

Green Intermediate School



Choral Handbook 2021-2022

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Welcome to the Green intermediate School Choral Program! My name is Alaina Starr and I am Bulldog Strong! I attended Green schools myself and now both of my children, Ellie and Benny, attend GPS. This is my 20th year of teaching music at Green and I am so looking forward to this school year! I am anticipating a year full of excitement, learning and growth. When not teaching music at GIS, I enjoy spending time with Ellie and Benny, eating good food, enjoying holidays and watching TV with my husband.

Last school year was different than any other year we've experienced. We are excited to be singing together again! As the school year starts, our district is strongly recommending that staff and students wear masks. I would like you to know that I am fully vaccinated, but I am choosing to follow this guideline as an added safety layer to protect your child and as the role model for any child who wears a mask to school.

This handbook will provide you with all the information you need for the 2021-2022 school year. I ask that parents please review this handbook with your student as it is your child's tool for success in this classroom. Once you have reviewed this handbook with your student, please fill out the choir commitment request form **by Friday, August 27th**. (The link can be found on the choir canvas homepage and on our choir website: www.greenlocalchoirs.com.)

If you need to contact me for any reason throughout the year, please do not hesitate to reach me via email or school phone. I am looking forward to a great year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Alaina Starr

GIS Choir and General Music

starralaina@greenlocalschools.org

(330) 896-7700 ext. 613112

A. About the GIS Choral Music Handbook

The purpose of this handbook is to acquaint choir students and parents with all the aspects of membership in the choirs. Read and keep this handbook in your assigned folders. It is my hope that the information included will make participation more enjoyable and rewarding.

B. Purpose of GIS Choirs

1. To promote the highest possible standards of excellence in performance, professionalism, and pride in oneself, the choir, the school, and the community
2. To provide a constructive and beneficial activity for student participation
3. To encourage school spirit and pride

C. Green Intermediate School Organizations

1. **Fifth Grade Choir**- This ensemble is composed of fifth grade students with treble voices. The group will sing unison and two-part music.
2. **Sixth Grade Choir**- This ensemble is composed of sixth grade students with treble and changing voices. This group will sing unison and two-part music.

D. Classroom objectives and Syllabus

1. Music literacy
 - A. Read and interpret music
 - B. Sight-singing
 - C. Aural skills
 - D. Music history
2. Music literature
 - A. Familiarization with a variety of genres
 - B. Emphasis on standard repertoire
3. Vocal technique
 - A. Proper and age appropriate use of vocal mechanism
 - B. Choral tone and singing
 - C. Use of diction - vowels and consonants
 - D. Vocal expression and musical line

E. Classroom rules and procedures

1. Be punctual and prepared
2. Be attentive in rehearsals
4. Have a POSITIVE attitude

F. Grading

Student grades will be calculated in accordance with the Green Schools' 80/20 policy:

80% will be Academic Achievement

- Concert Attendance
- Performance Based Assessments
- Written Assessments

20% will be Academic Practice

- Daily Class Participation
- Singing Quizzes
- Written Quizzes

1. Classroom Participation and Conduct

You can earn up to 6 points each day in rehearsal. Class points are based on positive participation and performance, motivation, effort, cooperation, quality of work, self evaluation, and the following of school and classroom policies and rules. See the Participation Rubric in this handbook.

Please note: NO CELL PHONES PERMITTED IN CHOIR ROOM.

2. Attendance at Performances

Public performance of the music we rehearse in class is the "final test" for choir.

Therefore, you must participate in **ALL** performances of the choir in which you are a member. If there is a conflict with the scheduled performance, please see the section below, Absence from a Performance.

You can earn full credit for **EACH** performance during the quarter by:

- ✓ Attending all performances
- ✓ Being prompt for all performances
- ✓ Being well groomed and wearing required concert attire
- ✓ Making a positive contribution to the performance
- ✓ Observing proper concert etiquette

Absence from a Performance

While concerts have been planned around the district calendar, unavoidable conflicts will come up. Absences can be excused or unexcused. If you have any concerns or questions about an excused absence, please contact me.

1. **Excused** - If you have a conflict with a performance, due to a school, Green Local sporting, or family event, please email me (starralaina@greenlocalschools.org) at least a week in advance of the performance. If an emergency illness, accident, or occurrence arises prior to a performance, call the school and leave a voicemail for me at 330-896-7700 ext. 613112. Any excused absence will be given an alternate assignment in order to make up the grade missed by the performance absence.

2. **Unexcused** - Extraordinary circumstances will be handled on an individual basis, but an absence for any other reason is usually not excused. In this case you would not be given an alternate assignment in place of the performance and you would not be able to earn points toward your grade.

G. Concert Attire

All Green Intermediate School students are required to purchase a Green Local Schools Choir Shirt to wear at concerts with black pants and black shoes.

H. Materials

Students are required to purchase a 3 pronged plastic folder and a pencil for this class. Any other materials will be provided for the students.

GIS Participation Rubric

	What it looks like	What it does not look like
Preparation (2 pts.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Raise your hand to speak-Phone put away-Binder and pencil with you	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Talking out-Phone being used during rehearsal-Forgot materials at home
Leadership (2 pts.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Be on time & in place-Water only, no food/gum-Follow directions the first time-Be attentive in rehearsal-Positive rehearsal behavior-Positive Mental Attitude (PMA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Walk around and greet your friends- Eating in rehearsal-Talking during instruction-Zoning out instead of singing-Not giving your best-Complaining
Performance (2 pts.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Correct posture-Using hand signs when asked-Writing markings in music-Completing work-Singing with enthusiasm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Slouching-Hands in pockets-Trusting yourself to just remember-Submitting work late or incomplete-Mumble singing

You can earn 6 points daily with 2 points per category!

Green Local Schools 2021-2022 Choir Calendar of Events

GIS Events are Highlighted!

Date	Time	Event	Location
September 30	7:30pm	GHS Fall Choir Concert	GHS Auditorium
October 5	7:00pm	Seventh Grade Demonstration Concert	GHS Auditorium
October 6	7:00pm	Eighth Grade and Select Choir Concert	GHS Auditorium
December 4	All Day	GLS Holiday Choir Concerts	GHS Auditorium
December 11	6:00pm	GHS Yuletide Feaste	TBA
February 11	7:00pm	Valentine's Day Cabaret	GHS Commons
February 16	7:00pm	GMS Winter Concert	GHS Auditorium
February 18-19	TBA	Nordonia AcaFest	Nordonia HS Auditorium
February 24	7:30pm	GHS Pre-Contest Concert	GHS Auditorium
March 3-4	TBD	OMEA HS Large Group District Contest	TBD
April 22-23	TBD	OMEA HS Large Group State Contest	TBD
April 29-30	TBD	OMEA HS Large Group State Contest	TBD
May 4	7:30pm	GHS Choir Concert	GHS Auditorium
May 6-7	7:00pm	GHS Spring Showcase	GHS Auditorium
May 13-14	TBD	JH Large Group Adjudicated Events (Eighth Only)	GHS Auditorium
May 18	7:00pm	GIS Choir Concert	GHS Auditorium
May 19	7:30pm	MS Choir Concert	GHS Auditorium