HOMESTEAD HIGH SCHOOL SHOW CHOIR
Class Royale and Elite
2026-2027 Parent/Student Expectations

In order to affect the most efficient use of your time and busy schedules, the following expectations are instituted. All parents and students are expected to abide by these expectations. They are based on the one encompassing rule, "Be Courteous" in everything you do and with everything you say.

Chaperone and Parent Volunteer Expectations

Supervision of students- As a performing group that travels extensively, supervision of students falls to all of us. To that end, adult volunteers serving as chaperones or other support staff of the choirs must take an active role in supervising all students. In the event that students are observed misbehaving while representing HHS on the grounds at school, on the bus or while traveling, in dressing rooms or homerooms while competing, or in hotels or restaurants, etc., please be reminded of your role to correct inappropriate conduct and to report such conduct immediately to Mr. Shaw. Inappropriate conduct includes but is not limited to: Dress Code Violations, Physical Contact (PDA), Inappropriate language, etc.

Student Conduct, Rehearsal and Attendance Expectations

1) **Personal Conduct**: Acceptance into a Homestead High School Show Choir signifies a willingness on your part to adhere to the rehearsal and performance schedules and the expectations herein.

   a) Experience indicates that all co-curricular and extracurricular students are held to high expectations. Homestead High School Show Choir operates according to the HHS Extracurricular/Co-curricular Participant Expectations, as detailed in the Student Handbook. Since the influence of students participating in extracurricular/co-curricular activities extends beyond the school campus, these participants assume additional responsibility for proper behavior and leadership. This responsibility requires that student Show Choir participants observe all rules of the Homestead High School discipline policy while off campus, during non-school hours, summer months, and other vacations or holidays, as well as during the school day, at school functions, and traveling to and from school or school functions. This responsibility applies to all participants in athletics, student organizations, teams, and elected offices. Therefore, if a student fails to live up to these expectations, they may not be permitted to continue participation in any extracurricular/co-curricular activities.

   b) All district rules apply any time a student is in public representing Homestead High School. While at competitions or during any public appearance, you will be expected to act in a manner that demonstrates courtesy, common sense, and brings credit to yourself, the group, and Southwest Allen County Schools. Should anyone ~~a~~act in a manner that in any way reflects poorly on the group or the Southwest Allen County School District, discipline, including possible removal from the group, will result.

   c) **Social Media-** Students using social media sites such as but not limited to Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, etc., to post or say disparaging things about student members of the choir, directors, parent volunteers, competing schools, or anyone associated with the Homestead Show Choir program may be removed from the competition group.

   d) Courtesy to fellow members, our instrumental combo, audiences, guests, and the directors is of utmost importance and is the primary guideline for all actions. Courtesy manifests itself in conduct, adherence to rehearsal policies and schedules, language, and interaction with others.

   e) It is expected that Show Choir students will extend this standard of excellence to their academic performance. If necessary, students will be offered academic assistance in keeping with Homestead High School's Strategies for Student Success.

   f) **Full Year Commitment**: Placement into a Homestead High School Show Choir is a **full year** commitment and responsibility. Not completing the year is not an option as it would inflict an unnecessary and unfair

hardship on the entire group. Unexcused absences from rehearsals, mandatory competitions, and performances may affect the student's grade.

g) **Rehearsal and Performance Expectations**: Show Choir is a rewarding and time-consuming commitment and is unlike most commitments that you will make at the high school level. It is a group effort where everyone must depend on everyone else to be present, to sing, to dance, and to raise funds. When a student is absent it impacts the entire group's performance in loss of vocal sound. Spacing is also affected with the vacancies in the area of staging. The student's partner will be required to dance their choreography alone – choreography that is designed to be danced with a partner – making it much more difficult.

   a. Students must be on time at every rehearsal. Please arrive in the classroom early and be standing in the rehearsal/performance room, ready to begin warm-up, at the called rehearsal/performance time. Please do not wait to be prompted to begin warm-up. Roll call will begin at the called time. Extra time will be added to the end of rehearsal for the entire group in proportion to the time students are tardy. Do not cause the rehearsal to be delayed or have your partner dance alone. If you are late, inform the director as to why immediately upon your arrival.

   b. Have your folder, music, pencil, and personal water bottle at every designated rehearsal. Music that is lost must be paid for at the current replacement cost plus shipping and handling.

   c. Please be attentive and silent while anyone else is talking and when a stop or pause is called by the director or choreographer. Listen to the corrections/suggestions by the director/choreographer first and correct that area of concern by singing or dancing, then ask your appropriate question(s) or make your suggestion(s). Raise your hand and wait to be recognized before making any comments. Failure to do so may result in the student being sent home immediately from rehearsal and being placed on the next step of the Discipline Ladder (see Discipline/Consequences below).

   d. Excused absences (other than absence from school due to illness) must be handled on an individual basis with the director. Please arrange all work or personal appointments (doctor appointments, teacher conferences, test make-up dates, family errands, etc) outside of your choir's scheduled rehearsal time. If a student is absent from vocal and/or choreography rehearsal(s), their performance/competition participation will be at the discretion of the director. Absences without written parental explanation will be considered "unexcused". Unexcused absences may affect the student's grade and may affect his/her position on stage and his/her participation within the group. These expectations are necessary for proper preparation of the group.

   e. Please request **permission** to miss a rehearsal in an email to Mr. Shaw at least TWO FULL DAYS before any conflict. Personally give the request to the director and be available for discussion. **No exceptions!!** In emergencies you may notify the director the day after the absence. Permission to miss a rehearsal is not granted until the student or parent has discussed the absence with the director. If you have not requested permission two full days ahead of time, you must be at the rehearsal.

   f. Please notify your teachers of any Homestead High School Show Choir conflicts with their classes as soon as they are scheduled. Inform them that the activities are district approved and offer to do make-up work in advance. Do not use Show Choir or Show Choir commitments as an excuse for missing other obligations, especially academic assignments. If you have a concern, please see the director.

h) **Voice lessons** are strongly recommended for ALL students. A list of qualified area voice teachers is available in the choir office.

Competitions/Concerts

1) Attendance at all performances and competitions is **MANDATORY.** Grades will be affected if a performance or competition is missed. A tentative performance calendar will be available in August.

2) Concerts will include
   - Fall Concert – Wednesday, October 7, 2026
   - Winter Concert – Wednesday, December 9, 2026
   - Spectacular (Elite) – Thursday, May 13, 2027
   - Gala (Class Royale) – Friday, May 17, 2027

3) Show Choir competitions occur on Saturdays, January through March. All students will be expected to travel as a group.

4) Homestead Show Choir will host our own competition, "Homestead Classic Showcase" February 19 and 20, 2027. See the parent involvement section for further details.

5) An ISSMA organizational contest will take place in April.

6) Additional community or school performances may be scheduled throughout the year. Students will be notified of all performances in advance and should accordingly work ahead in their school work, request adjustments in work schedules, and be willing to adjust other outside commitments **FOR ALL PERFORMANCES.**

Attire/Costumes/Personal Appearance

Please wear appropriate clothing for all rehearsals, especially shoes. You will be moving with partners, turning, jumping, etc. Be comfortable and use good judgment. Students will have time after school to change in the choir dressing rooms. No sandals or bare feet will be allowed at any time. Hats or head coverings must be in accordance with the Homestead High School dress code, or as allowed by the director.

1. Please take your costume home after each performance or show. The music suite is not a costume storage area. Please take your garments out of their garment bag and care for your costumes according to the "Costume Care" directions provided by the Costume Committee.

   a) When traveling for competitions and performances, students are expected to be appropriately attired at all times. As announced by the director this may include full costume or travel attire.

   b) Designated Show Choir approved make-up will be required of all students at all performances and competitions.

   c) Any lost or destroyed costume items will be replaced at the student's expense accordingly.

2. The wearing of body-piercing or facial hair is not allowed during performances and the length/style of head-hair during competition season will be at the total discretion of the director so as to not deter from the performance and/or judging. The director will decide on girl's hairstyles. The director's decision in each of these matters is FINAL, no exceptions.

Discipline/Consequences

Violations of guidelines and expectations may affect the student's position on stage, eligibility for solos, and class grade.

Depending on severity of the conduct (violations which are severe in nature may merit immediate removal from the choir)

- ✓ 1st violation: student has conference with director and parents are called.
- ✓ 2nd violation: student is sent home immediately from rehearsal and a meeting with parents and director is set (student may or may not be present at the discretion of the director).
- ✓ 3rd violation: student is sent home immediately from rehearsal and placed on probation.
- ✓ 4th violation: student faces possible removal from the group.

Parent Involvement

The success of Show Choir is dependent upon parental involvement in committees and subcommittees that assist each group throughout the year.

1. These committees include but are not limited to: Costume; Spirit; Backstage/"Wing Nuts"; Fundraising; Music Boosters; Athletic Concessions; Trip Planning; Show Choir Clinic; Chaperones; The Homestead Classic Showcase Invitational; Cabaret Night.

2. These committees will begin to form at the August parent meeting. Parents must commit to regular attendance at all Show Choir parent meetings and to assist in all the various group fundraisers throughout the year. At a minimum, families will be required to:

    - Work a minimum of ten **(10) hours** at the Homestead Classic Showcase
    - Work a minimum of **five (5)** fall athletic concessions.
    - Sell **6 tickets** for Cabaret Night and make a **BASKET DONATION VALUED AT $100.** Due on tech day, Jan 16th, 2027.

    These activities are required of all families, as they allow us to be able to fund Show Choir.

3. Please feel free to see the director during office hours (Monday – Thursday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:15 p.m. and Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.) if you have a matter of importance to discuss. Please make an appointment in advance. Constructive criticism of the operation of the group is healthy and desirable. Such criticism is welcomed and should be conveyed to the director privately. Destructive and/or unprofessional criticism is neither courteous nor acceptable. Parents are expected to discuss all concerns first and foremost with the director in an appropriate time and place. If a parent feels the concern is not being addressed by the director, they are to speak with the parent advisory board president next.

Student Fees

1. **The fee for the 2026-2027 Homestead High School Show Choirs will be $1,900**. The show choir fee includes but is not limited to costumes, personal/accessory items, trips, Music Booster Cards, props, choreographers, music, and numerous incidental group expenses. This amount does not include the cost of shoes (if needed) and/or makeup. You will be billed separately if shoes and/or makeup are needed by your student. There will be a $75 fee towards the end of competition season for this.

2. Families will also be required to sell **6 tickets** for Cabaret Night.

3. Depending upon SACS transportation needs, an additional travel expense of $30.00 may be necessary in the fall.

Payment Schedule:	March 25	$275
	June 1	$275
	July 1	$225
	August 1	$225
	Sept. 1	$225
	Oct 1	$225
	Nov 1	$225
	Dec 1	$225

4. All fees must be paid by December 1, 2026 for your child to remain a member of HHS Show Choirs. If you are in need of financial assistance, please contact the director for financial assistance forms prior to the audition date. Homestead High School does not provide our choir program with any funding or reimbursements. We are responsible for raising/disbursing all money for this program.

5. ***Families can earn 100% of their fees by participating in fundraisers**. At our May parent meeting, we will share information about individual fundraising opportunities: Program Ads, Classic Showcase Sponsorships, and many other opportunities. Any amounts earned prior to payments being due may be used to offset those payments. Some fundraisers will continue throughout the school year, enabling families to build "escrow" for their fees account. Remaining escrow monies at the end of the school year may be carried over to begin the following year; graduating senior families may choose to have their escrow balance refunded to them, or to make a donation to HHS Show Choir.

6. Should a student drop out of Show Choir on or before the last day of the first nine weeks, one-third of the fees will be refunded. **No refunds will be issued to any students past this date and any balance remaining must be paid. Unpaid fees on accounts of students that have dropped will be turned into SACS collections after 90 days.**

We want every student to have a very positive experience during their high school years, so please consider fully all the information provided before making this commitment. Please feel free to contact Mr. Curtis Shaw at cshaw@sacs.k12.in.us if you have any additional questions.

HOMESTEAD HIGH SCHOOL SHOW CHOIR
2026-2027 Audition Information

1. You must submit a completed ***2026-2027 Signature Page*** (located on the last page of the Student/Parent Expectations document) along with your first payment ($225) on or before the audition day, Wednesday, March 26. Auditions will begin at 3:00 pm. You will not be allowed to audition without these items.

2. The audition will consist of Singing and Choreography together.
You will be given audition sheets to complete. Please complete the forms accurately and completely and bring to your audition.

3. You will be scored on the three parts listed in #2 above. In addition, a most important component of your score is "*attitude & conduct*". This component will be/has been determined by your conduct and attitude throughout the year(s). For the current eighth graders, your choir director or counselor will be contacted for their input into this component.

4. Audition in SATB groups of four. You may choose your group if you desire. Students may sing/dance in more than one group but only their initial appearance will be judged and scored. Feel free to put together your group of four (SATB) prior to your audition; this is not a requirement or a necessity. Do what will make you the most at ease so you can do your best.

5. Come to as many choreography rehearsals as you feel necessary: Mar. 18-20 (Tuesday-Thursday), 5:00-7:00 pm.

6. Your attire, make-up, hair, etc. will have no bearing on your score. Dress comfortably so you can sing and dance your very best.

7. The audition will last approximately three minutes total. This is your time to impress the judge(s). Be confident and poised. Smile, look the judge(s) in the eyes. Convince them you deserve their attention. If you make a mistake, continue on, don't stop. Move and sing with a purpose and with confidence.

8. Audition results will be posted at Homestead High School, Summit Middle School, and Woodside Middle School on Thursday, March 28 at the close of the school day. The first Parent Meeting for all 2024-2025 show choir parents will take place Tuesday, May 20 at 7:00 pm in the HHS Choir Room.

9. **Participation costs for this year are $1,900.** This includes but is not limited to our: performance rights, costumes, personal/accessory items, trips, Music Booster Cards, props, choreographers, music, and numerous incidental group expenses. Families will also be responsible for 6 Cabaret Night tickets; details about Cabaret Night will be discussed at the beginning of the school year. This fee **does not** include the cost of any required shoes and/or makeup. There will be a $75 fee towards the end of competition season for this.

The first payment will be at the time of auditions. If you are not placed in a choir, your check will be returned immediately.

Payment Schedule:	March 25	$275
	June 1	$275
	July 1	$225
	August 1	$225
	Sept. 1	$225
	Oct 1	$225
	Nov 1	$225
	Dec 1	$225

All fees must be paid by December 1, 2025 for your child to remain a member of HHS Show Choirs. If you are in need of financial assistance, please contact the director for financial assistance forms prior to the audition date. Homestead High School does not provide our choir program with any funding or reimbursements. We are responsible for raising/disbursing all money for this program.

PLEASE NOTE: No member should feel like they cannot audition for Show Choir due to financial obligations or restrictions. Please contact Curts Shaw at Cshaw@sacs.k12.in.us to apply for financial aid if needed.