

**Carson Middle School
Choir and Musical Theater**



Director: Briana Valley
Phone: 283-2800
Email: BValley@carson.k12.nv.us

Dear Carson Middle School Vocal Students and Parents:

Welcome to the Carson Middle School vocal program. My name is Miss. Briana Valley and I am the Choir and Musical Theatre Director here at CMS. This document is provided to make your orientation to this class a quick and easy task. **Please complete, sign and return the expectations contract by the date listed. Please use the other information as a reference for the school year, the information will be updated on the music website as the year progresses.** CarsonMiddleMusic.com

I am very excited about this school year and the journey we are going to take together! I look forward to getting to know each of you as we learn and expand your music ability in areas like vocal technique, music reading, rhythm, tone, and stage presence. Participation in a music class will be the means of developing some very close friendships while expanding your musical talents. At the moment Concerts are listed on the website and are scheduled, but as we have learned from the past few years, we may need to change them. At the moment I don't see a need to change the dates but if we do I will update you as soon as I can. I look forward to making music with all of you in class.

****The *choir*** will perform at a wide range of school events, school concerts, and Choir festivals around the area. We will be working on composition, vocal production, reading music as well as learning different genres and music styles.

*****Musical Theatre*** is a class that combines singing, dancing and acting. Due to this year's schedule we will be moving around and dancing in every class. Please make sure that Ms. Valley knows of all medical conditions or injuries. Please be dressed in appropriate pants and shoes that are comfortable to move in and that will stay on your feet.

Thank you for joining me on this adventure, I look forward to an AMAZING year! Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Briana Valley
Director of Choir/ Musical Theater
Carson Middle School
BValley@carson.k12.nv.us
(775)283-2800
www.CarsonMiddleMusic.com



Grades are earned:

Students will be evaluated off of proficiency scales based on music ensemble standards. These scales will be presented to students in class but will also be posted onto our website as they are developed. The following grading scale will be used and submitted into the gradebook under the following categories: **Creating, Performing, Responding & Connecting** which are the four strands of music standards. Below is the rubric for grading using the scales.



Carson Middle School Proficiency Scale



Critical Concept (Standard)	4 Distinguished	3 Proficient	2 Advancing	1 Emerging	0 Unengaged
	Student consistently meets this standard independently (>90% of the time), and he/she is able to explain and teach it to another.	Student usually meets this standard independently (>80% of the time), but may demonstrate some inconsistency .	Student struggles to meet this standard independently (<80% of the time); however, he/she can meet the standard with assistance and shows consistent effort .	Student cannot meet this standard independently (<70% of the time), and he/she struggles with assistance, but still shows effort .	Student lacks effort or is otherwise unengaged in his/her learning and cannot meet the standard with assistance .
Grade Equivalent	A 100%	B 87%	C 74%	D 61%	F 0%



****Attendance at Performances:**

Performances are important. It is the final product of hours, days, and weeks of hard work and practice. Each performance is worth 100 points. **ALL PERFORMANCES ARE MANDATORY!** A performance missed without a legitimate excuse will result in a 0 for the concert grade. A student with a legitimate excuse will be allowed to make up the grade by completing a designated assignment that will be due within **one week** after the performance. A calendar of dates can be found on the music website, as well as attached to this document; I will send changes out as soon as I can if needed. Performances include concerts, festivals, and other functions that each performing ensemble is required to attend. If you are going to miss a performance, please notify me as soon as you can. If it is not an emergency, I must be informed with a legitimate reason for missing a performance at least one day in advance. If it is a family emergency, please call me as soon as possible and let me know.

****Concert Dress:**

Concert attire is important. A great Ensemble not only sounds good but also looks good. The concert attire for choir groups is all black (preferably nicer than everyday clothes) including shoes, and I will provide a scarf or tie that matches

the class color. Day time performances for choir students will be their Music shirts and blue jeans with no rips or tears. Musical Theatre will wear Music shirts and black pants.

We are designing and making a new shirt for the whole CMS Music Department, Old shirts will still be accepted for performances if you want but new Shirt order forms will be handed out later in the semester.

What you need to provide for class:

All Classes

- Pencil – **NO** pens are to be used on music
- One 2 pocket folder or binder (can be shared with other classes)
- School device

*headphones/ earbuds (with a cord)

Grading Scale:

100% - 95% = A
94% - 90% = A-
89% - 85% = B
84% - 80% = B-
79% - 75% = C

74% - 70% = C-
69% - 65% = D
64% - 60% = D-
59% - 0% = F



Ms. Valley's Expectations

In order to have a successful music program at Carson Middle School, it is important that a list of guidelines is followed in order to achieve our goals. These guidelines are mandatory for all students to follow. It is important to me that you have an opportunity to learn and that I have the opportunity to teach. As well as the following; all school rules apply in the classroom as well.

Make good choices
Use class time wisely
Show kindness to others
Instruments handle with care
Choose to be your best

Expectations Contract

Please read the handbook fully before signing

The following consequences will result if you choose not to follow the list of expectations:

- 1.) Verbal Warning
- 2.) Note in file and a conference with the teacher to determine a consequence
- 3.) Note in file, lunch detention with teacher and parent contact
- 4.) Note in File, Behavior contract with the teacher, limitation of activities, which will likely negatively impact course grade
- 5.) Note on discipline file and referral to administration; limitation in activities, which will likely negatively impact course grade

By signing, you, the student indicate that you understand what is expected of you and the consequences involved if you choose to ignore them. A list of expectations will be posted in the front of the room for immediate reference.

Student Signature: _____

***Please return this page to Miss Valley **No Later Than** _____

I have read the Handbook information and will help my child in completing a successful year in the Carson Middle School Vocal Program. I understand the policies and by attending the required performances and actively participating in class my child will achieve success in the music program.

***** *If your student is in more than one of Miss Valley's class please only turn in ONE expectation form and please indicate BOTH classes below******

Student's Name _____

Student Class / Period _____ Student Grade level _____

Class (please circle all that apply) Choir Musical Theatre Int/Adv Musical Theatre

Parent/ Guardian's Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

You may use photographs/video of my student for promotional or classroom materials. Yes No

I prefer EMAIL /TELEPHONE/ PARENT SQUARE communication. (Please circle one.)

Please Mark your CALENDAR with the following dates, they are also located on the Music Website
Carsonmiddlemusic.com

All Performances are at the Carson Middle School Cafeteria unless otherwise noted
Beg Musical Theatre students are only semester so they will only perform at their end of term concert.

- Veterans Concert - **November 10, 2022** @ 9:00 AM - *Choir only*
- Winter Choir and Musical Theatre Concert - **December 8, 2022** @ 6:30 PM
- Carson City Schools Choir Pa Looza - **March 16, 2023** - Carson High School @ 7:00 PM - *Choir and Int/Adv MTH*
- NZNMEA Choir Festival - **March 30, 2023** @ Churchill Co JR High
- Spring Choir and Musical Theatre Concert - **May 10, 2023** @ 6:30 PM
- NZNMEA Honor Choir - **TBA** - Selected choir students *Audition Required*

