

Green Intermediate



Handbook

2023-2024

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Welcome to the Green intermediate School Choral Program. My name is Alaina Starr and I am the choir director at GIS. This is my 22nd 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 my family. We like to vacation, eat good food and play (well, I watch) sports.

This handbook will provide you with all the information you need for the 2023-2024 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 online choir commitment request form **by Friday, September 15th**. (The link can be found on the choir canvas homepage and on our choir website: www.greenlocalchoirs.com.) I ask that once the online form is completed your child commits to choir for the school year.

Please email me with any questions. 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
- Daily Class Participation
- Performance Based Assessments

20% will be Academic Practice

- Written Worksheets
- Folder & Pencil Checks

1. Classroom Participation and Conduct

You can earn up to 6 points each day. 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. **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 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. If you already own the shirt, you are set. If you need to purchase a shirt, the online store link is posted in Canvas. The store closes on 9/18

H. Materials

Students need 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!

GLS 2023-2024 Choir Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
September 27	7:30pm	GHS Fall Choir Concert	GHS Auditorium
October 3	7:00pm	6th Gr Choir/7th Gr Choir Classroom Demonstration	GHS Auditorium
October 4	7:00pm	Select Choir Robing Ceremony with 8th Gr Choir	GHS Auditorium
December 2	10:00am	GIS Holiday Choir Concert	GHS Auditorium
February 10	All Day	GHS OMEA Solo & Ensemble	TBA
February 10	7:00pm	GHS Ensemble Valentine's Day Cabaret	GHS Commons
February 16-17	TBA	GHS Ensemble at Nordonia AcaFest	Nordonia HS Auditorium
February 29	7:30pm	GHS Pre-Contest Concert	GHS Auditorium
March 2	6:00pm	GMS Winter Choir Concert	GMS Cafe/Gym
March 8-9	TBD	OMEA District Large Group Contest	TBD
March 23	All Day	GMS OMEA Solo & Ensemble	TBA
April 19-20	TBD	NE OMEA State Large Group Contest	TBD
April 26-27	TBD	Alternate Date - OMEA State Large Group Contest	TBD
May 2	7:30pm	GHS Choir Concert	GHS Auditorium
May 3 & 4	7:00pm	GHS A Cappella Spring Showcase	GHS Auditorium
May 10 & 11	TBA	GMS OMEA Large Group Contest	TBA
May 14	7:00pm	GIS Choir Concert	GHS Auditorium
May 15	7:30pm	GMS Choir Concert	GHS Auditorium