

Dakota High School
CHOIRS

2018-2019



Welcome to the DHS Choir Program!

“Music is a higher revelation than all wisdom and philosophy.”
—Ludwig van Beethoven

“The only thing better than singing is more singing.”
—Ella Fitzgerald

Mr. Walker
586-723-2860
AWalker@cvs.k12.mi.us

www.DakotaChoirs.com

Twitter: @DakotaChoirs

Greetings, Choir Students and Parents/Guardians!

Welcome to the new school year, and a new year with the Dakota High School Choir program! I am so excited for the year to come, as it contains many thrilling opportunities for music-learning, music performance, and musical experiences. With the hard work of each student in each ensemble, we can expect success! I am honored to again be teaching here this year. Dakota High School has built a reputation for choral excellence, and this is a distinction that I am keenly intent on maintaining! With the focus of young musicians, and strong support from parents, administration, and the community, we have all the tools necessary to ensure excellence!

This **handbook** is meant as a resource, to provide students and parents with easily-accessible information regarding many aspects of the choral program. It also serves as a contract, ensuring common knowledge of expectations. Please read it thoroughly and sign the contract. Refer to the handbook for information throughout the course of the year!

Choir students: you are accepting the responsibility of membership into an academic and artistic organization that we will continue to build together on common goal of commitment to excellence in music.

Choir parents: I am thankful for your part in understanding the expectations of your student as a member of this program, and supporting his or her endeavors. I am also deeply thankful for the incredible amount of time and hard work that parent volunteers kindly and freely donate to maintain our operational success.

Again, I am honored to be a part of this program, and so excited to see what we will accomplish together this year! Please feel free to reach out to me at any time; email will always be the most efficient way to do that.

Sincerely,
Mr. Alexander Walker
Director of Choirs

Dakota High School Class Choirs

Treble Choir—Treble voices

Men's Choir—Men's voices

Women's Varsity Choir—Auditioned treble voices

Mixed Varsity Choir—Auditioned treble and men's voices

Extra-Curricular Choirs

Unaccompanied Minors—Auditioned a cappella group

DHS Show Choir—Auditioned show choir

ABOUT CHOIR AT DAKOTA

Choir is a year-long music-learning opportunity, with emphases in vocal performance, ensemble singing, and music exploration. It fulfills the Chippewa Valley District requirement for a class in Visual, Performing, or Applied Arts.

Students will:

- Explore, study, learn, refine, and perform music from a variety of times, places, and cultures.
- Learn music vocabulary, and fundamentals of music literacy/music theory.
- Develop notational reading ability.
- Learn, practice, and refine basic vocal technique.
- Explore independent musicianship.
- Build community; exercise team skills; cultivate relationships.
- Practice self-discipline, creativity, self-esteem, and enthusiasm!

Choir is a performance-based class.

- The collaborative nature of a choir requires that all members be fully present (physically/mentally) at all times. You have elected to enrich your high school experience with music and become part of the tradition of excellence of DHS Choirs; this cannot come without commitment.
- The performance-based nature of the class is reflected in daily attendance/participation grades, as well as in concert attendance requirements.
- **Course Requirements include:**
 - Participation in **one to two evening concerts per quarter**, and **one to two choral festivals per year**, *as a portion of the class grade*.
- Performances are most frequently vocal, but also may include choreography as a performance-enhancing element. Students are expected to physically participate in any choreographed music, unless separate arrangement has been made with Mr. Walker.
- Other awesome and enriching performing opportunities will arise throughout the year! These may be specific to a certain choir, or may be an optional opportunity on a volunteer basis.

CLASS MATERIALS

As a portion of their grade, each student will be expected to have the following materials ready for class each day:

- 1-inch three-ring binder (that fits in folio cabinet)
- Five dividers
- Pencil
- Choir folder and all necessary music

GRADING

WEEKLY GRADE: Effort and participation are a vital part of daily rehearsal and the productivity of the choir as a whole. **Students will earn 3 points daily** for attendance, effort, and participation in class (posted as 15-point weekly grades). Absences that are excused by the attendance office will result in an omission of that daily grade. Unexcused absences will result in no points being earned for that day.

<p>You will earn 3 points per class if <u>ALL the following are met</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> —You are on time; in seat and ready when the bell rings; —Prepared with necessary materials —Following classroom rules/expectations consistently —Actively participating and demonstrating best effort 	<p>You will earn 1-2 points per class if <u>any of the following apply</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> —Tardy by less than 6 minutes —Unprepared; missing materials —Disregard or violation of classroom expectations —Participation with inconsistent level of effort 	<p>You will earn 0 points per class if <u>any of the following apply</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> —Your absence is unexcused. —Your behavior is disruptive. —Repeated or intentional violation of classroom expectations after warnings. —Participation and effort are minimal or nonexistent.
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WEEKLY GRADE MARKS: If a student has earned less than 15/15 points for their weekly grade, it will be put into PowerSchool's notes with a date, and a code describing the deduction.

T = Tardy; **E** = Effort; **P** = Preparation/Materials; **Tk** = Talkative; **CP** = Cell Phone; **A** = Attitude; **FB** = Foolish Behavior.

CHOIR BINDER: Choir students are required to utilize a **choir binder**. Failure to have the binder daily will result in a preparation deduction. It will contain their notes, in-class work, assignments, and sight-reading resources. It can then serve as a convenient resource for studying purposes. Students will develop organizational skills through a requirement to keep certain notes and assignments in the binder.

IN-CLASS WORK, HOMEWORK, and other ASSIGNMENTS

To be sure that all students remain accountable for each group's success, and to establish a shared groundwork of knowledge, students will be responsible for completing in-class work, homework, and other various assignments. Points will be awarded on completion *and/or accuracy* of in-class work and other assignments. These assignments should be kept in the student's choir binder.

QUIZZES/TESTS: Students will periodically be quizzed or tested over course material and concepts, in either **written** or **performing** formats. Examples include sight-reading quizzes, vocabulary quizzes, singing quizzes (alone or in groups), and memorization quizzes over performance repertoire. At least **one week prior** to all quizzes and tests, students will receive detailed information about the topics covered or the performance expectations. All singing quizzes will be scored objectively. Students will receive a rubric clearly denoting what they will be scored on in advance.

GRADES will be calculated from total points earned (visible on Power School). The standard grading scale below will be used.

<u>100 Point Grading System</u>	
A = 93-100	C = 73-76
A- = 90-92	C- = 70-72
B+ = 87-89	D+ = 67-69
B = 83-86	D = 63-66
B- = 80-82	D- = 60-62
C+ = 77-79	F = < 60

REQUIRED REHEARSAL AND CONCERT GRADES

Mandatory performances and dress rehearsals (specified on calendar) are **graded!**

Why is attendance mandatory?

- Preparing and performing music for an audience is a primary focus of this class. Concerts provide a capstone experience that cannot be replicated in the classroom.
- Performances are a primary means by which the skills learned in this class are assessed.
- Choral singing is an intricate group effort; a group's well-prepared performance will be weakened by any missing voice.
- Notice is given in advance for all required concert dates and rehearsals.

To earn all points possible for rehearsals and concerts, students must be:

- In **attendance**.
- On **time**.
- In full required **uniform upon arrival**.
- On task, focused, putting forth **best effort**.

→ Grade deductions *will therefore occur* when:

- Student is late to a call time.
- Student is late to a performance.
- Student arrives un-uniformed or missing attire elements.
 - Missing concert attire elements at a *rehearsal* will result in a grade deduction.
 - Missing concert attire elements for a *performance* will result in not being allowed to perform, which will result in zero credit being awarded.
- Student is off-task or disruptive
 - If an issue involving behavior or lack of focus results in dismissal or removal from rehearsal or concert, no credit can be earned for that rehearsal or concert.

Since concerts are worth 100 points, a student's grade will seriously suffer if they fail to appear at a performance with no valid excuse!

- Conflict with other extra-curricular activities (Driver's Ed., other sports, dance, lack of a ride...) is not an excuse to miss a required performance— we are teaching students responsibility, **planning**, **organization**, and problem-solving skills here. Enough time is given in advance for them to communicate with other group sponsors and arrange to amend the conflict.
- Concert absence will only be excused for: medical emergency (documented upon return to school), personal injury (documented upon return to school), or death in the family.
- Outside of the aforementioned circumstances, concert absences may only be considered for excusal via direct parent-teacher contact at *least 24 hours prior* to the absence. Conflicts then must be proved unavoidable. This is a policy backed by DHS Administration.

An excused absence results in omitting that grade and/or appointing an alternate assignment, if the teacher deems necessary. An unexcused absence results in forfeiting all points for that rehearsal/performance.

CHOIR FINES

Students will be issued several school-owned items, including a folder, multiple pieces of music, and items of clothing. *Fines must be issued for lost or damaged...*

- Folder
- Music
- Uniform

All items must be returned in excellent/good condition *before final examinations* in order to avoid a fine. Fines will equal the monetary value of a new, *replacement* item.

CHOIR RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

STUDENTS WILL...

- **Be on time** for class.
- **Be prepared** for class with all necessary materials.
- **Participate** with 100% effort
- **Remain attentive** to director's instructions; remain **disciplined**, focused, and productivity-minded.
- **Follow cell phone policy**—which will be enforced!
- **Remain in the classroom** unless dismissed or instructed otherwise.
- **Demonstrate respect for all equipment** and classroom materials
—Piano; sound system; school-issued music
- **Maintain appropriate classroom conduct, including language.**
- **Not consume food or drink** during class time, aside from water.

NO GUM WHILE SINGING!!!

- Makes singing more difficult; impedes proper space and resonance.
- Quite dangerous really!!!
- **Follow these established class rules/procedures.**
- **Treat everyone with respect**, kindness, and consideration.
- **Have a great day and help others have a great day!**

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE

1. Verbal Warning/Weekly grade deduction.
2. Removal from class/rehearsal; parental contact
3. Office Referral

DHS VOCAL MUSIC CALENDAR

2018-2019

The following list of dates includes a number of tentative dates for outside-district events.

The most accurate, most recent version of this calendar will always be found on

www.DakotaChoirs.com

This calendar is accurate as of 09/03/18.

Bold print signifies mandatory (graded) attendance.

September 7	Unaccompanied Minors auditions after school
September 18	Choir Parent Meeting, 7PM
September 13	Show Choir auditions after school
September 19/20/21	Musical auditions after school
September 25	Musical Parent Meeting, 7PM
October 5	District Idol and Idol Jr. Auditions after school
October 10	Collage Concert Dress Rehearsal after school
October 11/12	Collage Concert, 7PM
October 30	District Idol Show in Dakota Auditorium, 7PM
November 1	District Idol Junior Show in Dakota Auditorium, 7PM
November 10	MSVMA Music Theatre Solo & Ensemble
November 13	Chamber Choir Festival at Oakland University (Mixed + Women's)
November 27	Show Choir sings at Macomb Twp. Christmas Tree lighting
December 2	Mixed Varsity sings at Lessons & Carols, St. Isadore
December 5	Band Holiday Concert, 7PM
December 12	Show Choir and Mixed Varsity travel to schools
December 17	Holiday Concert Dress Rehearsal after school
December 18	Holiday Concert, 7PM
January 18/19	MSVMA District Solo & Ensemble, Chippewa Valley H.S.
February 7/8/9	<i>Beauty and the Beast</i> , 7PM. 1PM and 7PM shows on Feb. 9
February 14/15/16	<i>Beauty and the Beast</i> , 7PM; 1PM and 7PM shows on Feb. 16
March 4	Festival Concert Dress Rehearsal after school
March 5	Festival Concert with Seneca Middle School Choirs, 7PM
March 11/12	MSVMA District Choral Festival (hosted at Dakota)
April 12/13	MSVMA State Solo & Ensemble, Avondale H.S.
April 29/30	MSVMA State Choral Festival, Marysville H.S.
May 15	Band Spring Concert, 7PM
May 21/22	Spring Concert Dress Rehearsal after school
May 23	Spring Concert, 7PM
June 1	Mixed Varsity sings at Sounding Light concert
June 4	Choir Banquet
June 9	Graduation

CHOIR ATTIRE INFORMATION

“The uniform makes for brotherhood, since when universally adopted it covers up all differences of class and country.”

—Robert Baden-Powell (1857-1941)

“What you wear is how you present yourself to the world, especially today, when human contacts are so quick. Fashion is instant language.”

—Miuccia Prada (1949-)

Choir attire is an important part of a choir program!

- Like other teams, a uniform appearance for all members demonstrates a group identity, and encourages a singular focus and purpose.
- The singers practice *professional conduct* and *professional appearance* when they appear in formal attire and represent our program, school, and district at local and state festivals and competitions throughout the year.
- **Each member is charged a \$20.00 cleaning/repair fee** for the use of school-owned uniform items. This is because at the end of the year, all uniforms are collected and the choir department is responsible for the dry cleaning of all garments. Any necessary repairs should be reported immediately during the year for proper attention. Students may be responsible for additional cleanings during the year, as necessary.

All school-owned uniforms are assigned after being fitted to the best size available for each student.

If alterations are needed, parent volunteers will coordinate and assist.

No fabric may be cut off to shorten uniforms

Choir Polos (Required)

The Dakota **Choir Polo** is the one **required** wardrobe purchase. This top will be worn multiple times throughout the year to display a uniform appearance in various locations at DHS and elsewhere. It also will serve as a form of concert attire.

Please complete and return a Choir Polo Order Form.

Other Choir Apparel (forthcoming; not mandatory)

A variety of Choir Apparel will be offered separately during the year, including the yearly OFFICIAL DHS CHOIRS t-shirt. Stay tuned. ☺

Female Uniforms

FORMAL CONCERT ATTIRE	
<u>STUDENT PROVIDES:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • natural skin-toned color nylons • 2" CAMEL Character Shoes 	<u>SCHOOL PROVIDES:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black Gown with a colored sash
CHOREOGRAPHY	
<u>STUDENT PROVIDES:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • black tank or camisole • black pants • black shoes & socks 	<u>SCHOOL PROVIDES:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sequin mini dot tank top
CASUAL	
<u>STUDENT PROVIDES:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • medium to dark jeans (no holes) • dark, solid colored shoes • Choir POLO 	<i>order form to purchase the choir polo is found at the end of the handbook</i>

- Character Shoes can be purchased at any dancewear source, but Lucy & Ethel's 15262 Canal Rd, Clinton Township, MI 48038 gives a 10% Dakota Choirs discount (mention Dakota Choirs).
- *For students serious about choir and theater, it is recommended getting a higher quality shoe, like the Capezio 2 1/2" caramel Manhattan Character.*

Male Uniforms

FORMAL CONCERT ATTIRE	
<u>STUDENT PROVIDES:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White long-sleeved dress shirt w/ standard collar • Black dress shoes & socks 	<u>SCHOOL PROVIDES:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black tuxedo pants • Tuxedo vest & tie • Tuxedo coat (Mixed Varsity only)
CHOREOGRAPHY	
<u>STUDENT PROVIDES:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • black t-shirt • black pants • black shoes & socks 	<u>SCHOOL PROVIDES:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • colored long-sleeved dress shirt
CASUAL	
<u>STUDENT PROVIDES:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • medium to dark jeans (no holes) • dark, solid colored shoes • Choir POLO 	<i>order form to purchase the choir polo is found at the end of the handbook</i>

Performance Hair—ALL CHOIRS

Along with the choir uniform, the styling of hair assists in presenting each ensemble as a unified, professional group. Being a member of choir is belonging to a team-unit, blending both in voice and appearance. Students with uncombed, messy or outrageous hair take away from this endeavor. The other consideration of performance hair is it must be pulled/styled away from the face (especially ladies) or cut and groomed neatly (especially gentlemen), for stage lights create many shadows and the audience cannot see the face and its expressions. Music's essence is expression, and the portal to one's expression is the face, especially the eyes. Students are expected to have their hair groomed for performances in the following manner:

- **Ladies** – styled off the face. Bangs should be above the eyebrows. If hair is long, it should be pulled back in a manner that the face is clearly visible. Hairspray and appropriate accessories need to be used so the hair remains off the face for the entire concert. A continual “fixing” or “pushing back” of the hair during a concert is extremely distracting. Any accessories **MUST** be hair colored and not noticeable from an audience's view (i.e. no “bling”, shiny metal or bright colors)
- **Gentlemen** – trimmed or styled away from face. Again, bangs should be above the eyebrows. If hair is longer, hair product (gel, spray, mousse, wax, etc.) must be used to keep hair styled back away from the face for the duration of a performance.

Other Performance Requirements—ALL CHOIRS

- In the instance of a student being allowed to choose their own performance outfit, **this outfit must follow school dress code regulations.**
- No statement jewelry. This includes watches, necklaces, bracelets, rings, any visible piercings and any other items that detract from the choir's uniform aesthetic. Guiding question: *“Will this item draw potentially distracting attention to me in particular onstage?”* Subtle and silver will usually be permissible. Mr. Walker reserves the right of final determination.
- Make-up is to be worn to look “natural” under stage lights.
- ANY undergarments must NOT be visible through the uniform. (i.e., gentlemen need a plain, white t-shirt if one is to be worn under the white dress shirt; women's bra straps need to be flesh colored or transparent if shown)
- When students are in uniform, they remain in COMPLETE UNIFORM from the time they arrive at a function until after they depart. At no time should they be seen without shirts tucked in, shoes on, ties & sashes attached, etc.
- Students WILL NOT be allowed to perform, and their grade will therefore be impacted, if their appearance is not in accordance with Handbook regulations.

CHOIR ACCOUNTS

Upon entering the choir program, all students receive a choir account. They will fill this account by participating in fundraisers! Money in a student's choir account can be used toward all choir expenses—from choir concert tickets, to voice lessons, to t-shirts. Money will over in a student's individual choir account year to year until they leave the program. Upon leaving the program or graduating, a student's choir account funds are absorbed by the general choir fund, *unless an arrangement to hold the funds for a future sibling has been made with the Choir Account manager prior to the student leaving or graduating.*

FESTIVALS AND COMPETITIONS

Throughout the year, there are several opportunities for choir students to be adjudicated (judged, graded, rated, evaluated, commended!) on their singing ability. These events are sponsored by the Michigan School Vocal Music Association (MSVMA) and the American Choral Director's Association (ACDA). For members of the DHS choir program, some of these activities are voluntary (Honors Choirs, Solo and Ensemble Festivals) and others are **required** (District and State Choral Festivals).

The students prepare within class to be judged in the following areas: posture, breathing, tone, intonation, vowel purity, diction, precision of entrances and releases, facial expression, and sight-reading. Dates for Solo & Ensemble Festivals, as well as this year's Choral Festivals, are on the calendar page of this packet. Locations are frequently not solidified until a couple months beforehand.

PRIVATE VOICE LESSONS

Support your child's interest in private voice lessons! One-on-one instruction in vocal technique is *highly encouraged* and incredibly beneficial in the areas of sound quality, breath management, development of range, vocal strength, confidence, and sight-reading. Any student interested in MSVMA Honors Choir, ACDA Honor Choir, **MSVMA Solo & Ensemble**, or other selective/scored singing events needs to be studying voice. While voice lessons certainly do not guarantee obtaining in-class solos, honors or choir promotions, **there is a strong correlation between those students studying privately and students reaching these opportunities.** If interested in lessons, please see Mr. Walker for recommendations or possibilities. There are even teachers that come to DHS to teach during the school day.

CHOIR BANQUET

We celebrate the success and accomplishments of our singers at our annual Choir Banquet. It is a themed, dress-up evening of dinner, awards, peer-election results, dancing and karaoke! Students and their family members are invited to attend. Tickets are sold during class in May.

SUMMER MUSIC CAMPS

Each year many of our choir students attend summer camps and workshops. Use your Choir Account money from our fundraisers to pay your way! Some great summer camps and workshops are: Macomb's Show Choir Workshop, Show Choir Camps of America, Western Michigan University's Music Seminar, Michigan State's Jazz Camp, Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, University of Michigan's M-Pulse, Interlochen Music Camp, and DOT's Opera Workshop.

CHOIR FUNDRAISERS

PARENT involvement is essential for fundraising success! ☺

Choir fundraisers occur throughout the year to help provide additional resources, possibilities, and opportunities for our students (some examples: live instrumentalists for concerts, new equipment, new sheet music to perform, guest artists, professional choreographers, vocal clinicians, department-owned choir apparel, choir banquet supplies/expenses, community-building events, travel opportunities, and more!)

Fundraisers are designed to benefit the entire program *and/or* be applied to an individual's choir account. Students may have individual account funds applied to any choir cost and the balance carries over each year until the student leaves the program, so it is always beneficial for students and parents to be actively fundraising!

- **KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM:** Registering your Kroger Plus card allows you to earn contribution rewards applied to the choir's general fund. Friends and relatives can register their card for the Dakota High School Choirs, making it an easy way to raise funds! This program also in no way takes from your own Kroger Rewards points! For information, go to the Choir Website and click on "Fundraisers."
- **DAKOTA BOOSTERS:** By volunteering for Booster events (e.g., working concessions at a sporting event), families can raise money applied to individual accounts.
- **SPONSORSHIP:** This fundraiser deals with obtaining donations from sponsors to support a student's participation in choir activities. The Choir Program receives a portion of the scholarship, but the majority of the sponsorship money does directly into students' choir accounts!
- **BAKE SALES:** These will be coordinated at many of the Choir Concerts. Baked goods are donated by choir families, and profits go to the choir's general fund. You will receive email in the weeks leading up to a choir concert with specific information about that concert's bake sale.
- **COOKIE DOUGH:** Our traditional sale of Cookie Dough runs in the fall. ALL profits are applied to individual accounts.
- **CHIPPEWA VALLEY DISTRICT IDOL:** Our 8th annual DISTRICT IDOL and DISTRICT IDOL JR. (in partnership with Seneca Middle School Choirs) run in October/November. It assists in raising money for the choir's general fund.
- **WIEGAND'S HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER:** This sale provides holiday wreathes, porch pots and poinsettias. It runs in November & December. ALL profits are applied to individual accounts.
- **ACHATZ PIES:** These locally-owned, delicious pies are sold in March, so delivery comes just in time for the Easter season. ALL profits are applied to individual accounts.
- **MIXED BAGS:** This fun, recycled product is available in the spring with delivery happening just before Mother's Day. ALL profits are applied to individual accounts.

Other Fundraisers

If new fundraising opportunities or events arise, parents will be notified with emails and Remind messages.

LINES OF COMMUNICATION

How to remain in the loop:

- **Email**

- It is critical to make sure you are on the email distribution list, and that you regularly check for DHS Choir emails. This is the best communication method for me to send detailed information to all choir families. Important information (e.g., concert/ticket sale reminders, calendar/schedule changes, new upcoming activities or opportunities) will be sent out via email, by our parent liaison. All of this information will also be communicated with your student during class time.

- **Remind**

- Remind (formerly Remind 101) is an application that allows me to send text messages to the Dakota Choirs community, and keeps your phone number private. Sign-up by sending the text message **@dakotacho** to the number **81010**. You will be prompted to reply with your name, or you will receive a confirmation message.
- These messages will be for school-year business-type reminders. (e.g., “Don’t forget Cookie Dough fundraiser forms are due tomorrow!”)
- While members of the group have the option to send the administrator private messages, I do not receive notifications for these and rarely check them—communication with me is still best via email.

- **Facebook**

- Please go “like” the Facebook page for Dakota High School Choirs!

www.facebook.com/DakotaChoirs

- In the same area that you clicked to “like” the page, there should also be a drop-down option to “see all” notifications; changing your setting from default to this will ensure that all posts by Dakota Choirs will appear at the top of your feed the next time you log in to Facebook.
- This page will serve as the program’s more “official,” “promotional” online presence. Concert advertisements, nicer photographs, and significant accomplishments will be posted here!
 - Invite friends/family of the program to like this page as well!!!

- **Twitter**

- Follow @DakotaChoirs on Twitter!

- **Website**

- Take a look at the Dakota Choirs website! It will be an additional source for updates, forms and information required by parents, the calendar, homework for students, and more!

www.DakotaChoirs.com

How to contact Mr. Walker:

- **AWalker@cvs.k12.mi.us**

- Email is the best contact tool; I am able to check email very frequently and will respond at the earliest opportunity. If at any time you cannot recall my email address, you can send an email message through the Dakota website.

- **(586) 723-2860**

- My office phone number is available 24/7. I will not answer outside phone calls during school hours, when I am required to be teaching. When I am in the building, I will check my messages periodically, but not as often as email.

Welcome to
**DAKOTA
CHOIRS!**



DAKOTACHOIRS

MATERIALS: 1” 3-ring binder *that fits in cabinet* by **Friday 9/7**.
Five dividers
Pencil every day #noexcuses

Go get some choir sponsors!

First Assignment—Parent Email Mr. Walker

- For 10/10 points on the *first assignment* for the year, EACH FAMILY needs to send me an email.
- No lengthy email required, only:
 - **Student Name / Grade / Choir(s)**
 - **Parent Name(s)**
- You will be added to the 2018-2019 Choir Distribution list. This is the most efficient method for me to communicate information to the whole choir program.
 - Choir emails will come from either the Parent Email Liaison or myself.
- **Due: Friday, September 7th.**
 - Each day late will result in a 10% deduction, beginning Monday.

Choir Parent Checklist on back

Choir Parent Checklist

- Send Mr. Walker an email at AWalker@cvs.k12.mi.us
 - Assignment described on previous page.
- Review entire choir handbook with your student.
 - Return **Choir Handbook Contract** and **Parent Information** form by **Friday, September 15th**
- Return **polo order form** along with **uniform cleaning/repair fee** by **Friday, September 15th**
- Sign up for **Choir Remind** text messages. These are important.
 - Everyone needs to do this again for the new school year.
 - Send: @dakotacho to 81010
- Follow @DakotaChoirs on **Twitter**; LIKE the Dakota Choirs **Facebook**
- Attend **Choir Parent meeting** on Tuesday, September 18, 7PM
- Review information for **Choir Sponsorship Fundraiser!** Consider whom you know that could sponsor our program and enhance the possibilities of your student's experience in choir. More information will be delivered to your student in class shortly about this fundraiser, and it will be posted on the DakotaChoirs.com website.

Some DHS Performing Arts Dates—Fall 2018

This list is an abbreviated summary provided for convenience.

For full Vocal Music calendar, visit www.DakotaChoirs.com

Friday, September 7	Unaccompanied Minors auditions
Tuesday, September 11	Musical Workshop/Info after school, Choir Room
Wednesday, September 12	Meet the Teacher
Thursday, September 13	Show Choir auditions after school, 2:30PM-6:30PM
Tuesday, September 18	Choir Parent meeting, 7PM
Wednesday, September 19	Musical auditions
Thurs./Fri., September 20/21	Musical call back auditions
Tuesday, September 25	Musical Parent meeting, 7PM
Friday, September 28	Homecoming—Choir and Musical in Homecoming Parade
Thursday, October 4	Collage Concert Presale Ticket order forms due
Wednesday, October 10	Mandatory Dress Rehearsal for Collage Concert, after school
Thurs./Fri. October 11/12	Collage Concert, 7PM

Student Name (Print): _____

CHOIR HANDBOOK CONTRACT

We have read the 2018-2019 Dakota Choir Handbook and will comply fully with all expectations.

Student: Print name

Student: Signature

Parent/Guardian: Print name

Parent/Guardian: Signature

DUE DATE—FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 2018 (p. 1/2)



Parent Information

Parent/Guardian Information

Name(s): _____

Email: _____

Please complete as much of the following as you'd like. For phone numbers, circle to show Home/Cell/Work.

Phone: _____ H/C/W Phone: _____ H/C/W

Parents...We need YOUR help!!!

The INCREDIBLE level of support from choir parents, families, and the community is the sole reason that the DHS Choir Program is able to operate as it does! Whether the task is big or small, *all* parent involvement is deeply appreciated, and serves to enhance the students' experience in choir.

Can a DHS Choirs volunteer coordinator contact you? Please CHECK if YES, or leave blank if no _____

If yes, what is the best method (email/call/text) for contact, and when?

In the space below (or even on the back), please feel free to describe how you think you could best help Dakota Choirs. If you've volunteered at all in the past, please describe! "I will do anything" is a wonderful answer! If you could provide a general idea of the days/times you could be available, that also would be super helpful.

STUDENT NAME (Print): _____ HOUR: _____

(1) Choir Polo Order

ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE A CHOIR POLO.

Your student does NOT need to order a new polo if they already have one.

REQUIRED UNIFORM POLO
 Navy Blue polo with embroidered Dakota Choir Emblem

Circle Size:	XS	S	M	L	XL	XXL
<i>(These run BIG)</i>						
Circle Total:	\$30		\$35	← Add \$5 for first name embroidered on sleeve!		

_____ (Print Name)

(2) Uniform Cleaning/Repair Fee

Every choir member is issued school-owned uniform items for this fee

Please include the following for uniform cleaning & any repairs: \$20.00

- *This fee DOES NOT include the show choir uniform.*
- *Students will not receive a uniform until the fee is submitted.*

Student Name: _____ Hour: _____

Total (Polo if buying + Uniform Fees) = _____

Form of PAYMENT (check one):

- CASH
- CHECK (# _____) made out to DAKOTA CHOIRS
- STUDENT CHOIR ACCOUNT

**DUE IN SEALED ENVELOPE ON:
 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 2018**