MUSIC DEPARTMENT RULES:

1. There will be no food or drinks brought into any area of the music suit. (Choir room, auditorium, dressing rooms, or storage closet area) All food and drinks are to be consumed in the Riverside Commons.

2. Keep the area free of trash by using proper waste receptacles.

3. Uniforms are to be hung on dress racks at the conclusion of each performance or competition. Uniforms are not to be left on the table or floor.

4. Keep money and other valuable with you. Do not leave them lying in the room. We are not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

5. **Cell phones will be placed in an individual cell phone holders and will remain until rehearsal is concluded.** They will not be given to you during break times. Parents are encouraged to make necessary arrangement with you child before or after rehearsal, as you will not be able to call them during rehearsal. In the case of an **extreme emergency** you may contact the director at (304) 437-0861. I will keep my phone on during rehearsal.

6. **Dressing rooms will be kept clean.** No student will be allowed to leave until all items are off the floor and dressing tables. Uniforms must be hung on a dressing rack. Mr. Hardy will stand guard at the dressing room to insure that this is accomplished.

7. If you wish to change clothes before rehearsal, you must do so between classes.

8. Proper practice attire must be worn, if not #8 consequences under attendance will apply.

9. Observe rules of courtesy and respect. Treat others as you wish to be treated.

10. Be courteous while Mr. Hardy or instructors are speaking, which means “no talking”.

Riverside High School

Choral Department

2013-2014 Handbook

Kevin Hardy, Director
(304) 344-2739 - Home
(304) 437-0861 - Cell
ATTENDANCE:
1. All school policies regarding attendance will be followed. You must be in your seat by the tardy bell or a “tardy” will be recorded.
2. Fusion members will attend ALL SCHEDULED PRACTICES AND PERFORMANCES. Mr. Hardy will keep attendance. If a member leaves school early, on the day of an after school rehearsal, the director must be notified.
3. Absences must be reported to the director as soon as possible. In case of an emergency, absences must be reported to the director within 24 hours.
4. Three (3) repeated incidences of failure to notify the director of an absence will result in dismissal from the group.
5. The director reserves the right to make the final decision as to who may or may not perform according to the number of absences by any one member. Excessive absences will result in dismissal.
6. Practice schedules are included within this constitution. We will have regular after school rehearsals, Thursday 4:00 – 7:00, beginning the first week of school. The director may call extra practices at any time. (Absence rules 2 and 3 apply) Because practice schedules will be given out in advance, little conflict in scheduling is expected. Therefore, you must schedule appointments and jobs around this schedule.
7. Students should use the time from 2:45 - 3:55 for after school tutoring, make up work and eating after school meals or snacks
8. All members are expected to be at practice 5-10 minutes before starting time and ready to begin practice promptly with appropriate attire (practice shirt and shoes) at the scheduled time. When students fail to wear proper attire, they will be asked to go home and receive a zero for rehearsal missed. (Absence rules 2 and 3 apply)
9. Students are responsible for making their own transportation arrangements to and from practice as scheduled.

SHOW CHOIR FEES:
All singer/dancers will need to raise or pay a $400 uniform fee. If pre/post sweat suit is needed an additional $70 will be added to this fee. Show Band and Crew members will need to raise or pay for the cost of their uniform and sweat suit also. Parents and students will be notified of uniform cost by the director when it is chosen.
1. Each member is responsible for his/her uniform and/or props. All uniform items will be kept at the school.
2. Non-show choir members will not be permitted to use uniforms or props for any reason at any time.
3. All uniforms are tailor made to fit each student; therefore measurements will need to be taken. If you or your child are uncomfortable with measurement being taken by the Riverside staff and boosters, you are welcome to measure your child in front of the people taking measurements. The parent is then responsible if measurements are not correct.
4. Show Choir members will wear uniforms only during scheduled events - NO other time.

Each member is expected to purchase the following:
- Girls – Specified dance shoes, hose, and earrings, (ordered by the director) sweat suit, practice shirt, red Christmas sweatshirt, and white sweat pants. (Christmas program) – No exceptions
- Boys – Specified dress shoes, (ordered by director), black socks, casual T-shirt, sweat suit, green Christmas sweatshirt, and white sweat pants. (Christmas program) – No exceptions

For the 2012 season, the Fusion Booster organization requests that these fees be paid in full by December 5th. An installment must be made monthly, to order and purchase items needed for our performances. Numerous fundraising activities will be available to help offset the cost of these fees.
AWARDS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION:
To earn a special band award you must meet the following requirements:

1st Year Pin: Complete 1st full year in show choir with exemplary attendance and performances
2nd Year - 4th Year: Complete 2nd year a wreath attached to first year pin. Complete 3rd and 4th year a bar attached to the bottom of the wreath. Same criteria as the first year apply.

Special awards are given for members of All County, All State, and Marshall Festival Choir

GRADUATION CHORDS:
All music students have the opportunity to participate in Tri-M Music Honor Society. These student can choose Tri-M as a club and participate in this Honor Society. It is designed to recognize students for their academic and musical achievements, reward them for their accomplishments and service activities, and to inspire other students to excel at music and leadership. As a part of Tri-M student will be involved in community service projects that showcase their musical talents and perform in a yearly recital. If a student is an upstanding member during his senior year, has maintained a 3.0 gpa in all music classes, 2.5 in academic classes and completed the requirements set forth with the Tri-Music Honor Society, her/she is eligible to receive a honor chord from Tri-M to wear during graduation.

All awards are traditionally presented at the Spring Show Choir Banquet. Special recognition for seniors will be given at the Riverside Senior Award Ceremony.

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:
Candidates for positions such as section leaders and dance captains are selected from students who are active participants in show choir. These selections are determined by Mr. Hardy and adult staff. The decisions are final; students who violate band rules will be removed from their positions.

GRADING/EXPECTATIONS:
Your grade is determined on a percentage scale based on a total number of points possible. Performance classes involve rehearsals and performances outside the normal school day which count substantially on your grade.

1. Daily points will be earned for participating by having pencil, music and supplies. Attendance is required 4th period show choir class and after school rehearsals. Daily attendance will be taken 4th period and absences reported as in any other class.
2. Exhibiting proper rehearsal and performance behavior will be included in your evaluation. There can be no public displays of affection. Bad language will not be tolerated.
3. Points will be awarded for singing tests, written exams, rehearsals, performances and meeting deadlines.
4. Points will be awarded for participating in after school rehearsals. These are considered extensions of your class work.
5. Points will be awarded for participating in outside and inside school performances. Students are expected to be present as part of their basic course work.
6. It is mandatory that every member will attend and perform at specified events as required by the director including All County, Spring Musical, and competitions. Schedules and important dates will be given out as soon as possible to prevent any conflicts.
7. If, for any reason, a member cannot attend a scheduled event, the director must be notified immediately to make any necessary alterations in the performance. Failure to notify the director will result in probation and/or dismissal except in the case of an emergency.
8. All members must be in school on the day of a scheduled event.
9. Any inappropriate behavior (smoking, drinking, drugs, profanity, unacceptable sexual behavior, destruction of
property, etc.) will result in immediate action dismissal from the group as per county policy.

10. Any time there is a performance in uniform, students will go through an inspection process with points awarded for various criteria. Inspection points contribute a major portion of the performance points. Students are responsible for cleaning their own shoes, wearing clean uniforms, and keeping uniforms cleaned and pressed. Section leaders will be responsible to complete inspection sheet and turn it into the director.

11. Before and after competition performances students are expected to wear pre and post competition attire as set forth by the director. Student will receive a 50% deduction on their competition grade if they do not comply with this rule. Excessive failure to comply will result in not performing at the competition. Therefore it is imperative that student keep track of their pre and post competition attire.

12. Students will enter the competition site as a group in the necessary pre competition attire. In the event that the group travels separately, a designated meeting place will be determined. All student will meet at the designated place and enter the competition site together. This will present a united front to other competitors.

13. Students are to travel to and from show choir events with the choir. Students will not be released to ride home with anyone unless an “Alternate Transportation Form” has been signed and approved by the Principal. This is normally granted only in extreme situations.

14. Show band members and Crew will be governed under the same rules and regulations as the choir.

ABSENCES:

An excused absence from any choral activity must be approved by Mr. Hardy. Excused absences will be granted only in the case of a serious personal illness, death in the family, or family emergency. Documentation to verify this must be submitted. Makeup work will be given for an excused absence, but it is the student’s responsibility to get it from the assignment notebook. If an assignment is not in the notebook, it the student’s responsibility to ask for it. County policy for make up work will apply. Late work will not be accepted. It is also the student’s/parent’s responsibility to schedule non-emergency appointments and work schedules around choir activities. Students who have excessive attendance problems will be removed form the competition show. An unexcused absence form a rehearsal or performance will be made up by an individual performance of the missed work for the choir director. Your performance will be graded. There will be no exceptions to the attendance requirement.

COURSE CONTENT:

All choir courses involve active student participation in daily warm-ups, rehearsals, and concerts. Various styles and types of music will be studied. Students may be asked to perform individually as well as within the ensemble group. Each student will be evaluated based on his/her individual progress. Basic music theory concepts will be presented. Students will also study basic music signs and terms. Correct singing techniques for singing styles, microphone usage, preparing for musical auditions will be presented. Student progress will culminate in a variety of performance opportunities.

PERFORMANCE READINESS:

It is to be understood that any singer who cannot execute show choir shows at a proficient performance level will not perform on the stage with the group until such level is reached. A student who is unsure of the show present a clear danger to himself/herself and to those performing nearby. The choir director’s decision in this matter will be final. The student will still attend the activity in uniform and act as an assistant. The student will be included in all other activities at performances, concerts and competitions. Grades will not be affected as long as the student continues to make an effort to improve.