

Temple Christian School

FINE ARTS HANDBOOK



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Elementary Art:

A weekly art class which combines creativity, art history and different aspects of the students' environment to stimulate the student to use his/her imagination through different mediums of art. Elementary art participates in TCS Gallery Night.

Elementary Band:

The purpose of this class is to equip each student with the essential knowledge and skills necessary to praise the Lord with an instrument. In addition to this, the student will gain valuable performance experience and music theory skills, which will benefit the child far beyond elementary school.

Elementary Choir:

The purpose of this class is to equip each student with the knowledge and skills to be "singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord" (Eph. 5:19). In addition to this, the student will gain valuable performance experience and singing skills, which will benefit him/her far beyond elementary school. Elementary Choir participates in the ASCI Choral Festival.

Elementary Music:

The purpose of this class is to equip each student with the essential knowledge that proper understanding and appreciation of music will make every experience with music more meaningful. Elementary students will actively learn about basic musical concepts through hands-on activities and experiences. They will learn about the singing voice and other instrument families. Most importantly, they will learn that music is a gift from God and will use this gift to share the truths of the Word of God.

Middle School Art:

The class combines creativity, history and various art mediums in order to stimulate students to use their imagination, creativity and perception. The course begins with an in-depth study of drawing with perspective and ends with creating independent projects with perspective, with some fun projects intermingled along the way. Middle School Art participates in ACSI and TCS Gallery Night.

Middle School Band:

In Middle School Band, students learn and continue to build on foundations of music theory, music notations, and individual instrument playing techniques. They also consistently demonstrate instrumental timbre individually, in small groups, and in a large ensemble setting. The curriculum focuses on giving the students a thorough and workable knowledge of musical perception, creative expression/performance, historical and cultural heritage, and critical evaluation-provide broad, unifying structure for organizing the knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire. In this band, students develop their intellect and refine their emotions as they make connections among music, the other

arts, technology, and other aspects of social life. Through creative performance, students will apply their expressive technical skill of music and critical-thinking skills to evaluate multiple forms of problem solving. Middle School Band performs in local music competitions, to be determined by the Band Director.

Middle School Choir:

The Middle School Choir program is for 6th-8th graders, both returning to the choir and new. The choir will meet 5 days a week. This class is an elective class for students desiring to benefit from a group choral experience. The curriculum focuses on teaching students correct vocal techniques and an elementary understanding of the body and voice as used to produce healthy singing. Emphasis is given to choral blend as well as to the development of the individual voice. Students examine and sing a wide variety of styles of choral music. All music taught also gives opportunity for instruction in basic music theory. The student will begin to develop an understanding of music as a language of communication by learning to sing expressively. With much weight given to sacred music, students learn that music is a gift from God, to be developed and offered back to Him in worship. Styles of worship are discussed, with an emphasis on order, beauty, and adherence to Scripture. Middle School Choir participates in the ASCI Choral Festival.

High School Photography:

The Photography course will introduce several aspects of photography: history, photographic equipment and how it works, creativity, elements of design, light, photojournalism, famous photographers, careers in photography, and special effects will be covered. High School Photography participates in ACSI, ATPI, TAPPS and TCS Gallery Night.

High School Art:

Art I - The focus of this class is to introduce the basic principles of drawing. This includes the value of color, perspective, depth, value and scope. Pencil, pastel, color pencil, and watercolor will be the mediums for the class. Art II - The focus of this class is to transform the tools and principles of drawing to brush art. This includes the value of color, perspective, depth, value, scope and texture. Watercolor and acrylic will be the mediums for this class. Other mediums that will be used through the course are glass, mosaics, fabric, and wood. High School Art participates in ACSI, TAPPS and TCS Gallery Night.

High School Band:

The TCS High School Band program is designed to expand and polish the student's musical skills and knowledge. By performing a variety of music, the band exposes musicians to a wide range of culture and teaches appreciation not only for music, but also for the diversity of God's creation. A strong musical foundation for understanding is built by studying the history and evolution of music. Attaining a complete working knowledge of music theory reinforces this understanding. Students are challenged to hone their instrumental skills through individual and group instruction using scales, exercises, band music, and solos that are cultivated as the group learns to work together for a common purpose. The ultimate goal of the TCS High School Band is to make students better

stewards of all the gifts and talents that God has bestowed upon them, in music and in every other area of life. High School Band participates in TAPPS.

High School Choir:

The High School Choir is for 9th-12th graders, both returning to choir and new. This choir will meet 5 days a week. This is an elective class for students desiring to benefit from group choral experience. A full year of high school choir meets fulfillment for fine arts credit toward high school curriculum requirements. The curriculum focuses on teaching students correct vocal techniques and a fundamental understanding of the body and voice as used to produce healthy singing. Emphasis is given to choral blend as well as to the development of the individual voice. Students examine and sing a wide variety of styles of choral music. All music taught also contains opportunities for instruction in basic music theory. Students learn that music is a gift from God, to be developed and offered back to Him in worship. Styles of worship are discussed, with an emphasis on order, beauty, and adherence to Scripture. High school choir participates in festivals and competitions through TAPPS and ASCI. TAPPS and ASCI offer solo and ensemble competitions within the high school choral program.

Ensemble:

Ensemble is an auditioned vocal group open to all high school students, grades 9th-12th. The purpose of the ensemble is to take vocal talent that God has given to the next level of service. This ensemble will meet before school two days per week and three days per week before major concerts and competitions. Participating students receive a half fine arts credit for the entire year. The group leads musical worship in various chapel services throughout the year. They also serve as called upon at such events as parent/teacher meetings, teacher conferences, chapel services for other schools, civic group meetings, etc. TCS Ensembles participate in several categories of competition through TAPPS and ASCI. The demands on this group require the ability to sing harmony, to learn music quickly, the confidence to sing solo and, most importantly, to represent the school with a Christ-like testimony and attitude.

Yearbook:

The school yearbook (referred to as “The Banner”) is a yearly publication that is distributed at the beginning of the following school year. All students who attend TCS will receive a yearbook. The yearbook staff is selected through application only. The middle school and high school yearbook staff’s responsibility is to: plan photo layouts; illustrate events from throughout the school year with appropriate photos and captions; plan photographs in relation to assignments from the editor. The yearbook competes in TAPPS.

Fine Arts Lettering Guidelines

Students may letter in the following categories:

ART
BAND
CHOIR
ENSEMBLE
YEARBOOK
PHOTOGRAPHY

Criteria:

Students in each category must be in good standing with attendance and conduct.

Students in each category must have a 90 or better average for the class.

Students in each category must participate in all activities scheduled for that class.

Students in each category must be enrolled in the class for three consecutive semesters.

Individual Class Criteria:

Band:

- Students must demonstrate constant progress on their instruments through practice.
- Students must compete in the TAPPS solo and ensemble competition as soloists and receive an Excellent or Superior rating on a class I or II solo.
- Students must play in all mandatory performances, including all TAPPS competitions in which the band participates.

Art/ Photography:

- Students must compete in ACSI and receive an Excellent or Superior rating.
- Students must participate in TAPPS and the TCS sponsored art shows.

Choir/Ensemble:

- Students must participate in ACSI and TAPPS as a solo, trio, or quartet and receive an Excellent or Superior rating.
- Students must compete in ACSI and TAPPS with the choir as a group or large ensemble.

Yearbook:

- Students must compete in TAPPS.

Fine Arts Policies

Performance Attendance Policy

The Fine Arts Department classes are given credit based on performance participation. Therefore, participation in all performances will affect the student's grade. The class syllabus for each class lists required appearances for the student. The exception to this policy is the TCS Ensemble schedule, which could be subject to change throughout the school year.

Elementary Band Handbook

Band 1: These are 4th graders who are first year players, new 5th graders, and returning 5th graders who have changed instruments. These first year players will have sectionals one day a week and then rehearse together with Band 2 one day a week.

Band 2: These are returning 5th graders who are second year players. They will rehearse together with Band 1 one day a week and separately as Band 2 one day a week.

Tutorial (3:15-4:00 p.m.)

Tutorial is a time after school for additional help for specific instrument groups. It is not required but highly encouraged if the student's schedule allows. This tutorial time counts toward their weekly practice requirement.

Music Selections (provided by TCS)

- *Essential Elements 2000 for Band* – Beginning Band method book and performance curriculum.
- Other developmentally-appropriate educational and seasonal music selections.

Instrument Procedures

Before school: Students may bring instruments and music to the Band Room and store them.

After school: Students may return to the Band Room to pick up instruments after school or take them home directly from Tutorial time. Practicing at least 5 days a week is extremely important!

Classroom Procedures

Enter through the STUDENT ENTRANCE door

Exit through the STUDENT EXIT door

Be Prepared:

- Bring instrument, music, and a pencil every day
- Turn in practice sheet every week
- Take instrument home every night to practice

Honor God:

- Respect the Lord – honor Him and those in authority

- Respect others – love others and DO NOT take or touch other instruments or belongings
- Respect yourself – do your best for the Lord and take care of your instrument

Grading Policy

Homework (20%)

- Practice sheet (10%)
- Participation (10%)

Quizzes (30%) – Instrument quizzes, Playing quizzes

Tests (50%) – Playing Tests, Concerts

Practicing Your Instrument

Consistent practice is very important when learning how to play a musical instrument. Practicing at home will help to solidify what we learn in class. Each student will keep track of their practice time, and parents/guardians will sign off on each week of practice. Please be honest.

Practice requirements:

- 4th and 5th grades – 10 minutes of playing time, 5 days per week
- Practice sheets will be turned in for a grade once a week.
- Extra credit is possible for extra practice.
- “Playing time” is actual playing, not putting instruments together or putting away

Concert Uniform

All students will wear:

- Gray TCS Polo (available in TCS Eagle Outfitters) tucked in
- K-12 black pants (TCS uniform approved, available through Lone Star Team Gear) with black belt
- Black close-toed shoes with black soles
- Solid black socks for the boys

Performance Dates

Attendance is required in the following performances as explained in the Performance Attendance Policy. If you have an issue with a performance date/time, please communicate with band director as soon as possible.

- Fall Carnival: (Gray polo with jeans/school-approved shorts)
- Christmas Band Concert: (Concert uniform plus fun Christmas accessories)
- Outdoor Spring Concert and Awards Ceremony: (Gray polo with jeans/school-approved shorts)
- Select Elementary Chapels – The elementary band or members from the band will help lead worship several times this school year during elementary chapels

Instrument Rentals or Purchases

Rentals: It is recommended that beginning band students rent their instruments for at least one year before committing to purchasing an instrument.

- Music and Arts (1428 W Pipeline Rd, Hurst, TX 76053; 817-595-1511)

- Rivard Brothers (2425 W Arkansas Ln, Pantego, TX 76013; 817-459-2263)

Purchases: Please talk with the band director about acceptable instrument brands to purchase.

- Rivard Brothers
- Music and Arts
- Music Go Round (6006 Southwest Blvd., Fort Worth, TX 76109; 817-763-8188)

Instrument Care and Accessories

Your instrument is your personal responsibility. They cannot care for themselves, so you must take care of each instrument you own, rent or play. Each instrument needs the following cleaning and accessory items in the case at all times:

Flute – Polishing cloth and cotton cleaning cloth

Clarinet – At least two (2) working reeds at all times, pull-through cleaning swab, cork grease

Saxophone (any kind) – At least two (2) working reeds at all times, pull-through cleaning swab (NOT a pad saver brush), cork grease, neck strap

Trumpet – valve oil, tuning slide grease, mouthpiece brush, cleaning snake

Trombone – slide cream/oil, tuning slide grease, water spray bottle, mouthpiece brush, cleaning snake

Baritone – valve oil, tuning slide grease, mouthpiece brush, cleaning snake

Percussion – each percussionist must have at a practice pad and drumsticks; if the student has a drum or drum set at home, they do not need a practice pad

Reed Options (Clarinet and Sax): Rico or Van Doren reeds are good quality and decent prices

- Box of five (5) or ten (10)
- 2 ½ level strength for beginners
- The band director will have emergency reeds available for \$2.00 per reed

Woodwind and Brass Cleaning and Accessory Items: Cleaning kits are available at any local music store or online music/instrument website (WoodwindBrasswind; Musician’s Friend; Amazon; Music and Arts). These kits should have the above items.

- Brands for brass cleaning items, not limited to: Holton, Giardinelli, Trombontine, Superslick, Yamaha, Brasswind
- Brands for woodwind cleaning items, not limited to: Giardinelli, Selmer, Rico, Leblanc, GEM
- TCS and Music and Arts have an educational working relationship – you may go to Music and Arts (1428 W Pipeline Rd, Hurst, TX 76053) and purchase the cleaning and accessory kit for Temple Christian School for your specific instrument.

Percussion Items:

Beginners: TMS 32 Notes Percussion Glockenspiel Bell Kit with Practice Pad + Mallets + Sticks + Stand (readily available on Amazon Prime)

2nd Year Players: Drum stick suggestions: Vic Firth SD1 General, Vic Firth 5A, or the equivalent in a different brand

Secondary Band Handbook

Middle School Band

The TCS Middle School Band program (also labeled Band 1) is for 6th – 8th graders, both returning to band and new. This ensemble will rehearse five days a week. The band members will continue to learn proper playing technique, correct fingerings, and music theory; these foundational concepts will allow the students to learn developmentally-appropriate music and continue to mature as young musicians.

High School Band

The TCS High School Band (also labeled Band 2) is for 9th – 12th graders, both returning to band and new. This ensemble will rehearse five days a week. The band members will continue to mature in proper playing technique and music theory; these foundational concepts will allow the students to learn developmentally-appropriate music and continue to mature as musicians.

Music Selections (provided by TCS)

- *Essential Elements 2000 for Band* – Band method book and performance curriculum (Middle School)
- *Foundations for Superior Performance* – Warm-ups and musical technique for band (Both)
- Other educational and seasonal music selections (Both)

Instrument Procedures

Before school: Students may bring instruments and music to the Band Room and store them.

After school: Students may pick up instruments from the Band Room after school to take home to practice. Practicing at least five days a week is extremely important.

Classroom Procedures

Enter through the STUDENT ENTRANCE door

Exit through the STUDENT EXIT door

Be Prepared:

- Bring instrument, music, and a pencil every day
- Turn in practice sheet every week
- Take instrument home every night to practice

Honor God:

- Respect the Lord – honor Him and those in authority
- Respect others – love others and DO NOT take or touch other instruments or belongings
- Respect yourself – do your best for the Lord and take care of your instrument

Grading Policy

Homework (20%)

- Practice chart (10%)

- Prepared for class and Participation (10%)
- Quizzes (30%) – Instrument quizzes, Playing quizzes
 Tests (50%) – Playing Tests, Concerts

Practicing Your Instrument

Consistent practice is very important when learning how to play a musical instrument and maturing on that instrument. Practicing at home will help to solidify what we learn in class, and hopefully encourage a love for the instrument.

Middle and High School Bands:

- Each student will keep track of their practice time, and parents/guardians will initial on each week of practice (11th-12th graders do not need parent initials).
- Practice sheets will be turned in for a grade once a week.

Practice requirements:

- Middle and High School: 20 minutes of playing time, 3 days per week
- Extra credit is possible for extra practice
- “Playing time” is actual playing, not putting instruments together or putting away

Concert Uniform

All students will wear:

- Gray TCS Polo (available in TCS Eagle Outfitters) tucked in
- K-12 black pants (TCS uniform approved, available through Lone Star Team Gear) with black belt
- Black close-toed shoes with black soles
- Solid black socks for the boys

Performance Dates

Attendance is required in the following performances as explained in the [Performance Attendance Policy](#). If you have an issue with a performance date/time, please communicate with band director as soon as possible.

- Fall Carnival: (Gray polo with jeans/school-approved shorts)
- Christmas Band Concert: (Concert uniform plus fun Christmas accessories)
- Outdoor Spring Concert and Awards Ceremony: (Gray polo with jeans/school-approved shorts)
- Select Secondary Chapels – The middle school and high school bands or members from the bands will help lead worship several times this school year.

Additional Events:

- Pep Rallies and Pep Band – The High School Band serves TCS as the pep band for rallies and home football games, with possible Middle School additions.
- TAPPS Band Music Competitions – High School state competitions that include full band as well as solo and ensemble competitions.

Solo Competition Disclaimer: If a student has registered for the TAPPS Solo Competition but drops out after payment has been made, they will be held financially responsible.

- Middle School Band performs in local music competitions, to be determined by the Band Director.

Instrument Rentals or Purchases

Rentals: It is recommended that band students rent their instruments for at least one year before committing to purchasing an instrument.

- Music and Arts (1428 W Pipeline Rd, Hurst, TX 76053; 817-595-1511)
- Rivard Brothers (2425 W Arkansas Ln, Pantego, TX 76013; 817-459-2263)

Purchases: Please talk with the band director about acceptable instrument brands to purchase.

- Rivard Brothers
- Music and Arts
- Music Go Round (6006 Southwest Blvd., Fort Worth, TX 76109; 817-763-8188)

Instrument Care and Accessories

Your instrument is your personal responsibility. They cannot care for themselves, so you must take care of each instrument you own, rent or play. Each instrument needs the following cleaning and accessory items in the case at all times:

Flute – Polishing cloth and cotton cleaning cloth

Clarinet – At least two (2) working reeds at all times, pull-through cleaning swab, cork grease

Saxophone (any kind) – At least two (2) working reeds at all times, pull-through cleaning swab (NOT a pad saver brush), cork grease, neck strap

Trumpet – valve oil, tuning slide grease, mouthpiece brush, cleaning snake

Trombone – slide cream/oil, tuning slide grease, water spray bottle, mouthpiece brush, cleaning snake

Baritone – valve oil, tuning slide grease, mouthpiece brush, cleaning snake

Percussion – each percussionist must have at a practice pad and drumsticks; if the student has a drum or drum set at home, they do not need a practice pad

Reed Options (Clarinet and Sax): Rico or Van Doren reeds are good quality and decent prices

- Box of five (5) or ten (10)
- 2 ½ level strength for beginners; 3 level strength and higher as progress
- The band director will have emergency reeds available for \$2.00 per reed

Woodwind and Brass Cleaning and Accessory Items: Cleaning kits are available at any local music store or online music/instrument website (WoodwindBrasswind; Musician’s Friend; Amazon; Music and Arts). These kits should have the above items.

- Brands for brass cleaning items, not limited to: Holton, Giardinelli, Trombontine, Superslick, Yamaha, Brasswind
- Brands for woodwind cleaning items, not limited to: Giardinelli, Selmer, Rico, Leblanc, GEM
- TCS and Music and Arts have an educational working relationship – you may go to Music and Arts (1428 W Pipeline Rd, Hurst, TX 76053) and purchase the cleaning and accessory kit for Temple Christian School for your specific instrument.

Percussion Items:

Beginners: Practice pad: 8 inch or larger in size – Remo, Vic Firth, Pearl

All: Drum stick suggestions: Vic Firth SD1 General, Vic Firth 5A, or the equivalent in a different brand

Elementary Choir Handbook

Eagle Choir

The TCS Eagle Choir program is for 3rd graders and it is based on a belief that every child who wants to sing can have a place in choir. The choir meets once a week. The program is dedicated to nurture excellence in young musicians, improve their unison singing skills, and beginning to sing choral arrangements for two parts. The singers will begin exploring the basic knowledge of music theory. The singers will begin to develop an understanding of music as a language of communication by learning to sing expressively. Each singer is given an opportunity for personal growth and creativity. With much weight given to sacred music, students learn that music is a gift from God, to be developed and offered back to Him in worship. Styles of worship are discussed, with an emphasis on order, beauty, and adherence to Scripture. The choir performs throughout the school year at the Fall Carnival, Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, select elementary chapels, and possibly other performance opportunities.

Classroom Procedures

- Enter and exit the choir rehearsal room quietly
- Come to a rehearsal having a positive mind-set every day

Honor God:

- Respect the Lord – honor Him and those in authority
- Respect others – love others and do not take or touch any instruments or belongings
- Respect yourself – do your best for the Lord and take care of your instrument (voice)

Performance Dress Code

Fall Carnival and Elementary Chapel

Girls: Green TCS polo and uniform skirt, skort or jumper

Boys: Green TCS polo and uniform dress slacks

Christmas Concert: Boys and Girls may wear Christmas dress

Spring Concert: Boys and Girls may dress up for concert

Eagle Honor Choir

The TCS Eagle Honor Choir program is for 4th-5th graders, both returning to the choir and new. This choir is an audition-only group and will meet two days a week. This class is an elective class for students desiring to benefit from a group choral experience. The curriculum focuses on teaching students correct vocal techniques and an elementary understanding of the body and voice as used to produce healthy singing as it is expected for this group. Emphasis is given on strengthening the development of the individual voice, continue to improve their unison singing, and develop their part-singing skills. Students examine and sing a broad variety of styles of choral music. All music taught also contains opportunities for instruction in basic music theory. The student will begin to develop an understanding of music as a language of communication by learning to sing

expressively and given opportunities for personal creativity. With much weight given to sacred music, students learn that music is a gift from God, to be developed and offered back to Him in worship. Styles of worship are discussed, with an emphasis on order, beauty, and adherence to Scripture. The choir performs throughout the school year at the Fall Carnival, Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, ACSI Choral Festival, select elementary chapels, and possibly other performance opportunities.

Classroom Procedures

- Enter and exit the choir rehearsal room quietly
- Come to a rehearsal having a positive mind-set every day

Honor God:

- Respect the Lord – honor Him and those in authority
- Respect others – love others and do not take or touch any instruments or belongings
- Respect yourself – do your best for the Lord and take care of your instrument (voice)

Performance Dress Code

Official uniform for **all performances** (except Fall Carnival)

Girls: K12 black tab skort, gray TCS polo, white bobby socks, black and white saddle oxfords (may be purchased at Lone Star Team Gear)

Boys: K12 black slacks, gray TCS polo, black casual or dress shoes (no athletic shoes)

Fall Carnival: TCS Friday T-shirt or Friday Hoodie for the current school year, jeans or capris (no shorts), your choice of shoes

Secondary Choir Handbook

Middle School Choir

The TCS Middle School Choir program is for 6th-8th graders, both returning to the choir and new. This choir will meet five days a week. This class is an elective class for students desiring to benefit from a group choral experience. The curriculum focuses on teaching students correct vocal techniques and an elementary understanding of the body and voice as used to produce healthy singing. Emphasis is given to choral blend as well as to the development of the individual voice. Students examine and sing a wide variety of styles of choral music. All music taught also contains opportunities for instruction in basic music theory. The student will begin to develop an understanding of music as a language of communication by learning to sing expressively and given opportunities for personal creativity. With much weight given to sacred music, students learn that music is a gift from God, to be developed and offered back to Him in worship. Styles of worship are discussed, with an emphasis on order, beauty, and adherence to Scripture.

Classroom Procedures

- Enter and exit the choir rehearsal room quietly.
- Come to a rehearsal having a positive mind-set every day

Honor God:

- Respect the Lord – honor Him and those in authority

- Respect and love others
- Respect yourself – do your best for the Lord and take care of your instrument (voice)

Grading Policy

Homework (30%)

- Practice/memorizing songs (10%)
- Prepared for class and Participation (10%)
- Follow Rehearsal Procedures (10%)

Quizzes (20%) – Singing quizzes

Tests (50%) – Singing Tests, Concerts

High School Choir

The TCS High School Choir is for 9th-12th graders, both returning to choir and new. This choir will meet five days a week. This is an elective class for students desiring to benefit from group choral experience. A full year of high school choir meets fulfillment for fine arts credit toward high school curriculum requirements. The curriculum focuses on teaching students correct vocal techniques and a solid understanding of the body and voice as used to produce healthy sounds. Emphasis is given to choral blend as well as to the development of the individual voice. Students examine and sing a wide variety of styles of choral music. All music taught also contains opportunities for instruction in basic music theory. Students learn that music is a gift from God, to be developed and offered back to Him in worship. Styles of worship are discussed, with an emphasis on order, beauty, and adherence to Scripture. High school choir participates in festivals and competitions through TAPPS and ACSI. TAPPS and ACSI offer solo and ensemble competitions within the high school choral program.

Classroom Procedures

- Enter and exit the choir rehearsal room quietly.
- Come to a rehearsal having a positive mind-set every day

Honor God:

- Respect the Lord – honor Him and those in authority
- Respect and love others
- Respect yourself – do your best for the Lord and take care of your instrument (voice!)

Grading Policy

Homework (30%)

- Practice/memorizing songs (10%)
- Prepared for class and Participation (10%)
- Follow Rehearsal Procedures (10%)

Quizzes (20%) – Singing quizzes

Tests (50%) – Singing Tests, Concerts

Ensemble (7:10-7:55 AM)

Ensemble is an auditioned vocal group open to all high school students, grades 9th-12th. The purpose of the ensemble is to take vocal talent that God has given to the next level of service. This ensemble will meet before school two days per week and three days per week before major concerts and competitions. Participating students receive a half fine arts credit for the entire year. The group leads musical worship in various chapel services throughout the year. They also serve as called upon at such events as parent/teacher meetings, teacher conferences, chapel services for other schools, civic group meetings, etc. TCS Ensembles participate in several categories of competition through TAPPS and ACSI. The demands on this group require the ability to sing harmony, to learn music quickly, the confidence to sing solo and, most importantly, to represent the school with a Christ - like testimony and attitude.

Classroom Procedures

- Enter and exit the choir rehearsal room quietly.
- Come to a rehearsal having a positive mind-set every day

Honor God:

- Respect the Lord – honor Him and those in authority
- Respect and love others
- Respect yourself – do your best for the Lord and take care of your instrument (voice)

Grading Policy

Homework (30%)

- Practice/memorizing songs (10%)
- Prepared for class and Participation (10%)
- Follow Rehearsal Procedures (10%)

Quizzes (20%) – Singing quizzes

Tests (50%) – Singing Tests, Concerts

ALL CHOIR/ENSEMBLE MEMBERS MUST:

- Stay hydrated at all times
- Take care of seasonal allergies and vocal mechanism
- If individual copy(-ies) of music assigned to the student is lost or damaged, it is student's responsibility to buy the replacement or issue payment to the Fine Arts Department at TCS for replacing the damaged/lost copy(-ies)
- High School Choir and Ensemble must have all TCS choral uniforms dry cleaned and returned to TCS on or before the last day of the school year. Uniforms must be in the protective sleeve from the dry cleaners with a copy of the receipt attached. We recommend Bond Cleaners, 1644 W Randol Mill Rd, Arlington, TX 76012, [\(817\) 277-1049](tel:8172771049).

Performance Dates: Attendance is required in the following performances as explained in the Performance Attendance Policy. If you have an issue with a performance date/time, please communicate with band director as soon as possible.

- Fall Carnival (Gray polo with jeans or uniform pants)

- Christmas Choir Concert (Performance Dress Code)
- Spring Choir Concert and Awards Ceremony (Performance Dress Code)
- Select Secondary Chapels – The middle school choir, high school choir and/or ensemble members will help lead worship several times in the school year.
- ACSI Choral Festival – The middle school choir, high school choir and ensemble will participate in the annual music festival (Performance Dress Code)
- TAPPS Choral Music Competition (High School Only) – Regional and State competitions that include full choir as well as Solo(s) and Ensemble(s). (Performance Dress Code)

The absences that may be considered as EXCUSED are clarified as following: Written petition for an excused absence must be submitted to the director within one week of the parent receiving the choir calendar. The only exception to this policy would be in the case of sudden and/or severe illness or family emergency. In that case, written notification will be accepted within 24 hours of the concert and a makeup assignment will be arranged.

Absences will only be considered as EXCUSED if the conflict involves an event on the student's calendar prior to the student receiving the calendar information (E.g., the summer scheduling of a family wedding.) A TCS activity will not be considered excused unless it is excused per the Co-Curricular Policy below. In the case of an excused absence, the student will be required to complete a makeup assignment that is similar in duration to the concert missed to earn their performance grade.

Middle School and High School Choir Performance Dress Code

Women: TCS provides a concert dress for all female singers. Singers will be fitted for dresses in early November. Black character shoes and black hose must be worn. Dress to be returned at end of year.

Men: Solid black dress pants, solid long-sleeved, white button-down dress shirt, black belt, black socks and dark dress shoes (must have dark sole). Black tie provided by the school, to be returned at end of year. No jeans, no tennis shoes.

High School Ensemble Performance Dress Code

Women: TCS provides a concert/show choir dress for all female singers, along with character shoes. Singers will be fitted for dresses in the fall. Dress and shoes to be returned at end of year.

Men: solid black dress pants, solid long-sleeved, white button-down dress shirt, black belt, black socks. TCS provides a vest, tie, and shoes, to be returned at end of year.

Extra-Curricular, Field Trips, Class Trips, Athletic Events, Etc. Dress Code:

Women & Men: may either wear nice jeans, casual slacks or Lone Star Team Gear uniform shorts. Pants must not have holes, stains, or frayed edges. No baggy pants or shorts.

Men: may wear button-up shirts, collared pullovers, or sweaters. Hats may be worn when outside, but not in buildings. Nice tee shirts or sweat shirts are appropriate.

Women: may wear casual skirts or dresses that come to the top of the knee, nice jeans, or casual slacks. Girls' tops may be button-up, pullovers, or sweaters. Nice tee shirts or

sweat shirts are appropriate. Tops must cover midriff at all times. No low cut tops. Leggings may only be worn under knee length skirts or dresses. Leggings may not be worn as pants.

Free Time in the Hotel

Women and Men: may wear jeans, jogging pants, sweat pants, tee shirts, sweat shirts and knee length shorts. Leggings may not be worn as pants. Hats are permitted.

Musical/Production Guidelines and Policies

The cast and crew are not required to sell a minimum number of tickets. However, you are encouraged to invite all of your friends and family to buy tickets to the performances.

Tickets will be available for purchase one month before opening night.

All cast will be required to sell two business or personal advertisements for the production program.

All practices are mandatory. Students are required to stay through the entire rehearsal and may not leave early. The following is a set of guidelines for musical rehearsal:

- Students are allowed 3 unexcused tardies.
- Students are allowed 2 unexcused absences.
- Students are allowed 3 excused absences.

If a student should fail to comply with the above stated attendance guidelines, it may result in dismissal from the show.

Tardies and absences must be approved through the Production Director or Producer in order to be excused. Tardies and absences need to have a 24 hour notice, unless due to illness.

If a student arrives to school later than 9:00 a.m., he/she will not be allowed to rehearse that day.

Fees will be applied as follows:

- \$1.00 for lost or abandoned scripts and/or music
- \$10.00 for replacement script
- Lost or damaged rental material will be the replacement cost
- \$1.00 per missed entrance on stage
- \$1.00 per disturbance for disrupting rehearsal
- \$5.00 for unauthorized cell phone/computer usage

Students will have 5 days to pay fines. Students with unpaid fines will not be allowed to rehearse, and this will be an unexcused absence.

Only school uniforms or athletic/PE attire may be worn during rehearsals.

Cell phones are to be turned off or silenced and placed in the basket provided or kept in your backpack during rehearsal. Unauthorized use of electronic devices will result in a \$5.00 fine.

TCS Co-Curricular (6th-12th Grade) Policy

1. Every activity has a grace period before deciding to drop that activity. If a student drops an activity after the grace period, the following actions will be enforced:

The student may not participate in the next activity until the dropped activity has finished.

2. Students must show proper respect for the authority set over them (officials, coaches, directors, etc.). If a student's attitude becomes unacceptable, his/her participation may be reviewed by committee.
3. All students must obey parking/driving rules at home or away. Students are never allowed to drive their vehicles down to the playing fields. They must park in the student parking lot.
4. Any student that is dismissed from or quits an activity forfeits their eligibility to receive an award. All fees for that activity are non-refundable. A student that has been academically ineligible must be approved by the eligibility committee before they can receive an award.
5. All students must maintain a good academic standing in order to participate in an activity. A student with a failing grade for any 9-week period will be restricted from any activity that occurs after the school day. The exception will be graded activities that have prior approval from the eligibility committee.
6. A student is considered to be ineligible on the day his/her nine week report or report card is issued with a failing grade on it. A student with failing grades may not participate until three calendar weeks have passed and the grade has been brought up to passing.
7. If a high school student is participating in the TCS sports program they must participate in an SST class.
8. Choir and band rehearsals for the TCS Christmas and Spring Concerts and spring musical dress rehearsal will be on the school calendar. All other concerts and competitions will need to rehearse during scheduled class time or after school, coordinated through the administration.
9. All practices for sports and activities must be limited to scheduled rehearsal/practice time. Any variation from this schedule must be pre-approved by the administration.
10. The following is a priority ladder in case of conflicts within the school calendar:

Priority #1	TAPPS
Priority #2	ACSI
Priority #3	TPSMEA
Priority #4	Youth & Government

Priority #5 All other activity or organizations outside of TCS

Any state level activity takes priority over non-state events.

It is the responsibility of TCS to avoid conflicts with sports and other TCS hosted events.

Any conflicts within the TAPPS scheduled events that compete with another TAPPS event must be reviewed by the eligibility committee.

11. Students that receive more than three hours of detention in a 9-week period will be suspended from all activities that occur during the next three calendar weeks.
12. Students must be present by 9:00 a.m. on the day of a co-curricular activity in order to qualify to participate in the activity. Any exception to this policy must be approved by a principal.
13. All students must read the TCS Athletic Handbook and/or TCS Fine Arts Handbook found on the school website, www.tcseagles.org.