



I.M. Terrell Academy for STEM and VPA
Fort Worth ISD

Vocal Music Department
Student Handbook
2018-2019

Google Classroom Code: pmqdz99

Remind: @imtvocal @imtvpa  @Terrell_VPA  Terrell_VPA

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Welcome to the first school year of the I. M. Terrell Academy Vocal Music Department! We are very excited to start this journey with you! The purpose of this handbook is to acquaint and inform students and parents with the Vocal Music Department. Our success requires cooperation and dedication from everyone involved—students, parents, directors, and administrators.

It is the overall goal of public education to assure that all students have an opportunity to acquire the fundamental skills and information needed for a productive adult life. Music, through its development of the skills of self-expression, self-discipline, and communication, contributes to the realization of this goal, and is thereby an essential component in a balanced curriculum.

1. Our program emphasizes the development of singing and music skills necessary to enjoy participating in a high achieving music organizations both now and in the future.
2. Music is fun, but there is not fun in mediocrity. To ensure the success of the group, each student, parent, and director must realize her or his individual responsibilities. Each must be willing to sacrifice individual desires for the enhancement of the choir's success.
3. The amount of fun and satisfaction a student receives will be no greater than the amount of enthusiasm and hard work he/she is willing to contribute.

While the handbook appears lengthy, the information included is important to you. It is requested that every choir member and their parent read the handbook carefully. Please sign and return the form indicated and return to school by Friday, August 31st. Detach the 2018-2019 vocal music department calendar and post it in a family place. The calendar may also be accessed in google classroom.

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Why are we called the Vocal Music Department?

Like most traditional high schools in Texas, the backbone of our department will be our choirs. However, our students will also get significant experience in many genres of music over their four years at I. M. Terrell. Because our department will provide more experiences than just concert choir, we believe that Vocal Music is a more inclusive name.

Supplies

All singers in the I. M. Terrell Vocal Music Department need to provide:

1. 1-inch black binder with clear plastic sleeve cover
2. Pencil pouch with three rings
3. Pencils
4. 6 pack, Multi-Color Highlighters (yellow, orange, green, pink, blue, purple)

Singers' Bill of Rights

All singers in the I. M. Terrell Vocal Department have the right to:

1. A productive and enjoyable rehearsal
2. Have their time respected and valued
3. Be treated with respect and professionalism
4. Appropriately express oneself without judgement
5. Access to achievable and rewarding performance opportunities
6. Access to competitive opportunities
7. A positive and friendly rehearsal environment
8. Engaging and appropriate musical selections
9. Access to clear and effective communication
10. Access to a clean and well maintained rehearsal space

Singers' Responsibilities

All singers in the I. M. Terrell Vocal Music Department have the responsibility to:

1. Arrive at rehearsal on time with all materials
2. Be engaged and focused during rehearsal
3. Work on music outside of rehearsal
4. Compete in TMEA and UIL competitions
5. Refrain from talking during rehearsal
6. Sing even if they do not care for a particular piece of music
7. Respect those around you, in leadership, and on the podium
8. Give your all, for the entire rehearsal, every rehearsal
9. Represent the department with dignity and professionalism on social media
10. Keep the rehearsal space and VPA building in clean and neat

Performing Groups

“Terrell Treble Choir”

Honors All-level Treble Choir

Entry level to intermediate choir designed for sopranos and altos with previous middle school choral experience or students new choir. Students grades 9-12 are eligible for membership in this ensemble regardless of major. Members will participate in the Fall, Winter, Pre-UIL, UIL, and Spring Concerts. Singers are highly encouraged to study voice pedagogy and lessons with one of our voice faculty. Extra-curricular opportunities include: All-Region Choir Auditions and Vocal Solo & Ensemble Contest.

“Panther Chorale”

Honors All-level Tenor-Bass Choir

Panther Chorale is an all-level exclusive tenor-bass choral experience choir. Students grades 9-12 are eligible regardless of major. Members will participate in the Fall, Winter, Pre-UIL, UIL, and Spring Concerts. *All singers are highly encouraged to study voice pedagogy and lessons with one of our Voice Faculty.* Optional opportunities include: All-Region Choir Auditions and Vocal Solo & Ensemble Contest.

“A Cappella Choir”

Honors Varsity Mixed Ensemble

Advanced mixed choir of mostly vocal majors originally designed for junior and senior students who have a strong choir background and have demonstrated understanding of advanced choral music skills as well as strong work ethic in both choir and academic areas. Prior high school music experience required. *All singers should be studying voice pedagogy and lessons with one of our Voice Faculty.* Members are required to participate in the All-Region Choir and Vocal Solo & Ensemble Contest. This ensemble is for highly motivated musicians striving for excellence. 2018-2019 A Cappella Choir will rehearse in separate classes and combined in afterschool rehearsal.

Possible Future Ensembles:

Show Choir, Jazz Choir, A Cappella groups

Vocal Major Requirements

1. Participation in Solo and Ensemble Contests every year
2. Participation in TMEA All-State Choir or 9/10 Honor Choir Auditions
3. Participation in the voice lessons and master class program
4. Must take four years of music theory
5. Must take one year of non-major piano
6. Must perform a jury at the conclusion of the each semester.
7. Must perform a senior half recital

Additional Opportunities

1. Lone Star Youth Chorus (Rehearses on Monday Evenings)
2. Contest Host Volunteers (SSC All-Region, FWISD Honor Choir, UIL)
3. Social Events
4. VPA Field Trips
5. Middle School Recruitment

Grading Policy

40% Formative Assessment

Rehearsal Techniques
Sight-Singing
Score Preparation
Daily Work
After School Rehearsals
Practice Hours

60% Summative Assessment

In class performance tests
Sight-Singing Tests
Concerts
Dress Rehearsals
Mock Auditions
All-State Auditions

*Per district policy, a student's final exam will count for 1/7 of the student's semester grade

Concerts

Concerts are the most important display of our hard work in the IMT Vocal Music Department. Please see the calendar and note the dates of our concerts on your family calendar. **Concerts are required and are graded events.** Conflicts with other IMT activities will be worked out between the director and other IMT teachers. **Conflicts with non-IMT activities are not excused absences (such as select sports, work, or babysitting).** If it is determined **in advance** by Mr. Carr that an absence will be excused, a major writing assignment will be given in its place. Absences that are considered **unexcused** and will result in two summative grades of zero. **Students who miss performances or dress rehearsals are subject to removal from the department.**

Vocal Music Department Activity Fee

All Terrell Vocal Music students will need to pay the \$50 vocal music activity fee. This fee and covers the cost of the department t-shirt (they wear on some concerts and keep the shirt), formal uniform rental/dry-cleaning, buses to events, music costs, and MUCH more. (Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Carr if you need extra time to pay, or to arrange a payment plan for the year!)

Uniforms

Choir Uniforms are the property of the Terrell Vocal Music Department. Each IMT choir member will be issued a department-owned formal uniform for concerts and competitions.

Provided by the IMT Vocal Music Department:

Ladies – Black concert dress

Men - Black tuxedo jacket
Black tuxedo pants
Black Vest
Tie
Shirt

What to wear with formal uniform:

Ladies - closed-toed, black flat shoes
small stud earrings are permitted
(no necklaces, no bracelets/watches/etc. on the wrist)

Men - black dress socks
solid black dress shoes

Any alterations are the responsibility of the student/parents, and should be temporary

● DO NOT cut off the bottoms of pants/dresses. ● DO NOT use staples or duct tape to assist in your hemming. ● DO NOT iron the uniforms; the fabric will melt very easily.

Contests, Competitions, and Enrichment

TMEA All-State/ All-Region Choir

All choir students are highly encouraged to go above and beyond and audition for the All-Region Choir. Students who chose to participate receive music and practice mp3's and prepare audition music. They also receive specialized instruction with the directors and/or their private voice teacher in order to prepare for the competition. Students then compete against singers from the Mansfield and Arlington school districts for a limited number of spots in the choir. If selected, students get to participate in a Saturday event that culminates in the All Region Choir Concert! If students place high enough they can advance to the All-State Choir which rehearses and performs in San Antonio. The All-State Choir is the highest honor a high school singer can earn and should be pursued by all students who have high musical goals. (Voice lessons are strongly encouraged for these students)

TMEA 9/10 Honor Choir

All choir students are required to audition for the Region 5 9/10 Honor Choir. Students will receive music and practice mp3's and prepare audition music. They also receive specialized instruction with the director and/or private voice teacher in order to prepare for the competition. Like the All-Region Choir, students will compete against singers from the Mansfield and Arlington school districts for a limited number of spots in the choir. If selected, students get to also participate in the All-Region Clinic and Concert!

UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest

This is a contest for choir students to prepare a solo to sing for a judge and receive comments and possibly a medal! Vocal Majors are required to participate and any others who are interested may participate.

Voice Lessons

We are very excited and proud to offer private voice lessons that students can take during their choir period or after school. We hope lots of students will invest in their individual growth and take lessons. A voice lesson brochure will be sent home during the next few weeks of school with more information and instructions to enroll your student.

I. M. Terrell Vocal Music Department Calendar

When	What	Where	Who	Cost
September 8	DSO Bach Concert	Preston Hollow	All who wish to go	\$5
September 15	All-State Round 1	Martin High School	All those participating	\$15
September 29	Hosting SCC All-State	IM Terrell	EVERYONE	None
October 2	Baylor All-Men Sing	Baylor University	Tenors and Basses	\$5?
October 4	<i>IMT Fall Concert/ Parent Meeting</i>	<i>IM Terrell PAC</i>	<i>EVERYONE and including parents</i>	<i>None</i>
October 12	IMT Dedication	IM Terrell	Everyone	None
October 13	All-State Round 2	Summit High School	Only those advancing	None
October 16	Hosting MS FWISD Honor Choir Auditions	IM Terrell	Only those selected to help (Will possibly miss some class time)	None
October 22	9/10 Honor Choir Auditions	FUMC of Fort Worth	Everyone (During School)	\$15
November 13	Hosting MS FWISD Honor Choir Concert	IM Terrell	Only those chosen to help	None
November 16	All-State Round 3	FUMC of Fort Worth	Only those advancing	None
November 17	Region Clinic and Concert	Mansfield PAC	Region, District, & 9/10 Honor Choir Members	Lunch
December 13-15	VPA Juries	IM Terrell	Vocal Majors	None
December 18	IMT Vocal Concert	IMT PAC	Everyone	None
January 25	FWISD Show Choir Invitational	Southwest High School	All Interested	TBD
February 7	IMT & TCU Concert	IM Terrell PAC	Everyone	None
February 12	FWISD Solo & Ens Contest	IM Terrell Historic Auditorium	Everyone	None
February 25	IMT VPA Showcase	IM Terrell PAC	Everyone	None
March 26-27	HS Choir Benchmark	North Side High School	Everyone	None
March 28	IMT Pre-UIL Concert	IMT PAC	Everyone	None
April 16-18	UIL Concert and SR	IM Terrell	Everyone (will miss school)	None
April 25	VPA Showcase	IMT PAC	Everyone	None
May 7	Music Theatre Review	IMT PAC	Everyone	None
May 14	Spring Concert	IMT PAC	Everyone	None
May 18-20	Spring Arts Tour	In State City	Those selected	TBD
May 20-24	VPA Juries	IMT	Everyone	None

While we do our best to be consistent, dates are subject to change and new opportunities for IMT Singers could pop up!

I. M. Terrell Vocal Music Handbook Form

I have read the Vocal Music Department Handbook and understand what is expected of me/my singer in the I. M. Terrell Vocal Music Department.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

INFORMATION SHEET

2018-2019

STUDENT _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN(S) _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE # _____

CELL PHONE # (Student) _____

E-MAIL (Student) _____

CELL PHONE # (Parent) _____

E-MAIL (Parent) _____

WORK PHONE (Parent) _____

CELL PHONE # (Parent) _____

E-MAIL (Parent) _____

WORK PHONE (Parent) _____