**PERSONAL PRACTICE GUIDE**

Each student enrolled in Olathe South Choirs is expected to log an average of 50 minutes of personal practice time each week. *(In one two week period, a student might log 45 minutes of practice the first week and 55 minutes during the second week. This would be an average of 50 minutes each week.)*  Practice logs will be turned in every **two** weeks. ***Personal Practice counts as 15% of your choir grade.***

**HOW TO PRACTICE**

1. Regular practice (10-15 minutes a day) is more effective than 50 minutes in 1 day.
2. Use the Choir Web-site (<http://olathesouthchoirs.weebly.com>) and click on the “Tracks” link. You will be asked to provide a password which is “southsings” and will be taken to the Tracks page where you can access a practice “routine” to guide you in your practice, or part tracks for music being learned in your class.
3. If you, your parent, or a friend play the piano, you can practice by picking out your choir parts on the keyboard.
4. You can meet with a friend, Dr. Sheppard, or Mrs. Holthus, before or after school or during seminar and work on music from your choir class in the choir room or a practice room. You can also use one of several computers available in the choir area to access practice tracks on the choir website.

**WHAT COUNTS AS PRACTICE?**

1. Vocal warm-ups to increase your range and flexibility
2. Solfege exercises or practicing sight reading
3. Numbering the measures in your choir music (in pencil!)
4. Practicing your class choir music, KMEA audition music, other audition music, with practice tracks, piano, or on your own.
5. Listening to tracks that provide a pronunciation guide for foreign language texts you are singing on the choir website
6. Memorizing music
7. Formal Private Voice lessons or Allegro choir rehearsals can count as 25 minutes of weekly practice on days when you have a lesson or rehearsal. Because church choirs and ensembles vary so widely from church to church, church choir or worship team rehearsals do NOT count toward personal practice minutes (but we are glad you participate!).
8. Writing solfege on your part in your music or clapping difficult rhythms in your music
9. Practicing solo music for a voice lesson
10. Other things not listed *may* count, just check with Doc or Mrs. Holthus.

**PRACTICE TIME TO MAKE-UP TWO OR MORE ABSENCES**

If you are absent from choir for 2 or more days in succession, then you can make up these days by adding an **additional 10 minutes per day absent**. Some of this work can be done ***while*** you are absent if you have access to a computer or your music.

**PERSONAL PRACTICE LOG**

A sample log is found on the back of this page, demonstrating how to fill out your log each week.