



Dear Chorus Parents and Students,

WELCOME to another great year at DeSana Middle School!! **\*cue: incoherent excited noises\*** I am beyond excited to have you on board as we continue our adventure of getting a brand spankin' new chorus program on its feet!

Many students discover that being in a choral group is like having an extended family, as there is a special bond that is created among people who make music together. Singing in chorus also helps improve mental discipline, enhance social interaction, as well as develop teamwork and pride in one's work. Hopefully you (and parent/guardian volunteers!) will remain in chorus your entire middle school career and gain a lifelong interest in singing and an appreciation of music as an art form.

Students who are involved in the chorus program should be aware that being a member of chorus is different from being in any other class. We perform. That being the case, your work is evaluated on two levels: the *process* (rehearsal) and the *product* (performances). As we grow together in our rehearsal *process*, please remember that having a safe, supportive, and fun learning environment is our goal as we prepare the *product*— a wonderful performance for an appreciative audience.

That being said, here's a recap of our many success last school year:

- Top scores at LGPE (Large Group Performance Evaluation)
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade chorus scored SUPERIOR
  - 7/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mixed Chorus scored EXCELLENT
  - 7/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Treble Chorus scored SUPERIOR
- FOUR students passed two rounds of auditions to All-State Chorus in Athens, GA
- 25 students participated in District 9 Honor Chorus and Forsyth County Honor Chorus
- We put on our second ever musical
- Two 8<sup>th</sup> grade students were recipients of a RISPA performing arts scholarship

Each chorus member is required to have a concert uniform, that they will wear with black close-toed dress shoes at all concerts. In May, all chorus members will participate in our annual Super Spring Showcase. For this performance, we will have special t-shirts that will be worn with blue denim jeans.

While we do receive instructional monies to help purchase choral music and other classroom supplies, it is never enough as we work to build our brand new chorus program from scratch. **In short, we need your help.** I am asking for chorus parents to consider donating something of themselves to improve their child's brand new chorus program. A donation of \$75 per family would go a very long way to help us purchase classroom essentials such as sheet music for our music library, sound equipment for concerts, risers, etc.

If you are able to donate more, please do so. If you need to donate less, please do so. This is not a requirement in order to participate in chorus, however any and all donations are very much appreciated. If you write a check, please make it out to DeSana Middle School.

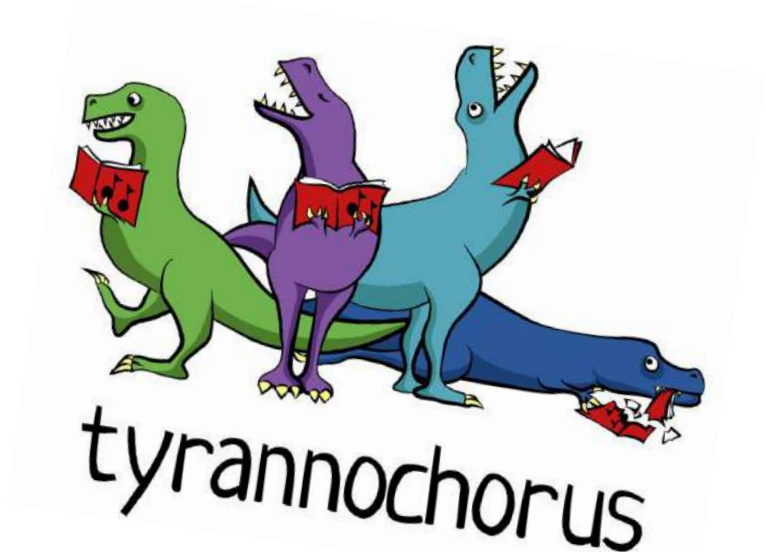
If a donation of time suits you best, please consider donating some of your time this year. There will be several opportunities to chaperone chorus trips/concerts and help in the chorus room during the day.

We're also looking for help designing a DMS Chorus logo! For information regarding student fees and parent volunteer opportunities, please keep a lookout on the DeSana website, under the Chorus Tab, or on your student's ItsLearning account.

We have a lot of work to do to get this chorus program on its feet and I hope you're as eager as I am to get started! Let's build the DeSana Middle School Chorus program to be the best it can be together! You are very important to the success of our DMS Choral Program. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

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**I**  **CHOIR**

