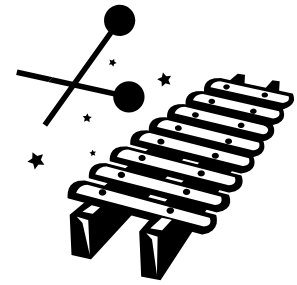




# Cedar Grove Choir & Orff 2019-2020



Tuesday, August 20, 2019

## Dear Parents/Guardians,

Does your child like to sing? Does your child like to play instruments? At Cedar Grove, we offer 2 performing groups to allow your child to grow their musical skills. Choir focuses primarily on singing and Orff Ensemble focuses primarily on playing the xylophones. Any 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, or 5<sup>th</sup> grade student is eligible to join.

### What is Choir?

A music ensemble specializing in the singing voice. We will primarily sing in unison, but also work on some two-part harmony.

### What is Orff?

A method developed by composer and music educator, Carl Orff, Orff Schulwerk incorporates speech, movement, singing, and playing. The primary melodic instruments used in the Orff approach are barred instruments such as xylophones. The children learn through exploration and are often asked to improvise and create their own music or dance. Students who participate in an Orff Ensemble will gain skills in teamwork and problem solving. They will also develop a deeper understanding of the arts because they themselves will become the composer and/or choreographer. The Orff-Schulwerk method is very much student-driven and learning is achieved through creating and experiencing rather than listening and remembering.

Your child may choose to be in one group or both groups. Each student **must bring the parental consent form** attached at the end of this letter and send **\$6.00 for a shirt**. Please read below for a detailed description of the commitments that it will require for the year. I hope this answers any questions you might have. If not, feel free to contact me by email: [rebecca.dennis@bullitt.kyschools.us](mailto:rebecca.dennis@bullitt.kyschools.us) or by calling the school: 869-3800.

### I. REHEARSALS:

Both ensembles practice **before school** from **8:40-9:05**, but on different days of the week.

**Choir- Tuesdays & Thursdays, 8:40-9:05**

**Orff Ensemble- Wednesdays & Fridays, 8:40-9:05**

All students will need to eat breakfast at home before arriving at school. If your child is a car rider, you will need to be close to the front of the car rider line so they can be one of the first group of students to enter the school. If your child is a bus rider, a few of the buses are in the parking lot when our 8:40 bell rings. If your child rides a bus that arrives later than 8:40, you may need to make other arrangements such as being a car rider or carpooling on rehearsal days. The students should come straight to the music room for rehearsal at 8:40. I will dismiss them at the 9:05 bell and they will have 5 minutes to get to their homeroom.

## **II. CONCERTS:**

**A. Dates-** Performing is an essential part of being a musician.

**ALL CONCERTS ARE MANDATORY!!!** Every student is expected to be in attendance (unless there is an emergency, illness, or death in the family). Sporting games/practices, karate, dance, etc. are not an acceptable excuse for missing a concert. **If any student misses a concert and does not have an approved excuse, they will no longer be a part of the Cedar Grove Choir.**

**December 12<sup>th</sup>**

**March ??**

**April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Winter Concert @ CGES**

**Central Area Music Festival @ BCHS**

**Spring Concert @ CGES**

**B. Festival-** The Central Area Music Festival will feature the choirs and bands of the elementary, middle, and high schools in the central county region. A small admission is charged to pay for costs of music, substitute teachers and transportation for the dress rehearsal. There will be one day to meet after school with the other elementary schools to rehearse for the festival. Parents will be responsible for providing transportation to the after-school rehearsal. There will also be a field trip during school hours on the day of the concert to travel to BC and rehearse in their facilities. More information on this will be distributed as the dates approach.

**C. Concert Attire-** All students will be required to **purchase a choir shirt for performances.** The students should wear their shirt with **nice jeans** for the daytime and nighttime concerts. Please send \$6.00 and indicate the size shirt your child will need. If your child is in both groups, they will only need 1 shirt.

### **III. Expectations-**

**A. Behavior-** During rehearsals, students must follow the expectations of the music room. These include:

- 1) Entering and Leaving Quickly and Quietly
- 2) Respecting Others and the Instruments
- 3) Raise Your Hand To Speak
- 4) Participate in Class Activities
- 5) Follow Directions

**\*\*If any student is repeatedly disrupting rehearsal, they will be dismissed from the choir.**

**B. Grades-** All students must **maintain average** in every subject. **If any teacher expresses concern that your child is falling behind in classwork, they may be dismissed from choir until the grades are brought up.**

**C. Attendance-** Since our rehearsals are only 25 minutes long, punctuality will be a necessity. If your child's bus is consistently late, you will need to bring your child to school on rehearsal days or make arrangements for a carpool. If your child is a car rider, you need to make sure you are close to the front of the line so they can be on time to rehearsal. **If poor attendance begins affecting your child's performance in choir, they may be dismissed from the group.**

Practices will begin after Labor Day. Students who have returned the signed permission slips should report to the music room as soon as they get to school. If you have any more questions, feel free to ask! I look forward to a great year working with your talented children! Thank you for supporting their interest in the performing arts!

**Sincerely,**

**Rebecca Dennis**  
Cedar Grove Music Teacher

Return this signed contract by Friday, Aug. 30th!

# Choir Contract 2019-2020

## Student Contract

**If I participate in Choir, I will:**

- 1) Be on time to rehearsals.
- 2) Bring my music to every rehearsal.
- 3) Respect and take care of the instruments.
- 4) Maintain adequate grades in the classroom.
- 5) Memorize my music and movements and be prepared for concerts.
- 6) Attend all concerts in the appropriate attire.
- 7) Follow all school rules during rehearsal, concerts, and field trips.
- 8) TRY MY VERY BEST TO BE A GREAT MUSICIAN!!!



\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Classroom Teacher

## Parent Contract

**I allow my child to participate in Orff Ensemble and agree to do the following throughout the entire school year:**

- 1) Provide the appropriate concert attire for my child on all concert dates.
- 2) Provide transportation for my child to all rehearsals and concerts and be promptly on time.
- 3) Contact Mrs. Dennis if I have any questions or concerns.
- 4) Support my child to maintain adequate grades in the classroom.
- 5) Encourage my child to practice and do their very best.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name(s) Printed

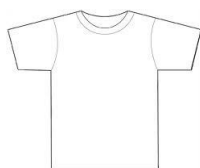
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Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email (if applicable)



Please help us save paper by providing an email address. If you provide an email, please check it regularly. If you do not have email access at home, I will still send home paper copies of all letters.



Please circle your child's size and send in \$6.00.

Youth Small   Youth Medium   Youth Large

Adult Small   Adult Medium   Adult Large   Adult XL

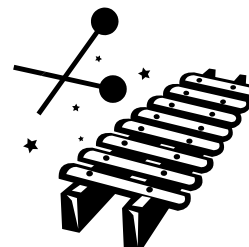
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# Orff Ensemble Contract 2019-2020

## Student Contract

If I participate in Orff Ensemble, I will:

- 1) Be on time to rehearsals.
- 2) Bring my music to every rehearsal.
- 3) Respect and take care of the instruments.
- 4) Maintain adequate grades in the classroom.
- 5) Memorize my music and movements and be prepared for concerts.
- 6) Attend all concerts in the appropriate attire.
- 7) Follow all school rules during rehearsal, concerts, and field trips.
- 8) TRY MY VERY BEST TO BE A GREAT MUSICIAN!!!



\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Classroom Teacher

## Parent Contract

I allow my child to participate in Orff Ensemble and agree to do the following throughout the entire school year:

- 1) Provide the appropriate concert attire for my child on all concert dates.
- 2) Provide transportation for my child to all rehearsals and concerts and be promptly on time.
- 3) Contact Mrs. Dennis if I have any questions or concerns.
- 4) Support my child to maintain adequate grades in the classroom.
- 5) Encourage my child to practice and do their very best.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name(s) Printed

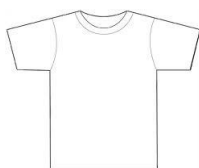
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Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature(s)

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Email (if applicable)



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