

Troy Buchanan  
High School Show Choirs

Express  
Sound Wave  
Show Choir Handbook  
2018-19

# Troy Buchanan High School

## Choral Department

### Troy, MO

Welcome to the TBHS Show Choirs! It is with great excitement that we greet you at the beginning of this school year! As we reflect on the many outstanding experiences from last year, let us look forward together to many new and exciting things during this school year.

The purposes of the choir of which you are now a member:

1. To expand and increase your knowledge and use of vocal technique and tone production
2. To increase your knowledge in the realm of show choir, its background, its preparation, and its performance
3. To advance in your facility in dance
4. To build and mold your choir into an outstanding choral group in performance and competition
5. To help you develop maturity, responsibility, and teamwork skills
6. To help you develop lifelong friendships and social skills

If you are willing to put forth your time, talents, abilities, and efforts, the possibilities of performance with your choir are virtually limitless. **The limitations depend on your desire, determination, drive, dedication, and self-discipline.** We will take you as far as you will go musically. What you derive from your membership in this choir in the way of comradeship, musical knowledge, and musical and social experiences is directly proportionate to the positive attitude and enthusiasm you pour into it.

As long as you are a member of any TBHS show choirs, your fellow members and we, your directors, will *expect* you to act as a **mature** high school young adult as befits a member of a TBHS show choir.

As a member of a TBHS show choir, you will be graded according to the following criteria: **achievement, attitude, and attendance.**

TBHS show choirs have a reputation of excellence both musically and in the attitude of their members. **It is up to you to be an example of what TBHS represents.** TBHS has an enviable reputation that is continually growing on all levels: local, state, and national. **How can you help TBHS continue this reputation?** Each member of this choir *must* put forth the extra effort to be prepared musically/choreographically and to add your personal drive to help your choir to even greater heights!

*We look forward to working with all of you!*

#### Show Choir Staff 2018-19

Andrew Drinkall  
Director of Choral Activities  
636-399-1909  
[drinkala@troy.k12.mo.us](mailto:drinkala@troy.k12.mo.us)

Aaron Zart  
Assistant Director of Choral Activities  
636-528-4618  
[zarta@troy.k12.mo.us](mailto:zarta@troy.k12.mo.us)

Guy Grimstead  
Music Assistant/Accompanist/Staff Arranger  
731-439-3080  
[troymusicmac@gmail.com](mailto:troymusicmac@gmail.com)

Bobby Picker  
Choreographic Assistant/Staff Choreographer  
[bobby.picker@yahoo.com](mailto:bobby.picker@yahoo.com)

## TBHS Show Choir Course Offerings

**Sound Wave Show Choir:** Grades 9-12. 1 unit of credit. **Prerequisites:** *By audition only and permission from the instructor. Must also be enrolled in a curricular choir (concert choir, chamber choir, treble choir, or freshman choir).* Auditions for this group (both dance and vocal) will be held during the spring semester prior to enrollment. The course will focus on non-traditional music for mixed-voices coupled with complex choreography and complete with costumes, sets/props, and band. The class will produce a competition level show and will compete in regional and national competitions, as well as perform for local events. Scheduled rehearsals and performances outside of class are required. The group will travel to various states throughout the year to compete. Fees and trip expenses will be due within the first month of school, date specified in financial contracts. Fundraisers will be held in the summer and during the year.

**Express Show Choir:** Grades 9-12. 1 unit of credit. **Prerequisites:** *By audition only and permission from the instructor. Must also be enrolled in a curricular choir (concert choir, chamber choir, treble choir, or freshman choir).* Auditions for this group (both dance and vocal) will be held during the spring semester prior to enrollment. The course will focus on non-traditional music for mixed-voices coupled with complex choreography and complete with costumes, sets/props, and band. The class will produce a competition level show and will compete in regional and national competitions, as well as perform for local events. Scheduled rehearsals and performances outside of class are required. The group will travel to various states throughout the year to compete. Fees and trip expenses will be due within the first month of school, date specified in financial contracts. Fundraisers will be held in the summer and during the year.

## Choir Philosophy

The philosophy of the choral department is to provide its students with many opportunities for creativity, self-expression, and intellectual growth through the study of music and performance. These experiences allow aesthetic development, as well as an appreciation of music and the arts at the highest level possible through musical experience.

## Choral Objectives

- To expand and increase student knowledge and use of vocal technique and tone production
- To increase student knowledge in the realm of choral literature, its background, its preparation, and its performance
- To advance student facility in sight singing and ear training
- To reinforce and increase student knowledge of basic music fundamentals and choreography
- To develop excellence in music understanding and visual/musical performance
- To assist student development in maturity, responsibility, commitment, courtesy, creativity, punctuality, personal discipline, and teamwork skills
- To develop lifelong friendships and social skills

## Students will be expected to participate in the following:

- Daily work and rehearsals
- Completing all assignments and exams
- Out of school preparation and practice
- Sectional rehearsals as deemed necessary by the director
- Out of school rehearsals as preparation for performance
- Out of school performances

# Rules, Attendance, & Grading

## A. Classroom Rules

1. **Attendance at ALL rehearsals and performances (during and after school) is MANDATORY.** Every person is a valuable link in the music process! Failure to attend all events will be reflected in your grade.
2. All choir members will have an assigned folder. It is your responsibility to have all music and a pencil in your folder at each rehearsal.
3. To be allowed to participate in show choir, all payments must be paid on time and all agreements and forms must be turned in on time.
4. The choirs often travel off school grounds. If a choir student is found disobeying any school policy while on a field trip or at a concert, school policy shall be enforced.
5. No gum, candy, soda, or other food will be allowed in the choir room, the choir office, or –most importantly– The stat-of-the-art Performing Arts Center. You may not bring food from the cafeteria. Water is allowed.
6. Swearing and other use of inappropriate language will not be tolerated. We need to uphold the choir as one of the finest groups in the school. Uphold the professional reputation that you have helped established.
7. As per school policy, no cell phones, iPods, mp3 players, and other electronic devices are allowed. Keep all electronic devices out of sight at all times.
8. School equipment such as amps, drums, synthesizers, stereos, etc. is not be used by students without permission from directors.
9. Be respectful, helpful, and polite to everyone in choir. Work to resolve issues with other members as quickly and kindly as possible so that our learning and performances do not suffer. If there is a problem, inform the directors.
10. Remember that the choirs represent our school and our music program. We are ambassadors with a mission of music. Conduct yourself in an appropriate manner and take pride in being part of the TBHS Choral Program.

## B. Attendance Policy

1. All rehearsals (during & after school), as well as choreography sessions and performances are **required**.
  - a. See Grading System for more details on attendance.
  - b. Special problems with rehearsals must be worked out with the directors. Failure to notify the directors, or notifying them after the fact, is deemed unexcused. If you going to be late you also need to contact the director *prior to* the rehearsal.
  - c. The director must be notified at least two weeks before a conflict.
  - d. Work schedules should be based around show choir. We recognize the importance of a job for many of you, but you are needed at rehearsals. Work is an unexcused absence.
2. It is your responsibility to know when and where rehearsals and performances take place.
  - a. Updates to the calendar are published frequently, so it is **your** responsibility to check online and stay up-to-date with scheduling.
  - b. The calendar posted online at [www.troymusic.com](http://www.troymusic.com).
3. If in fact you do miss a rehearsal you need to talk to one of the directors, choir officers, or another member of your group and learn the things you missed.

## C. Grading System

1. **Rehearsal Participation (Attitude & Musicianship): approximately 400 points per semester**
  - a. **Rehearsals During School: 5 points per day**
    - i. All rehearsals are required
    - ii. To receive all points, student must meet all director requirements for the day.
    - iii. Excused absences will be exempt from the daily participation points
    - iv. Unexcused absences will receive 0 points per rehearsal
  - b. **Rehearsals After School: 20 points per day**
    - i. All rehearsals are required

- ii. To receive all points, student must meet all director requirements for the day. Costuming not properly put away or mistreated will result in point deduction.
  - iii. Tardiness or leaving before all equipment is put away, will result in a 10 point deduction
  - iv. Excused absences will be exempt from the daily participation points
  - v. Unexcused absences will receive 0 points per rehearsal
  - c. **Choreography Sessions: 50 points per session**
    - i. All choreography sessions are required
    - ii. To receive all points, student must meet all director and choreographer requirements for the day. Costuming not properly put away or mistreated will result in point deduction.
    - iii. Tardiness or leaving before all equipment is put away, will result in a 20 point deduction
    - iv. Excused absences will be required to make up the number of hours missed in dance sessions with the dance captain or a director-appointed student
    - v. Unexcused absences will receive 0 points per choreography session
  - d. **Performances: 100 points per performance**
    - i. All performances are required
    - ii. To receive all points, student must meet all director requirements for the day. Costuming not properly put away or mistreated will result in point deduction.
    - iii. Tardiness or leaving before all equipment is put away, will result in a 20 point deduction
    - iv. Unexcused absences will receive 0 points per performance
  - e. **Dance Sessions: 10 points per mandatory session**
    - i. Dance sessions take place 1 hour before each after school rehearsal.
    - ii. Generally dance sessions are not mandatory but HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.
    - iii. Some dance sessions may be mandatory for individuals, sections, or the entire group. **Mandatory dances sessions will be announced and will count as 10 points per session.**
2. **Signed Handbook Form & Contracts: 50 points per quarter**
- a. Signed handbook form is due **SUNDAY, JULY 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018**
    - i. MAIL the form to:

TBHS Choirs  
P.O. Box 210  
Troy, MO 63379
  - b. Once this signed form is received, student automatically receives 50 points for each quarter
  - c. If the form is not turned in, student will receive 0 points for each quarter
3. Absences
- a. Excused Absences
    - i. In order for an absence to be excused, the director must be notified by you or your parents *before* the rehearsal or performance you are going to miss
    - ii. Excused absences include:
      1. Extreme illness: must have doctor's note or permission of director
      2. Death in the family: must provide funeral program or obituary
      3. ISS (for during school rehearsals)
      4. School-sponsored sporting events (See Below)
  - b. Unexcused Absences
    - i. An absence from a rehearsal or performance without prior notification is considered unexcused
    - ii. Unexcused absences will receive 0 points per event
    - iii. Unexcused absences include, but are not limited to work, babysitting, watching siblings, lack of transportation, OSS, etc.
    - iv. Unexcused absences also include any absence in which the directors were not notified *prior to* the performance
  - c. School-Sponsored Sporting Events (must be sponsored by TBHS): football, basketball, soccer, wrestling, volleyball, golf, track, tennis, cross-country, softball, baseball, or other sports event
    - i. Practices interfering with show choir rehearsals must split the time between both groups
    - ii. Practices interfering with show choir choreography sessions or performances will be unexcused and student will not be allowed to make up participation points

- iii. Games interfering with show choir rehearsals will be excused and student will be exempt from participation points
- iv. Games interfering with show choir choreography sessions or performances must be discussed with the director prior to the event date
- d. Cheerleading & Dance Team
  - i. Practices and games interfering with show choir rehearsals must split the time between both groups
  - ii. Practices and games interfering with show choir choreography sessions or performances will be unexcused and student will not be allowed to make up participation points
  - iii. Competitions interfering with show choir rehearsals will be excused and student will be exempt from participation points
  - iv. Competitions interfering with show choir choreography sessions or performances must be discussed with the director prior to the event date
- e. School-Sponsored Activities: NHS, STUCO, SAAM, etc.
  - i. Show choir rehearsals are required. Extra-curricular activities are unexcused and the student will receive 0 points per missed rehearsal.
  - ii. In special circumstances, officers may be allowed to miss a portion of a rehearsal but only if the directors are notified at least *2 weeks prior* to the rehearsal. Absences in this case will only be excused if the directors agree *in advance* of the event.
- 4. Additional dance sessions and/or vocal sectionals may be required throughout the year.

\*\*\*Grading system and point values are subject to change at directors' discretion.\*\*\*

#### ***D. Rehearsal Etiquette***

1. The expectations for respect in rehearsal are congruent with our expectations for top-notch performance. It is vital to maintain high standards of respect for your directors, choreographers, fellow members, and our facilities and equipment.
  - a. Speak only at appropriate times.
  - b. Support your fellow members in their learning process by being positive with comments, helping others catch up, and encouragement.
  - c. Work quickly and respectfully to resolve any issues with others in the group. The quality of our relationships is reflected in our performance and ultimately in our success.
  - d. Please take care of costumes, props, and equipment as if it were your own.

# Travel Etiquette

## A. *Hotel*

1. Assume responsibility of yourself. Take care of yourself and your voice by getting plenty of sleep and water to drink.
2. Have a good time, but be respectful of others in the hotel, especially when we arrive very late.
3. You will be billed for any charges incurred in your room due to phone, television, or game usage or for any damage to the room or hotel property.
4. Always remember that you are representing your school and community.
5. **Be respectful to all parent volunteers.**

## B. *Bus/Plane*

1. Pick up ALL trash – even if it's not yours. Any cleaning or damage fee assessed from the charter company will be distributed evenly among passengers on the damaged bus.
2. Luggage is limited to 1 carry-on bag and 1 bag under the bus. There are not enough extra seats for extra bags.
3. All movies must meet school policy. No R rated movies are allowed. The chaperones on each bus have final say in what movies will be viewed.
4. Use the bathrooms only when necessary – we carry the waste with us until the trip is over.
5. Keep stuff organized. Make sure you take ALL of your things off the bus/aircraft.
6. Do not leave valuables on the bus at any time. You are responsible for your own things.
7. Use school-appropriate language.
8. **Be respectful to all parent volunteers.**

## C. *Competition*

1. The most important guideline for etiquette at competitions is to keep yourself at the highest professional standard, so that you are an outstanding representative of our school and community.
2. Be sure to attend Tonali-T, Sound Wave, and Express performances of which you are not a performer. The support from peers in the audience gives more energy to the show.
3. Be friendly to all other schools **even if they don't return the courtesy.**
4. Clap for schools after they perform and reserve any and all negative commentary for once we are gone from the competition.
5. Have good sportsmanship and be friendly and outgoing. Give support to all participants at the competition.
6. When you are not performing or preparing for a performance, you need to be in the auditorium watching other schools.
7. **Be respectful to all parent volunteers.** Parents are donating their time towards your success – whether helping with hair, make-up, costuming, or staging. Do not complain about the work they are doing.

# Apparel and Travel

## A. *Apparel, Accessories, Etc.*

1. Caring for your apparel
  - a. You will be issued various show choir costume pieces and a garment bag. As a member of the group, you are expected to care for your apparel properly.
  - b. All items must be hung up to prevent wrinkling of costumes. **DO NOT** drop your clothes in the bottom of the bag.
  - c. **DO NOT** wash or dry clean your costumes!!! We will wash all costumes together mid-session. In the meantime, if your apparel becomes dirty or “toxic” *please* inquire about cleaning options. Always ask first, because each costume piece must be cleaned a certain way to ensure that all colors and washes remain the same. FeBreeze is always good!!
2. Accessories
  - a. Ladies will receive earrings, shoes, hose, and other accessories. You are responsible for the cost of these items. If you lose or damage these items, you will be required to purchase additional items.
  - b. Men will receive shoes, belts, and various accessories. You are responsible for the cost of these items. If you lose or damage these items, you will be required to purchase additional items.
  - c. Both women and men will be required to wear certain types of undergarments to best fit the costuming. You will be required to purchase these items as well.
3. Repairs
  - a. If your attire needs altering or is damaged, talk to one of the “costuming moms.” Make sure to have your costumes fixed before the day of the performance.
4. Make-up
  - a. Both ladies and men will be required to wear make-up for all competition performances. All colors and brands will be chosen and purchased for you. Everyone will wear the same make-up in the same fashion.
  - b. Do not do your own make-up. The “make-up moms” have been shown how to apply your make-up so that it all looks the same. Do not wash off or “fix” your make-up if you do not like how it looks. If your make-up needs to be fixed, *politely* ask for assistance.
5. Hair
  - a. Ladies—the “hair moms” will do your hair – do not attempt to do it yourself. All hair will be the same.
  - b. Men will wear some sort of hair gel and the “hair moms” will help with their hair as well. Hair must be cut (out of the eyes) and meet the approval of the directors.
6. Travel Wear
  - a. Dress casual, but nice. Do not wear something that would be offensive to chaperones.
  - b. If it is known that we will be eating somewhere ‘nice,’ dress accordingly. Please see directors for any clarification.

## B. *Travel*

1. Emergency/Heath Form
  - a. **You must have a *current* emergency/health information form on file to travel. If your medical information changes, let us know immediately.**
2. Tardiness
  - a. Be sure to arrive at the school at least fifteen minutes *before* we are scheduled to depart, so that you can get a seat, put your stuff away and get settled. We want to leave **on time**. If you don’t arrive in time you may be left behind!
3. Riding the Bus
  - a. If you are not riding the bus to and from every event, you must ride with your parent(s) and follow the itinerary.
  - b. If you do not ride the bus, you must arrive at the competition location at the same time the buses arrive.
4. Staying in Hotels
  - a. If you are not staying with the group, you must stay with *your parent(s)*. If you are not staying in an assigned room with the group, we will not reserve a room for you.
  - b. Reservations will be made for students staying with the group. We will also have a block of rooms held for the parents, where possible. Parents will be responsible for making their own reservations. When the



students' hotel rooms have been reserved, a letter will be sent with hotel locations and phone numbers, so parents can reserve rooms if needed.

5. Hygiene
  - a. Be sure to bring toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.
  - b. Shower – please! Stay clean and presentable.

**\*\*\*In all cases (on or off campus), school policy applies.\*\*\***

**NO DRUGS, ALCOHOL, OR INAPPROPRIATE PHYSICAL CONTACT. RESPECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS.**

**KEEP TRACK OF ALL YOUR ITEMS (COSTUMES, ETC.). THERE WILL BE NO ONE TO PICK UP AFTER YOU.**

**\*\*\*FAILURE TO ABIDE BY ANY OF THE ABOVE RULES MAY RESULT IN EXPULSION FROM THE GROUP\*\*\***

# Payments

- *THE TOTAL COST FOR SHOW CHOIR IS \$900*
- *PAYMENT OPTIONS:*
  - i. *IF YOU PAY IN FULL BY JULY, 15<sup>TH</sup> 2018 IT IS \$850*
  - ii. *FIRST \$450 IS DUE JULY 15<sup>TH</sup> 2018  
SECOND \$450 IS DUE SEPTEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> 2018*
  - iii. *PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THIS FEE ARE AVAILABLE (SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM REQUIRED)*
- *BIG TRIP COST IS SEPERATE AND IN ADDITION TO THE \$900 COST. STUDENTS WILL HAVE SEPARATE FUNDRAISING ACCOUNTS FOR BIG TRIP PAYMENT ONLY. THIS IS NOT FUNDRAISING FOR THE \$900 FEE. 2018-19 IS A BIG TRIP YEAR ☺*
- *ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE IN IN THE FORM OF A PERSONAL CHECK, OR MONEY ORDER WRITTEN TO “TBHS OR LINCOLN CO. R-III” AND SENT TO TBHS CHOIRS AT P.O. BOX 210 TROY, MO 63379 -OR- DEPOSITED IN THE LOCKED BOXES AT TBHS OR NGC CHOIR ROOMS. CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!!!!*
- *PAYMENTS CAN ONLY BE COLLECTED BY MAIL TO THE P.O. BOX OR DEPOSITED IN THE BOXES IN THE CHOIR ROOMS!!!!*
- *ENCORE OFFICERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO COLLECT FEES OF ANY TYPE*
- *PLEASE CONTACT CHRISTI PONDER WITH ANY QUESTIONS AT:  
[choirstudentaccnts@gmail.com](mailto:choirstudentaccnts@gmail.com)*
- *NO REFUNDS CAN BE GIVEN FOR SHOW CHOIR FEES AFTER SEPT. 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2018.*
- *NO REFUNDS FOR “BIG TRIP” AFTER SEPT. 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2018. IF A STUDENT CANNOT ATTEND THE “BIG TRIP”, DUE TO REASONS SUCH AS INELLIGIBILITY, FAMILY CONFLICT, OR DROPPING OUT OF SHOW CHOIR, THE STUDENT IS STILL RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT.*
- *IF A PAYMENT BY PERSONAL CHECK IS RETURNED WITH INSUFFICIENT FUNDS – ALL FURTHER PAYMENTS WILL BE EXPECTED IN THE FORM OF MONEY ORDER*

**\*\*\*\*\*No Refunds Can Be Given After Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 For Show Choir Fees\*\*\*\*\***

## **\*\*\*Parental Background Checks\*\*\***

Due to state policy and district standards ALL adults (18 and older) wanting to travel with the group must fill out a background check form. This means if you want to go to the competition, do hair/make-up, stage crew, stay in the hotel, you MUST have a form filled out and turned into the school. It only takes about five minutes to fill out. So, fill one out, and let the fun begin!

**TBHS Show Choir  
Handbook Agreement  
2018-19**

**Parent:**

I have read the above information and agree to support the choir and its rules.

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sign Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student:**

I have read the rules and understand the importance of following the rules. If I choose to break a rule or create a situation that negatively influences the choir(s), I understand that I may be dismissed from the choir if the situation cannot be resolved satisfactorily. I also understand that all school policies and disciplinary procedures apply at all times.

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sign Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please sign and mail this form by Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018.**

**THBS Show Choirs  
P.O. Box 210  
Troy, MO 63379**

## **Show Choir Forms Checklist:**

Have I turned in all of the forms? Check and see!

- Scholarship Form (if applicable)**  
**June 15<sup>th</sup>**
- Signed Handbook Form**  
**July 15<sup>th</sup>**
- Financial Responsibility Form**  
**July 15<sup>th</sup>**
- First Payment of \$450 or \$850**  
**July 15<sup>th</sup>**
- Emergency Contact Card**  
**July 15<sup>th</sup>**

**All mailed to:**

**TBHS Choirs  
P.O. Box 210  
Troy, MO 63379**