CURRICULUM SYLLABUS

CURRICULUM AREA: Music

COURSE TITLE: CHOIR **GRADE LEVELS**: 7-8

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Choir class is for students interested in beginning their Anchor Bay Choral Arts membership (which continues through grade 12). Students develop singing technique while they learn quality vocal literature in a variety of music styles (medieval, baroque, classical, folk, spiritual, pop and jazz). The solfege method is among choral techniques used for developing musicianship. Students are required to perform in concerts and possibly an opportunity for a first choral festival experience.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS/ GOALS/ BENCHMARKS/OBJECTIVES:
This is the first year long choir class in the Anchor Bay Choral Arts Program (students may also opt for one semester). State and National Benchmarks and Standards are followed to build a healthy developing choral voice and musicianship skills, as the student performs required choral literature. This includes growing mastery of a variety of life skills including, but not limited to: listening, cooperation, teamwork, and responsibility. Vocal skills of body placement, diction, breathing, phrasing, pitch matching, and expression are accentuated. The director will determine the readiness of the group to enter the district choral festival in the Spring.

COURSE TEXTBOOKS/ MATERIALS:
There is no official textbook, but a variety of activities are referenced from Essential Musicianship for Choir (Emily Crocker and John Leavitt) along with a variety of choral anthems, some from the required list of the Michigan School Vocal Music Association.

MAJOR COURSE ASSIGNMENTS/REQUIREMENTS:
Students are required to be actively engaged in daily classroom activities during the complete class meeting time. Students are expected to be at all (if requested) extra rehearsals and all performances at the announced call time, wearing the appropriate concert attire, to earn a commendable grade and fulfill their obligation to the group (choir).

GRADING AND ASSESSMENTS (TESTS AND QUIZZES):
Oral testing of rhythmic reading and pitch matching, scales and intervals. Oral listening tests of memorized anthems sung in harmony. Best effort and positive participation attending and performing at public performances. Written test of basic music theory including rhythmic and pitch notation for the final exam.

HOMEWORK:
Homework is not specifically designed for this course. Practicing solfege and choral repertoire for vocal improvement and preparation for public performances is expected for individual improvement. There are occasional after school rehearsals. Evening concerts

and community performances (such as Christmas Caroling) are required. There is frequently one concert per report card marking.