

PETERS TOWNSHIP MIDDLE SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS: 7TH GRADE CHORUS

Course Information	Teacher Information
<u>Course Length:</u> Full Year/Semester	<u>Name:</u> Larry Lucas

Course Overview and Essential Skills

The Seventh Grade Chorus continues to develop independent musicianship and vocal skills as the students enter a major phase of voice change. The changing voice characteristics include pitch-matching difficulties and a spoken tone for the boys as their range begins its dramatic drop. Along with the voice change the boys are assigned a part of their own for the first time. The girls experience a thinning tone quality and decreased range during this time. Exercises are used to re-establish vocal control during this difficult time as a singer. Some of the areas of focus in this class are proper posture and body position (with routine reinforcement), proper diaphragmatic breathing, proper vocal embouchure, & proper tone production. Daily vocalizes applicable to the choral practice and performance literature for development of a healthy tone are a routine part of this class. Another focus of this class is vocal tone with varying degrees of pitch, dynamics, timbre, duration, and vibrato which are stylistically appropriate to the selected repertoire. Opportunities for solo performance based on the practice and performance literature are also a part of this course. The students serve the community by performing at a local nursing home and another performance venue during the holidays and springtime.

Course Textbook, Supplemental Resources and Required Materials

“Alfred’s Essentials Elements of Sight Singing” Volume 1 Various selections from the Concert Literature

Various supplementals

Course Outline of Material Covered:

Unit or Topic	Course Activities/Resources	Timeframe
Singing Basics and Ear Training	“Alfred’s Essentials Elements of Sight Singing” Volume 1 & various supplementals	36 weeks intermittently
Winter Holiday Concert	Various songs from the concert literature	10-12 weeks
Spring Themed Concert	Various songs from the concert literature	14-16 weeks
Professional Performance Unit	TBA Annually & various supplementals	3-4 weeks
Individual Vocal Progress Assessment	““Alfred’s Essentials Elements of Sight Singing” Volume 1 & various excerpts from the concert literature	2-4 weeks
Choral Ensemble Vocal Adjudication	Various songs from the concert literature	4-6 weeks

****Depending on the needs of the class or changes in the school year, the course outline is subject to change.***