

LEBANON TRAIL CHOIR 2019-20 HANDBOOK



**RESPECT, INTEGRITY,
EXCELLENCE**

All of the information in the handbook, as well as any document handed out to students can be accessed under the forms menu at WWW.TRAILBLAZERSINGERS.COM

**Join the Choir Google Calendar at:
<http://www.trailblazersingers.com/calendar.html>**

Classroom Rules

I WILL:

- **Be Present**
 - both physically and mentally.
- **Be Prepared**
 - with music, a pencil, and any other class materials in my seat when the bell rings.
- **Be Respectful**
 - of the teacher, other students, and the music we are preparing.
- **Be Courageous**
 - by opening my mind to new ideas and not being afraid to make confident mistakes.
- **Be Dedicated**
 - to the music we make and to those around me, knowing they will do so for me.
- **Be Driven**
 - to be better today than I was yesterday, and better tomorrow than I am today.
- **Be Excellent**
 - by constantly striving for perfection.
- **Be a Problem-Solver**
 - by using common sense and logic at every opportunity.

Grades

I. Summative Grades 60% (2 every RC)

- **Attend concerts and concert evaluation (10.21.19, 12.11.19, 3.17.19, 5.8.20)**
- **Sight-reading tests (10.16.19, 12.18.19, 3.4.20, 5.20.20)**
Pitch accuracy, rhythmic accuracy, intonation, phrasing, diction

II. Progress Grades 40% (6 every RC)

- **2 Sightreading Quiz**
- **2 Quartet Quiz**
- **1 Attend Required Sectionals**
- **1 Demonstrate mastery of skills below (Every rehearsal)**
prepared with music, respectful attitude, no gum/food, pencil in hand, talk at appropriate times, correct singing posture, enthusiastic and energetic participation, music marked with measures numbered and indications from the director

III. Students will have 6 Progress Grades (PG) and 2 Summative Grades every quarter.

- **The two sightreading quiz grades are progress grades to the summative sightreading test. If you score higher on the summative sightreading test than the progress sightreading quiz, your score for both progress sightreading quiz will be changed to the higher summative sightreading test score. Sightreading Quizzes and Test will be completed in Canvas.**
- **The two quartet quiz grades are progress grades to the summative concert/concert evaluation. If you score higher on the summative concert/concert evaluation test than the progress quartet quiz, your score for both progress quartet quiz will be changed to the higher summative concert/concert evaluation test score. Quartet Quizzes will be in class.**

Contacting the Director

Lebanon Trail Choir Office: 469-633-6634

Mr. Buntyn's Email: buntynm@friscoisd.org

Attendance

A grade will be given for each performance. An absence from a performance will result in a “zero” Major Grade for the six weeks in which the absence occurred. Leaving during a concert, for any reason, will result in a “85” as your performance grade. Being late to the call will result in “10” points off your performance grade.

You will always be given ample prior notice of rehearsals and concerts, and you will be expected to make arrangements with your employer to attend these rehearsals and performances. Also, many of you are involved in other LTHS and community activities that will, from time to time, conflict with our rehearsals and performances. You are expected to do all in your power to make arrangements to attend these required events. Teachers will work together so please let us know there is something to work out.

Special Circumstances

If you have extenuating circumstances and cannot attend the rehearsal or performance, you must personally submit your reason for needing to miss to the director in writing prior to the rehearsal. If you are absent from school the day of an after school rehearsal or performance, you must contact the director prior to our performance for the absence to be excused.

Attendance at department concerts is mandatory for all students and is not excused for birthdays, anniversaries, etc. Absences may be excused only at Director's discretion.

If you need to speak with Mr. Buntyn about special circumstances regarding yourself or your children (i.e. can't pay fees all at once, missing rehearsals/performances, questions regarding policies or activities, etc.) please contact the director.

LTHS Graduation Profile

We will do our best not just to try to uphold the four goals of the Lebanon Trail High School Graduate Profile but to become examples of them.

- **We will exhibit focused leadership in how we are both inside and outside of this classroom. We will accept responsibility by owning up to our success and failures. We will push ourselves out of our comfort zones and experience new and innovative styles of music and performance.**
- **We will be socially responsible in our actions both in choir and in school by being culturally aware as well as well-mannered, kind, and empathetic to others.**
- **We will be innovative as we are creating something new at LTHS that has never been done in Frisco ISD. We will confidently try new things and pursue difficult**

challenges, learn from setbacks, and boldly create solutions.

- We will show what we value in this room, by singing confidently at all times, and outside of this room by standing up for what is right. It is in service to each other that we show our humanity.

Departmental Overview

The choral students at Lebanon Trail High School will learn to appreciate and perform music in varying styles, from an array of cultures, and at appropriate difficulty levels. We will present concerts and perform throughout the year. We will also be an active department socially. The elected leadership will help select and organize our social activities. Some social activities will be for all members, and some for the varsity choir....membership has its privileges!

Each student in a choir will be responsible for learning a solo and performing it individually at some point this year. You may choose to perform your solo in front of only the director, in front of the class, during one of the choral departments special concerts, or at UIL Solo and Ensemble Competition. Auditioning for All-Region Choir can count as your solo performance, but you would still be able to do one or more of the other options

We will be active participants in the Musical each year which will be produced by the Fine Arts Department and Co-Directed by Mr. Buntyn and Mr. Hollomon. The musical will be open to the entire school but the choral department needs to be well-represented in the cast. Well-represented in no way means participation in the Musical is a mandatory commitment. What it does mean is that we are the singers....we should want to sing in the show!

The Chorale Choir Officers and non-varsity leadership council (members elected by the JV choirs in the first few weeks of school) will help the director in leadership, decision making, communication, and labor. Strong leaders, who are not afraid to work, are asked to consider running for and serving on the leadership council. Election information will be forthcoming in class and on the choir website.

We will, above all else, work to make ourselves better singers and musicians. We will strive to become independent musicians who understand advanced musical concepts and who perform challenging and worthwhile choral literature.

Choir Evaluations/Auditions

Evaluations are used to determine membership in select choirs and will be based on the following criteria:

Sight-reading test	100pts.
Sight-reading Yearly Average	100pts.
Vocal Quality	100pts.
Rehearsal Participation	100pts.
Homework Grades	100pts.
Grades	5pts per 6 weeks eligible (25max)
<u>Extra credit: (Points)</u>	
LTHS All-Region Audition (5)	UIL Solo and Ensemble (5)
All-Region Audition (5)	UIL Solo/Ens 1st division (10)
All-Region Choir Member (10)	Spring Show (specialty act only) (5)
Top 10/All-Region (10)	Audition for the Musical (5)
Area Audition (20)	Participate in the musical (cast 20, chorus 10)
All-State Member (40)	Attend concert off campus (5)

VOLT Pop Acappella Group

Membership will be determined by an audition procedure which will be posted in advance on the choir website and the choir bulletin boards. The student will need to prepare a solo to sing A cappella. The director will choose students for call backs on the following criteria:

Vocal Ability	40pts.
Stage Presence	40pts.
Song Selection	20pts.

During callbacks, each student will sing the LTHS Alma Mater and/or other songs of Mr. Buntyn's choosing on his/her own part with a group of auditioning students as well as learn a song on the spot. At this audition, the director is listening for a group blend and are looking for a group that looks and sounds appropriate together. Members of the group will be held to the highest standards of excellence and attendance at rehearsals will be treated as attendance of a concert.

Uniforms

Women: Black choir dress issued by LTHS Choir, **BLACK dress shoes (closed toe)**

Men: Tux, tux shirt, tie, and vest issued

The uniforms will be worn at most concerts and all competitions. Choir uniforms will be due back to the choir department prior to May 3, 2019 (right after spring contest). If a student is out of uniform at a performance, he/she will not be allowed to sing and a performance grade of "zero" will be assigned. If a student needs another size uniform, it is their responsibility to notify the directors at least one week in advance of a performance. We will not address uniform issues the day of the concert. Those students not returning uniforms at the end of the year will be placed on the Hold List until they are returned; graduating seniors will be blocked from graduation. Girls will need their dresses cleaned at least once during the school year and any dress/tux with strong, discernable, body odor or stains will be considered damaged and a fine will be assessed.

DRESSES/PANTS NEED TO BE HEMMED APPROPRIATELY.

DO NOT LET SEAMSTRESSES/ TAILORS CUT ANY MATERIAL FROM UNIFORM!

Facilities

Lebanon Trail High School is a brand new and in pristine condition. We will work to keep the school, especially the Arts facilities in that condition. We will use trash cans for trash and all food. Absolutely no food or drinks (other than bottled water) may be on the choir risers or in the auditorium at any time. Frisco ISD has given us the finest facilities in the district and we honor that commitment to our program by treating the rooms and equipment with respect.

Music

Each student will be issued a numbered folder and sheet music. This music is our textbook and students will be responsible for lost and/or damaged music. Remember that having music is also criterion for the rehearsal performance grade. If you can't find your lost music, you will be responsible for the cost of replacing it. Treat your music with respect...do not roll it up, tear it,

bend it backwards, fold it into origami art, or light any part or all of it on fire. Only mark in music in pencil and, though your artistic skills may be wonderful, refrain from doodling on your music.

Choir Trip

Detail for this trip will be presented later in the year. Additional travel opportunities may present themselves through community groups. As opportunities come up we will keep you informed.

Music Enrichment Lessons

Music Enrichment Lessons are offered to all interested choir students. A payment of \$21.00 per lesson should be paid to the ME teacher on a monthly basis. (Four lessons a month @ 21.00 per = \$84.00) ME lessons are an integral part of our choral program and are highly recommended for any student desiring to excel. Every student can benefit greatly from this one-on-one instruction.

Costs to be in Choir

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Uniform and Activity Fee | <u>REQUIRED All Choirs</u> |
| \$60 Tenor Bass Choir, Bella Voce, \$75 (Chorale) | |
| 3. Music Enrichment Lessons | Open to all, Recommended |
| \$84.00 a month (four 30 minute lessons, \$21.00 per lesson) | |
| 4. Region Choir Auditions | Open to all, not required |
| \$20.00 | |
| 5. Solo Contest | Open to All, not required |
| \$25.00 (accompanist, \$35 if you DNA) | |
| 6. Disney Spring Trip | Open to All, not required |
| First Payment \$200 (non-refundable) | |

Fundraising

The Lebanon Trail High School Choir does fundraising throughout the year in many forms.

No money collected in fundraisers may be refunded to a student if it is not applied towards fees. The only money that may be refunded is money paid directly to the program for trip payments, and then only according to the trip payment schedule.

Fees

Uniform Fee/Activity Fee due August 21, 2019
\$60 (Tenor Bass Choir, Bella Voce)
\$75 (Chorale)

Checks payable to LTHS Choir Boosters

Contact me if you need assistance: buntynm@friscoisd.org

Charms Information System

We will contact groups and manage student information through Charms. Please log in to Charms and update the student and at least one parent/guardian profile.

**Link from www.trailblazersinger.com or go directly to charmsoffice.com
The Parent/Student Login is lebanontrailchoir
Your password is your student ID#**

Lebanon Trail High School Choir Boosters

This is a service organization dedicated to supporting the students and promoting the activities of the Lebanon Trail High School Choral Department. The goal of the Choir Boosters is to aid in the activities of the choral department in varying degrees of time/energy commitment. We have elected officers, who help shoulder much of the burden, but we also need parents to get involved and help in both large and small capacities...all the way down to folks who will distribute programs at concerts...very small time commitment during an activity you'd (hopefully) already be attending. We will need to raise funds, as needed, for departmental activities but the goal is not to be a money-generating machine. When we need something, we'll make a plan of how to get it, but mostly you'll be in a supportive role at concerts and activities. More information will be sent home and made available on the choir website about this organization.

Join our social media!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/trailblazersingers/>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/LT_Singers

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/trailblazersingers/>