

February, 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

In July, 2019, the Ohio General Assembly passed HB 166 expanding the physical education requirement to include Show Choir. After considerable evaluation and planning, we are excited to announce the implementation of new physical education requirements which will take effect beginning with the 2020-2021 school year.

### **Show Choir and the Physical Education Waiver**

Under HB 166, Seton students may now obtain a physical education waiver after active completion of two full seasons (years) of Show Choir. Participating students will also be eligible to receive .25 credit for active participation in each year of Show Choir, to include Show Choir I, Show Choir II, Show Choir III and Advanced Show Choir I. Seton's vocal groups, the Singing Saints and the Seton Vocal Ensemble, as well as the Seton-Elder Show Choir, will be incorporated into Seton's expanded Show Choir program. All students will be required to audition and must be simultaneously enrolled in either Freshman Chorus or Concert Choir. In the 2019-2020 school year only, Seton High School may consider enrollment requests from students in the 11th grade who will be completing their second season of Show Choir their Senior year.

For information on the complete Show Choir structure, please contact Justin Kohler at [kohlerj@setoncincinnati.org](mailto:kohlerj@setoncincinnati.org).

### **Interscholastic Sports (School Sponsored Athletic Program) and the Physical Education Waiver**

Students may continue to obtain a physical education waiver after active play time and completion of two full seasons of a school sport. Students will be expected to complete the second season of a sport prior to their Junior year to ensure that she have an opportunity to complete both PE1 and PE2 in the classroom in order to fulfill graduation requirements.

Students may fulfill their physical education requirement through a waiver with two full seasons of a sport, two full seasons of Show Choir, or two semesters of classroom physical education. Students may not combine any of the options. Should a student be cut or otherwise not fulfill the requirements of two full seasons of either Show Choir or athletics, she may not be eligible for a Physical Education waiver. In this case, a student will be required to complete both PE1 (0.25 credit) and PE2 (0.25 credit) in order to fulfill graduation requirements.

### **Flex Credit and Physical Education**

Physical Education credit also remains available to Sophomore and Junior students as flexible credit if they are actively and simultaneously participating in an athletic activity that falls outside of the physical education waiver. Students must receive prior permission from the Associate Principal to participate and will be responsible for researching course

standards and developing a plan to meet the required standards. Students must also submit the recommendation of two core content area teachers to their Academic Advisor prior to participation. Please visit the [Ohio Department of Education Credit Flexibility Website](#) for more information.

**Summer Physical Education**

PE1 will be available over the summer at either Seton or Elder High Schools. The summer physical education program is designed to afford flexible opportunities for students to meet one semester of physical education requirements throughout the summer through a series of independent, individual and group activities. The dates and schedule for summer PE will be available in April of 2020. Students will be expected to take PE2 in the classroom during the school year, which is generally scheduled in the second semester.

We are confident that the expanded physical education options will give students additional flexibility to meet their physical education requirements in authentic settings while also allowing them to better tailor their educational experience by taking additional college and career ready courses which may not have otherwise fit into their schedule.

For your convenience, an FAQ is provided following this letter. Should you have additional questions, please contact your daughter's academic advisor. As always, thank you for sharing your daughter with us!

Sincerely,

Kathy Allen Ciarla '87  
President

Karen Klug White '92  
Principal

## FAQ for Show Choir / PE

1. How much physical education is required? Students are required to complete one-half unit of physical education for graduation. Both elective and traditional physical education courses require a minimum of 120 hours of course instruction to earn one-half unit of credit.
2. What are the various ways I can earn physical education credit at Seton? Students at Seton can earn physical education credit in three different ways: (1) by taking Physical Education I (0.25 credit) and Physical Education II (0.25 credit) in the classroom; (2) through Ohio's physical education waiver if a student has actively participated in two full seasons of a school-sponsored sport or two full seasons of Show Choir; or (3) through Ohio's Flexible Credit program if students are actively participating in another sport or activity outside of those offered at Seton and can independently research and prove proficiency on Ohio's Content Standards for Physical Education.
3. Can other programs in addition to Show Choir be available for a physical education waiver? No. Relative to Seton's curricular offerings, Ohio law is clear that the waiver applies only to school sponsored (interscholastic) sports and Show Choir.
4. Does participating in Show Choir mean that I need to meet similar expectations for athletic participation if I want to receive a physical education waiver? Yes. Students will be required to audition for Show Choir (similar to an athletic try-out), must meet the requirements for participation, performance and attendance and must remain in good standing as a student.
5. What is the impact if I get cut or quit a sport or Show Choir? Ohio law requires participation "for at least two full seasons." The season during which a student was "cut" or quit the activity could not be used to meet the two-season requirement. In this case, students will need to take PE1 and PE2 in the classroom in order to fulfill their graduation requirements. For this reason, Seton cautions against rising Juniors or Seniors participating in their second season of a sport or Show Choir to ensure that their graduation is not in jeopardy.
6. Can I play a sport and be in Show Choir at the same time? Most sports require daily practice as does Show Choir and each activity requires a minimum of 60 hours of instruction per season. Because of this, students will need to decide whether or not to seek physical education credit through athletic participation or Show Choir participation.
7. Can I participate in one season of Show Choir and one season of a sport in order to attain a Physical Education waiver? No. According to Ohio law, students may obtain a physical education waiver after active play time and completion of two full seasons of a school sport; or, beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, after active participation and completion of two full seasons of Show Choir. Students must fulfill their physical education requirement with two seasons of a sport, two seasons of Show Choir, or two semesters of classroom physical education – they may not combine any of the options.
8. Can I combine one semester of classroom PE with one year of show choir? No. Students must fulfill their physical education requirement with two seasons of a sport, two seasons of Show

Choir, or two semesters of classroom physical education – they may not combine any of the options.

9. Do I have to be enrolled in Concert Choir during the day to get the physical education credit? **Yes. Students are required to be concurrently enrolled in at least one semester of Concert Choir each year the student is participating in Show Choir. Concert Choir occurs during the school day and focuses on vocal skills and musicianship while all Show Choir activities occur outside of the school day and combines the vocal elements learned in Concert Choir with choreography, ensemble, and musical performance and production. Students should expect at least 60 hours of outside class time throughout the year for each year of Show Choir, similar to athletic participation.**
10. Can I sign up for Singing Saints or Vocal Ensemble without receiving credit? **No. Singing Saints and Vocal Ensemble are incorporated into Show Choir.**
11. If I am already enrolled in Concert Choir and either Singing Saints or Vocal Ensemble during the 2019-2020 school year, would that count for one season of Show Choir in partial fulfillment of the physical education waiver requirement? **No. State law prohibits schools from retroactively granting credit prior to the implementation of a waiver activity. Show Choir will only be available for credit beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. Students who are currently enrolled in Concert Choir must also audition for and actively participate in two full seasons of Show Choir in order to receive a physical education waiver.**
12. Where can I find the requirements about expectations for Show Choir? **Interested students and their families should speak to Mr. Justin Kohler for specific requirements and expectations for Show Choir. Mr. Kohler can be reached at [kohlerj@setoncincinnati.org](mailto:kohlerj@setoncincinnati.org).**
13. Can I take two years of summer PE to satisfy my physical education requirements? **No. This is not a current option. Students who took PE1 during the summer at Elder High School should expect to take PE2 in the classroom at Seton High School.**
14. How will physical education credit be listed on my transcript? **Students will see the following notation on their transcript depending on how their physical education credit was attained:**  
  
**Credit obtained through classroom PE1 and PE2, the physical education waiver for athletic participation, and flexible credit will appear on a student's transcript as Physical Education I (0.25 credit) and Physical Education II (0.25 credit).**  
  
**Credit obtained through Show Choir will appear on a student's transcript as Show Choir (0.25 credit). Because this is a newly offered option through the State of Ohio effective with the 2019-2020 school year, additional guidance may emerge regarding transcript requirements, in which case Seton will conform to any new guidelines issued through the State of Ohio.**
15. Is Show Choir included in Honor Roll or GPA? **No. Show Choir is a pass/fail course and occurs outside of the regular school day. It is not included in GPA or Honor Roll calculations.**

16. Where would Show Choir appear on my schedule? After auditioning and being accepted into Show Choir, the course would appear on a student's schedule during Mentor Group although students will not be using Mentor Group time for Show Choir activities.