Dear Parents/Guardians of Singers:

 Welcome to an exciting new year at Park Crest Middle School! I am looking forward to working with your student in our award-winning choir. The middle school years are some of the most challenging in any child’s life. I am excited to be part of your student’s education and to help him or her grow into a well-rounded, motivated, and successful individual. This letter serves as both a welcome and an outline of what we will be studying this year in choir classes. I ask that you and your student read through this syllabus, so you understand the goals and expectations that have been set for your student. A hard copy of the Choir Calendar was also given to them in class today. All of these forms can be found on the choir website at <http://parkcrestchoirs.weebly.com/>. Once you have read the syllabus as well as the PCMS Choir Handbook (found on the choir website), please sign and return the last page of this syllabus and have your student return it to me by 23 August 2019. Thank you and best wishes for a wonderful school year!

Semper Fidelis,

Tyler Groft

**CHOIR SYLLABUS**

**Curriculum:**
 Through participation in choir, students will develop music skills by learning, creating, and performing music of the highest quality in an ensemble. In addition, the student will learn to evaluate musical performances from both artistic and stylistic standpoints. The musical facets that will be addressed in this course have been chosen based on the National Standards for Music Education and the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for the Fine Arts. You can access these standards by visiting the following websites:
<http://musiced.nafme.org/resources/national-standards-for-music-education/>
<http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter117/index.html>

**Grading:**
 The process of student assessment will include the evaluation of individual performance, achievement and improvement, knowledge of music performed, class assignments and assessments, attendance, and participation in rehearsals and concerts. Class assignments may include worksheets designed to help the students practice essential skills. Assessments will include testing in a variety of categories: sight-singing, rhythmic dictation, melodic dictation, music theory concepts, and voice testing. Voice testing will take place prior to each concert.

Grading will include:

Class Participation: (this includes attending class when present for the school day and coming prepared to class; music/pencil/binder)

Assessments: (for the following categories: sight-singing, rhythmic dictation, melodic dictation, music theory concepts, and voice testing)

Class Assignments: (worksheets assigned to be completed during the class period)

Concert Participation: Concerts throughout the year allow students the opportunity to showcase their hard work and achievements. Since each student is a valued, contributing member of the ensemble, attendance and participation in all concerts is **required**. **Please refer to the PCMS Choir Handbook regarding excused absences.** Students absent from concerts are still responsible for learning repertoire and completing a voice test.

**Expectations:**
 Rules are in place in the classroom so that each student can feel respected and be successful. To ensure a quality educational experience and efficient use of our time together, rules have been developed encompassing the following aspects of behavior and will be consistently enforced:

1. **Punctuality:** Be in your seat with all materials when the bell rings.
2. **Engagement:** Work your hardest, all the time, without being asked.
3. **Materials:** Be prepared always.
4. **Respect:** Of self, others, and property.

Inappropriate or disruptive behavior during class in unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Discipline will be handled appropriately and consistently with school policy.

**Concert Dates: All concert dates/times will be posted on the school website calendar as well as sent home as a hard copy.**

**Communication:** As needed, I will contact you using letters, phone calls, emails, or online information apps (Remind 101). If you have any questions or need information regarding concerts or other events, please visit the choir website at <http://parkcrestchoirs.weebly.com/>. If the information is not on the website, please feel free to contact me via email at tyler.groft@pfisd.net and I will promptly respond.

Please sign and return this page verifying that you have read this syllabus as well as the District Fine Arts and PCMS Choir Handbooks and discussed them with your child. Keep the first two pages for future reference.

I have read and will abide by the Park Crest Middle School Choir Syllabus and Handbook and have discussed the content with my child.

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(STUDENT printed name) (STUDENT signature)