2026-2027
CHOIR HANDBOOK

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Dear Choir Parents/Guardians and Students,

Welcome to Centerville Choirs! We are so excited for the amazing things we are going to be doing this year. We have so much planned for the coming year and look forward to making it a success while having fun! The choirs are made up of students with the desire and ability to sing quality music. These students should also be willing to do the work necessary to improve not only their musicianship skills (vocal technique, sight-reading, music theory and history), but also their ability to work with a variety of people, be leaders in the school and community, and improve their self-confidence. We look forward to working with you to have a fantastic year!

We have prepared this handbook for your information. The concerts and special events that are an outgrowth of our classroom activities play an important role in developing musicianship and maturity. In an effort to enhance communication, we will maintain a web page with forms and school handouts at www.centervillechoirs.org. We will also keep parents and students up to date this year through Parent Square. Please take special note of the entire choir schedule – you are responsible for all those dates.

Please read the handbook carefully and submit the Google form that is at the end of this handbook by September 4, 2026 with the necessary signatures. Filling out the Google form is VERY important and can ONLY be completed in your student's school Google drive.

We can't wait for this new and exciting school year!

Mrs. Korpusik
Mrs. Stamm
Ms. DiPietro

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Attitude
Passion
Being Coachable
Doing Extra
Being Prepared

COMMUNICATION

Communication is a vital part of a student's experience and education. Please feel free to reach out to us if there is anything you feel like we need to know about your singer, their growth as a student or singer, and their health as it pertains to class.

PARENT SQUARE

Parent Square is the district wide communication system that will be used for choir this year for both parents and students. You will receive messages through Parent Square about upcoming events and information. Please make sure you sign up for this tool and allow the notifications.

EMAIL

Email is another great way to communicate with us. When we email you, it will be to the email address that has been provided to the district through HAC.

ONLINE

You can also find information online:
Website: www.centervillechoirs.org
Facebook: Centerville Choirs
Instagram: @centervillechoirs
@forteacappella @novae.acappella

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard.

PROFESSIONALISM POINTS

Each student is awarded a professionalism grade each day for work in class. Students can receive a maximum of 5 points per day. The factors considered in the awarding of professionalism points are:

- **WORK ETHIC**
  - Students arrive on time and prepared for class.
    - Students will have their pencil and choir folder with our assigned music only. Students will be given a choir folder. These folders will be used to keep class notes, assignments, listening assignments, and quiz papers from class. This is especially important since there's no textbook for choir.
    - Students phone policy is the CHS phone policy. Phones must be away and not seen during the school day.
    - Students are allowed and encouraged to have a personal water bottle, filled with only water.
  - Students follow direction of staff the first time staff offers directions.
  - Students will submit assignments, forms, permission slips, etc, on time.
  - Students will accept the consequences of their actions (including consequences of inactions).
  - Students are responsible for their own attitude and effort. We expect students to be able to manage their own emotions and to ask for help from a staff member when needed. This includes energy and enthusiasm. You will probably not love every minute of every song, but your attitude will not take that joy away from someone else.

- **DEVELOPING MUSICIANSHIP**
  - Students are able to perform a passage with accurate musical qualities, including pitch, rhythm, dynamics.
  - Students demonstrate appropriate physical technique, including posture and diction.
  - Students will complete classwork assignments both digitally and on paper.
  - Students will maintain their choir folder, keeping only the materials necessary for class in the folder. These folders may be collected without warning and be assessed as part of the daily grade.

- **MEMBERSHIP**
  - Students are not eating or chewing gum during class (1. Gross, especially while singing; 2. This is highly distracting behavior).
  - Students are on task during rehearsal and remain in their assigned spot during rehearsal (i.e., side conversations are for outside class; students are not to work on other classwork during this time)
  - Students will collaborate and cooperate with staff and peers in a variety of tasks, both musical and non-musical in nature.
  - Students will be quiet and attentive when staff are giving directions. This is not just for our musical growth, but also the safety of our students.
  - Students will support their fellow choir members in words and actions. We are developing a musical family during our time together and appropriate audience and performance etiquette is expected.

ILLNESS

- If you are unable to participate due to illness or injury, notify the director on the way into the room by signing the logbook on the piano.
- If you become ill after the class has started and are unable to participate because of illness, you must immediately notify the director.
- An ill student may be allowed to forego classroom singing at the director's discretion for up to a maximum of four days during a school year. After that, a parental note will be required. However, you are still expected to follow along with the work done in class and to complete the designated written and listening assignments. This is not to be used as an opportunity to do work from another class.
- In cases of extended illness or habitual non-participation, a doctor's note may be required.
- If you have any other needs of a non-emergency nature, notify the instructor without disrupting class by signing the logbook near the door on the way into the classroom.

CLASSROOM CONSEQUENCES

Behavior is always a matter of choice. Often problems can be avoided by thoughtful reflection before acting. Discipline matters which are violations of the school discipline code will be handled according to the school discipline code and in cooperation with the appropriate administrator.

CONSEQUENCE LEVELS
Level 1: Verbal Warning
Level 2: Last out (talk to teacher after class)
Level 3: Call or email home
Level 4: Office referral

DRESS REHEARSALS & CONCERTS

DRESS REHEARSALS

- In order to sing in the concert, you must have attended the dress rehearsal.
- Dress rehearsals will usually be held after school on the day of the concert, or as announced ahead of time.
- Medical or dental appointments of an emergent nature or unavoidable college visitations are considered an excused absence from a dress rehearsal; although, it is recommended to avoid these if at all possible. If this is the case, please have a parent or guardian send us a Parent Square message or email to the directors.
- Other exceptions will be granted only when a parent has made arrangements one week in advance; when the director, after consulting with the administration, deems that extenuating circumstances were of an unavoidable nature; or in cases of severe illness. The director reserves the right to require medical documentation to confirm the severity of the illness.

EXTRA REHEARSALS

- Every attempt will be made to keep additional out-of-school rehearsals to a minimum. They are sometimes necessary, however, to help the students achieve their best performance.
- Notice of madatory rehearsal will be given at least one week in advance.
- Failure to attend a mandatory rehearsal will cause a loss of points, a decrease in the student's concert grade average, and may prevent the student from participating in the upcoming concert, subject to the director's discretion.
- The director reserves the right to lower a student's grade when a rehearsal is missed with insufficient documentation.

CONCERT EXPECTATIONS .....

Concerts are the most critical activity of the choir class. They are a demonstration of the learning that is taking place in the classroom on a daily basis. Your attendance, behavior, performance, and promptness at concerts and dress rehearsals are all considered in the assignment of final grades. Plenty of advanced notice is given so you can make arrangements to attend.

Since the learning that occurs at a concert is a result of observing other performers in action as well as performing, students are required to remain for the entire length of the concert in order to receive full credit for the concert.

PERFORMANCE AT ALL CONCERTS IS A REQUIRED PART OF THE CLASS

- A numerical grade is based upon work ethic (punctuality, attentiveness to direction, etc), musicianship (performance represents the work we've done in class), and ensemble efforts (punctuality, correct dress, on-stage and off-stage behavior, and musical contribution).
- If you miss a concert due to an excused absence, a make-up assignment must be completed.
- No make-up credit will be given for concerts missed due to work, lack of transportation, or other unapproved excuses.
- The only exceptions that will be made are in cases of severe illness or when your parent/guardian has made arrangements, IN WRITING, at least one week before the concert date. The director reserves the right to require medical documentation when appropriate or to deny the absence following consultation with the CHS Principal for absences other than illness, funerals, or religious holidays.
- All excused concert absences must be made up to receive proper concert credit.
- Unexcused absences won't be made up & will be entered as a zero in the grade book, & could result in dismissal from group.

CONCERT ATTIRE

- Choral Uniforms for Symphonic Choir, Bella Voce and Concert Choir (Treble/Bass Choir) are provided and required to wear at our concerts. Every student will be fitted at the beginning of year for their uniform. Cost and the pieces provided vary for each group. Symphonic Choir and Bella Voce must purchase the required jewelry.
- Please note: Points will be deducted from your concert grade for failure to wear the required concert attire. The teacher should be notified in advance of any extenuating circumstances.
- Uniform pieces MUST be returned after the May concert. Students will be responsible for the cost of any items not returned.
- We will have 2 concerts with more casual concert attire (typically a speciality t-shirt for that concert and jeans). Additional details about this will be released closer to concert time.

CHORAL UNIFORMS

- Dresses
  - CHS provides: black gown
  - You provide: black flats, you may wear earrings sized like a nickel or smaller; no other jewelry. *Bella Voce & Symphonic Choir member will purchase required jewelry
- Tuxes
  - CHS provides: black tuxedo pants, vest, jacket, tie
  - You provide: black shoes, black socks, white dress shirt

GRADES

GRADING SCALE

Grades are determined as follows:
Quarterly Grades
- Daily Work
- Concert Grades
- Quiz Grades (both written & singing)

INDIVIDUAL QUIZ GRADES

- Quiz grades will constitute ⅓ of the quarterly grade average.
- Areas to be evaluated include: musical notation and terminology, physiological terminology, singing checks over concert music, listening and musical dictation, historical information, and musical literature covered in class.
- Students will also have a semester final. The semester final exam is in accordance with guidelines from CHS administration and will be part of the final grade. The semester final will incorporate a variety of material students learned throughout the semester.

MAKE-UP WORK AND ASSIGNMENTS

- Daily Absence / Attendance in class is necessary to make a significant contribution to the choir. It is important that students communicate with the teacher to see if there is make-up work that needs to be done.
- Concert Absence / Since the concerts for choir are essentially the test for the material learned in class, it is necessary that these “tests” be made up if an absence should occur. Work should be made up within a week of the student’s return to class, unless the student has made special arrangements with the teacher.It is your responsibility to see the teacher for a make-up assignment for an excused concert absence.

BELLA VOCE, SYMPHONIC & FORTE HONORS

- Any Bella Voce, Symphonic and Forte student can register with their counselor to take the class for honors credit. These students will be responsible for extra requirements.
  - Voice lessons / each honors student must take voice lessons from an approved teacher for the entire school year and must log at least six 30-minute lessons for each quarter (talk to your teacher if you can't make this work)
  - Attend one music concert per quarter along with a paper.
  - Perform a solo at OMEA Solo & Ensemble Contest on January 16, 2027.

NOVAE A CAPPELLA

Novae is our extracurricular a cappella group that is auditioned and practices outside the school day. Novae rehearses on Mondays and Thursdays from 6-8 pm at CHS. Auditions will be Monday, Aug. 17 & Wednesday, Aug. 19 from 3:30-5:30 pm. Callbacks will be Thursday, Aug. 20th from 3:30-5:30 pm Students can learn more and sign up for an audition time with the QR code on the bulletin board outside the choir room.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

- When a bus is provided by the school system for a school-related event, ALL STUDENTS MUST RIDE THE BUS unless prior arrangements have been made in writing and approved by the director.
- In addition, students are expected to ride only the bus to which they have been assigned. Any exceptions to this rule are to be made at the director's discretion only.
- Due to the liability factors involved, students who disregard these rules will be disciplined accordingly.

CHORAL SERVICE AWARDS

Service awards are presented each year at the choir banquet. These awards are gained through earning service points beyond the scope of the daily classroom.The total points for each award is as follows:

First Level Award - 400 points (Choir Letter)
Second Level Award - 700 points (Pin)
Third Level Award - 1100 points (Plaque)
Fourth Level Award - 1500 points (Baton)
Fifth Level Award - 2000 points (Special Plaque)*
* only if fourth level was received the prior year

SERVICE POINTS LIST

I. GENERAL POINTS
Concert Choir 150
Bella Voce 200
Symphonic Choir 200
Forte 200
Bonus for 4 years participation 50

II. SCHOOL RELATED ACTIVITIES
Contest vocal solo 30
Contest small ensemble 20
Contest piano solo 10

III.FALL AND SPRING MUSICALS
(100 point maximum per year)
Lead 100
Minor, chorus, or stage crew 75
Other crew work (each crew)..... 25
Pit Orchestra..... 50

IV. OTHER MUSICAL ACTIVITIES
(Written confirmation from parent or director)
State, regional, or summer choirs..... 40
Church choirs 40
(40 point maximum per year)
Other performances 5
(30 point maximum per year)
Outside Concert attendance 5
(30 point maximum per year)

V. PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS
(Teacher Signature Required)
Voice (full year) 50
Piano (full year)..... 35
Guitar (full year) 25

VI. SERVICES
Choir officer..... 40
Section leader or librarian 30
Wardrobe 30
Aide..... 50
Accompanist..... 15
(45 point maximum per year)
Choreographer..... 15
(45 point maximum per year)
Design of program cover..... 15
Usher for musical event..... 10
Fundraiser sales (Quota)..... 25

CHOIR CALENDAR
2026-2027

DATE		EVENT	TIME	LOCATION	NOTES
Monday Wednesday	August 17 August 19	Novae Auditions	3:30 - 5:30 PM	Choir room	Sign up on choir website
Thursday	August 20	Novae Callbacks	3:30 - 5:30 PM	Choir room	
Wednesday	September 23	All choir FUNdraiser	6:00 - 8:00 PM	PAC	All Choirs
Wednesday	October 14	Fall Choir Show: Solo/duet Rehearsal	6:00-9:00 PM	PAC	Only solos/duets for the fall show
Thursday	October 15	Fall Choir Show: Dress Rehearsal	6:00-9:00 PM	PAC	All Choirs
Friday	October 16	Fall Choir Show Concert	7:30 PM	PAC	All Choirs
Sautrday Sunday	October 31 November 1	Trick or Treat So Kids Can Eat: Drop off Donation		PAC lobby	All Choir / Drop off Sunday 2-4 PM
Friday	December 11	Luminary Event	6:00-8:00 PM	Bill Yeck Park	Symphonic Choir
Tuesday	December 8	Songs of the Season Concert	7:30 PM	PAC	All Choirs
Monday	December 14	Winter Extravaganza Concert	7:30 PM	PAC	Symphonic Choir / Forte
Saturday	January 16	Solo & Ensemble Contest	TBD	TBD	Bella Voce Honors / Symphonic Honors / Forte Honors
Wednesday Thursday	February 24 February 25	Forte Dress Rehearsal	6:00 - 9:00 PM	PAC	Forte
Friday	February 26	Forte Video Release Concert	7:30 PM	PAC	Novae / Forte
Thursday	March 4	All District Choir Celebration	7:00 PM	PAC	All Choirs
Tuesday	April 27	Fine Arts Signing Day	3:00 PM	PAC	Seniors continuing in Arts
Wednesday	May 12	Senior Recognition Concert	7:30 PM	PAC	All Choirs
Saturday	May 15	A Cappella Showcase	7:30 PM	PAC	Novae / Forte
Monday	May 17	All Choir Banquet	6:00 PM	Presidential Banquet Center	All Choirs & their families

CHORAL BOOSTERS OVERVIEW

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year from the Centerville Choral Boosters. The Centerville Choral Boosters handle most of the financial logistics of the high school choral program. This overview is intended to let you know what to expect with regard to costs, uniforms and booster membership. We're looking forward to a year of amazing music, opportunities, activities and booster participation.

You can also find more information at WWW.CENTERVILLECHOIRS.ORG

ADDRESS PAYMENT OPTIONS
Centerville Choral Boosters
c/o Kelly Korpusik
500 East Franklin Road
Centerville, OH 45459

PayPal

CHECKS
Make payable to "Centerville Choral Boosters"
Students can bring checks to school or they can be sent in the mail.

PAYPAL
If viewing on a desktop, simply scan the QR code with your phone's camera. If viewing on mobile, long hold the QR code image and select "open" in the list of options to be redirected to the PayPal app OR send to centervillechoralboosters@gmail.com

*Please add a $5 fee if you are paying with paypal to cover the cost of the PayPal fees.

CHORAL EXPENSES

The choral program at CHS is extremely active and provides a variety of experiences for the choral students. All of this costs money, of course. We have made every effort to control and minimize costs.

	Treble Choir	Bass Choir	Bella Voce Symphonic
uniform rental	15	15	15
jewelry	0	0	15
t-shirts	20	20	20
accompanist and sound	50	50	50
music software	10	10	10
arrangements	25	25	25
TOTAL DUE	$120	$120	$135

*FORTE: SEE FORTE HANDBOOK

*FEES WILL BE ADJUSTED IF A STUDENT ADDS OR DROPS A CLASS BASED ON WHAT THEY RECEIVE

CENTERVILLE SCHOOLS WILL BILL YOU SEPARATELY FOR CLASSROOM FEES of $15

Fees are due September 17, 2026

- We accept PayPal payments to centervillechoralboosters@gmail.com (but please add $5 to the total to cover the transaction fees)
- OR, you can send a check to school made payable to Centerville Choral Boosters

What's New and Important This Year?

- Choir fees are due Thursday, September 17, 2026
- Deke Sharon is coming for our All District Choir Celebration in March!

What's Not New?

- The Centerville Choral Booster program still handles all financial transactions for the CHS choir classes.
- The Boosters operate on a very specific and "tight" budget.
- We depend on fundraising for "extra" things like end of year awards, scholarships, spirit treats, and large improvement items (generally equipment/classroom improvements).
- We always need volunteers – please reach out to centervillechoralboosters@gmail.com to volunteer or join us as part of the choral boosters!!

What You Need to Do Now:

- Fill out the Google Form by 9/4/26 .

CLICK HERE FOR LINK TO FORM

- Ask us any questions about the program and (especially) about costs NOW, before the due date. We are always willing to work with all parents and students and have scholarships available. We just ask that you communicate with us.

- Mark 9/17/26 on your calendar –that's when your fees are due. Checks made payable to Centerville Choir Boosters. You can also send via PayPal with $5 added for the fee.