> ### Vocal Music Department Philosophy Statement
> The Waukee Vocal Music Program provides instruction and opportunities for students to collaborate with peers, develop age appropriate vocal technique, and build music literacy skills through music inclusive of different historical periods and cultures. It is the goal of the Vocal Music Department to provide students with a comprehensive education full of performance experiences that promote life-long singing and appreciation.

9th Grade Choir Description

Enrollment is open to all Waukee 9th grade students. The class will focus on choral singing techniques, music literacy, rehearsal and performance skills as well as voice building. Students will sing, study, and perform a wide variety of literature and present three or four concert programs a year. Students enrolled in curricular 9th grade choir are eligible and encouraged to audition for co-curricular musical opportunities outside of the school day such as show choir and jazz choir. Students may also audition for OPUS Honor Choir.

Students will...

- Perform expressive **intent** of music
- Perform with technical accuracy
- Demonstrate appropriate physical technique while singing
- Use sight-reading skills to perform accurate rhythmic and pitch notations
- Write using standard notation
- Demonstrate an understanding of the mutual impact of music, culture, and history
- Evaluate and critique musical performances

9th Grade Choir Course Components

1) Daily Warm-Ups
2) Daily Sight-Reading Skill Development
3) Rehearsal Repertoire
4) Listening and Response Exercises
5) Concert Performances and Reflections
6) Standard Notation Exercises
7) Lessons (approximately 10+ per semester)

Waukee CSD 6-12 Guiding Principles

- Responsive instruction and ongoing assessment are necessary for all learners to grow and progress.
- A body of evidence is used to determine proficiency.
- Course grades accurately communicate only academic achievement of the standards.
- Equitable practices and opportunities exist across all classrooms.