

August 31, 2011

Dear Middle School choir parents,

First of all, thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to work with your child. It is an exciting time to be part of the Wahoo music department, with the opening of our new facility soon to be upon us. I cannot tell you how excited I am to showcase your child's talent in that beautiful new theatre, and trust that they will have some wonderful experiences there that will always be remembered.

Included in this letter is some important information which will help you in preparation for future music events.

ATTIRE FOR CONCERTS: Students are required to wear the black music department t-shirts for all concerts. An order form has been sent with all of the students. T-shirts are \$7.50 and the **deadline for all order forms is SEPTEMBER 15th**. Students also need to wear plain black pants, black socks and black shoes. No other shirt should be worn underneath the t-shirt. Students need to removed jewelry and nail polish so that we will look uniform. Also, hair should be worn back and away from their face, so that facial expression can be more easily seen onstage. If a student does not have the proper attire prior to a performance, they will not be allowed to perform. I appreciate your help in making sure your child has the proper clothing for choir.

If students do not already have these items, a great way to acquire them is by going to the Senior Center thrift store. I have had great luck finding these type of items for my own children there as well, and of course, they have great deals there! ☺

GRADING: Students are graded on their participation and attitude during class, and also their attendance at performances. If a student comes into class every day, does their best and attends each performance, they are going to do wonderful in my class. If a student does not sing every note right, or has pitch problems, I do not hold them against them. I do not expect them to come into class knowing how to sing everything perfectly; that is what I am here for. Each student is an individual with their own level of skill. I do my best to meet each student at the level where they are, and help them improve and meet their potential. My philosophy is that music should be fun and motivate them to want to work hard and do well. It is also my hope that they will be able to take the skills they have learned in class and apply those skills to other areas of their life as well. Learning to work as part of the "team", having a great attitude, working hard, setting goals and accomplishing those goals are just some of the important skills that I hope your child will take away from my class.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SHOW CHOIR-Show choir will begin towards the end of November. If you are not familiar with what show choir is, it is basically a group who performs music of a more popular nature with choreography. This group will compete at several competitions this year, and will also perform for a variety of community functions. Students who would like to be a part of show choir do not need to audition. As long as students are willing to come to rehearsals and work hard, they are welcome to be part of the group. While most schools hold auditions for their middle school show choir, it is my belief that every student at the middle school level should have an opportunity to explore their talents in order to discover their aptitude in a certain area.

SHOW CHOIR CLINIC-Attached is a flyer with information on a show choir clinic being held at Papillion-LaVista High School. The cost is \$35 which is a great deal considering the instruction the students will receive. This clinic is NOT required, but I wanted to at least get the information to you, hoping that your student might take advantage of this opportunity. I guarantee they will have a great time and the experience they will get from working with the clinic instructors will be very beneficial when the students begin their experience in the Wahoo show choir. It looks as if it will be a rewarding experience and a VERY FUN day!! ☺

DID YOU KNOW YOU ARE A MUSIC BOOSTER PARENT? ☺

Music Boosters is a wonderful organization that helps our students and music department with a variety of things. Through music boosters, students have an opportunity to raise money for their accounts to pay for out of pocket expenses such as music trips, uniforms, food, lodging etc.....Our music booster parents work very hard to make sure that enough money is raised every year to help our students receive financial assistance for music activities as well as for their own personal accounts. A couple of the ways students can raise money is by working the concession stands, selling soup supper tickets or working at the soup supper. Our music booster organization is always in need of help from parents, so if you are interested in helping this year, you may email our music booster presidents Brian and Char Schubauer at the following email addresses: brzyrdge@nmtc.net We would really like to get more parents involved, so please help if you can!

MUSIC BOOSTERS MEETINGS-Meetings are held in the boardroom of Wahoo High School the second Monday of the month. Our first meeting will be held Monday September 12th. We hope to see you there!

Once again, I appreciate the opportunity to work with your child. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. You may contact me by email at janderson@esu2.org or on my cell phone at (402) 957-5573. You are also welcome to send me a text if you prefer.

Sincerely,

Julie Baker-Anderson

IMPORTANT MIDDLE SCHOOL VOCAL DATES:

Saturday September 17th Show Choir Clinic
Papillion-LaVista HS
(Optional—see back of this sheet)

Sunday October 16th Theatre Open House
(Tentative) Time: TBA

Tuesday October 18th MS HS Fall Vocal Concert
Wahoo Theatre 7 p.m.

Monday December 19th MS/HS Christmas Concert
Wahoo Theatre 7 p.m.

Friday February 10th MS/HS Show Choir Comp.
Norris HS Time TBA

Wed/Thurs UNO Show Choir Comp.
Feb. 15th and 16th UNO

Thurs/Fri March 15th and 16th MS Musical “Annie, Jr.”
Wahoo Theatre 7 p.m.

Saturday March 24th Neumann MS contest
Bishop Neumann HS Time TBA

Friday March 30th Music In Our Schools
Wahoo Theatre 9:30 a.m.

Thursday April 12th MS/HS Pops Concert
Wahoo Theatre 7 p.m.

