

WESTERN HILLS CHORAL DEPARTMENT

The Note

Summer 2011

July Issue

Orientation Newsletter '11-'12

Dear Singers and Parents:

I would like to extend a warm welcome and congratulations on becoming a part of the Western Hills High School choral program! I am thrilled you have chosen to be a part of this group. There are many facets, activities, and opportunities in the choral program and this newsletter is an attempt to help you become oriented.

Know your choir:

The most important thing is to know which choir you are in! There are three choirs in the Western Hills High School choruses, all with different schedules and activities. (See second page for details.)

Communication:

Communication is the key to a smooth year. I always make announcements in class, post information on the board, and often pass out printed info in class. To ensure this information makes it home – we also email it. Another great resource for parents and students is the choir website:

www.westernhillschoir.org which is regularly updated. Check it out! Pay particular attention to the Google calendar available there! Communication is a two-way street. I will always do my best to keep you informed, but please do not

hesitate to contact me when questions or concerns arise.

Handbook:

There are two documents that will make this year go smoothly for parents and students. This newsletter gives the basics and reports upcoming events, activities, news, etc. The second is the WHHS Choral Program Handbook. This handbook serves as a syllabus and contains academic information that is important to your success. It will be passed out the first day of classes, but is also available online: www.westernhillschoir.org/forms.html.

This handbook is the first grade each student will receive and will need to be returned by the specified date with parent signature.

This will be a great year with all of the activities planned including our new M2 Lesson Program, KCA Musical Trip, and Gospel Festival along with our concert seasons!

Again, I welcome you and have no doubt that you will make tremendous memories and great friends here! I look forward to working with you!

-Tiffany Marsh

DON'T MISS the Chorus Booster Table at Freshmen Orientation Tuesday, August 2nd 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Check out the WHHS Choral Program Website



www.westernhillschoir.org

Updates on activities, forms, and program news.

Important Parent Meeting

Tuesday, August 16th 6:30 p.m. WHHS Choir Room

The meeting will cover concert attire, fundraising, schedule, M2 lesson program and other important items for the year.

There will also be the opportunity to meet and talk with Mrs. Marsh as well as members of the WHHS Chorus Booster Club.

Please make plans to attend!

Inside:

- 2 Booster Club Info
- Fundraising
- Ensemble Info

Choral Events at a Glance

UK Bluegrass Festival
September 9-10

Fall Concert
October 10

9th Grade All-State Chorus
November 4-5

Winter Concerts
December 5, 12

WHHS Choral Invitational
January 26

KMEA All-State Chorus
February 8-10

Musical
March 22-24

Spring Sing Concert
April 26

Ice Cream Concert
May 8

Spring Concert
May 15

Honor Banquet
May 17

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Booster News

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Booster Meeting Schedule

September 6

October 4

November 15

December 6

January 10

February 7

March 6

April 10

May 1

June TBA - Summer Planning Mtg.

All meetings are Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. and are open to anyone.

★ Sponsorship Campaign ★

Every year the WHHS Choral Program seeks sponsors. We ask every student to sell 2 ads that will be displayed in the chorus concert programs. The campaign runs **August 15-September 2**. Proceeds from this year's fundraisers will assist in music purchase, M2 lessons, field trips, etc. Please see the included detailed fundraiser sheet for more information. The WHHS Choral Program is willing to do in-kind sponsors of goods or services. Info, forms, and request letters can be found online: www.westernhillschoir.org/fundraise.html.

Meet the Ensembles

Men's Chorus & Women's Chorale

These ensembles are designed for beginning and intermediate choral instruction. They will provide an understanding of fundamentals of proper vocal technique, choral techniques, and music theory. The Men's Chorus and Women's Chorale have set required performances throughout the school, but are developmental based in their focus. No audition is required for enrollment. Men's Chorus meets 2nd period and Women's Chorale meets 5th period.

Advanced Chorale

This ensemble is the highest-level vocal ensemble at Western Hills. It is a performance-based class geared to expose students to a wide variety of choral literature, ranging from historical styles, cultural styles, to different languages. This ensemble has a full performance schedule all year. Adv. Chorale is open to students by audition only. This class will meet 1st period.

M2 Voice Lesson Program

Starting this year, the WHHS Chorus Boosters are offering an after school voice lesson program called Mastering Musicianship (M2). This will be open to 25 chorus students and will be on a first-come first-serve basis.

Please see the included information sheet for details.

Concert Attire

All ensembles of the WHHS Choral Program will have defined concert attire. For all members dresses and tuxedos will be provided for rental from the WHHS Chorus Boosters. The rental fee is \$35. If preferred, tuxedos can be purchased for \$100 and dresses for \$60. Students will be required to be fitted after school on one of the following dates: September 12, 13, or 14.

