

**Plymouth Public Schools
Middle Schools
Course Syllabus**

Course Name Chorus
Grade Grade 7

Course Description

This course is a vocal ensemble for any seventh grade student. Emphasis will be to continue developing vocal technique, ensemble skills, and performance experience with musical styles from a variety of musical genre. Students will sing independently using partner songs, rounds and will begin to sing in parts. The chorus will develop musical reading skills using standard notation. Students will be expected to participate in all performances both during school hours and evening performances.

Instructional Objectives

Students will:

1. Use correct vocal techniques and posture;
2. Use correct pronunciation skills with clear consonants and open vowel sounds;
3. Sing in 2 parts and simple 3 part music;
4. Improvise melodies and compose simple melodies;
5. Identify and describe basic elements of music: beat, tempo, rhythm, meter, pitch, melody, texture, dynamics, and form;
6. Use appropriate terminology in describing music, music notation, and music performances;
7. Respond to music using movement and choreography;
8. Develop and maintain an effective practice routine; and
9. Develop and demonstrate appropriate rehearsal, performance, and audience behavior.

Text and Instructional Materials

Middle School Choral Library
Selected choral octavos
Essential Repertoire for 2 parts/3 parts
Sight singing text
All-Town repertoire

Performance Opportunities

Students will perform in regularly scheduled evening performances throughout the school year. Additional performance opportunities may include:

SEMSBA and SE District (auditioned regional honors groups)
All – Town Choral Festival
Invitational concerts

Grading Policy

Student grades are determined by their performance through multiple tasks and assignments.

Performances	40%
Performance Assessments/Participation	30%
Homework and practice	15%
Cooperation/Class Preparation	15%

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Learning Sequence

Term 1

- Review note reading
- Voice range exploration
- Junior District audition requirements (optional)
- Sight singing using standard notation
- Review of intervals
- Improvisation assignment
- Preparation for Holiday Concert
- Singing partner songs, 2-pt and 3-pt songs review

Term 2

- Holiday concert
- Junior District auditions (optional)
- Junior SEMSBA and audition requirements (optional)
- Small group singing
- Rhythm tests
- Improvisation and composition assignment
- Sight singing using standard notation
- Preparation for All-Town Choral Festival
- Introduction to independent 3-pt singing

Term 3

- Three part singing
- Rhythm tests
- Improvisation and composition assignment
- Sight singing
- Practice of independent 3-part singing
- Preparation for spring concert
- Junior SEMSBA auditions
- Southeast Jr. District Music Festival (qualifying students)
- Possible Music Festival/Competition
- Spring musical tryouts (optional)
- All Town Choral Festival (qualifying students)

Term 4

- Spring concert
- Jr. SEMSBA Music Festival (qualifying students)
- Final performance assessments
- Sight singing
- Three part singing in small ensembles
- Final exam
- Self assessment/group assessment
- End of the year review/reflections
- Musical performance