected to be clean and or dry/cleaned or pay the \$15 fee.

**I HEREBY UNDERSTAND THAT I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ESPERANZA HIGH CHOIRS UNIFORM CHECKED OUT TO ME. IF THE UNIFORM IS NOT RETURNED, LOST, OR SEVERELY DAMAGED WHILE IN MY CARE TO THE STATE WHERE IT IS NOT WEARABLE; I AM FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR A UNIFORM FEE OF \$85.00**

**X: STUDENT SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email (*please print carefully*): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) Name (*please print*): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone # (work): \_\_\_\_\_

(Home): \_\_\_\_\_ (cell): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email (*please print carefully*): \_\_\_\_\_

**I give permission for my student to check out a uniform and promise to pay the uniform fee if in the unlikely event that the garment is not returned, lost, or severely damaged and not wearable while in the care of my students for the 201/18 school year.**

**X:PARENTSIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**ESPERANZA HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL MUSIC**

**Sponsorship Form**

**Yes!** I/WE would like to support Esperanza High School Choirs with our sponsorship donation. We have enclosed a check for the sponsorship category checked below:

Sponsor

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

(List name as desired for program recognition)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Fill out below if you would like us to send a sponsorship letter to your employer:*

Employer Name/Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Call 714.986.7540 x13712. Please make Checks payable to  
**ESPERANZA VOCAL MUSIC BOOSTERS** and mail to:  
Katie Villarreal, Vocal Music Director, EHS Choirs, 1830 Kellogg Dr., Anaheim, Ca 92807

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE EHS CHOIRS!**