

September 5, 2023

## **Welcome to the Woodhaven Choir Program for the 2023-2024 School Year!**

### **Getting to know you....**

My name is Chelsea Rize and I this is my tenth year as the WHS/PHMS choir director! I earned my Bachelor's degree in Vocal Music Education from Wayne State University in 2014 and earned my masters in Music Education from Bowling Green State University in 2017. New students and parents, please note that I teach at both Patrick Henry (1st-2nd hour) and Woodhaven High School (3rd-6th hour). The phone number listed below is the WHS number, I check messages on it daily. Even if I have your student at PHMS, please contact me at the WHS number.

### **What you need to know to get started this year...**

Sending home paper announcements always seems to leave me with a pile of forgotten papers on the floor that never make it home. Instead, all communication will be through email, Google Classroom, and REMIND.

Things you can find on our website, [www.woodhavenchoirs.weebly.com](http://www.woodhavenchoirs.weebly.com):

- A copy of the 2023-2024 Woodhaven Choral Handbook/Syllabus
- **Our performance calendar!** If you download the handbook, you can print off a copy of all of the dates in list form. The Google Calendar version is at the bottom of the home page on the website. It is instantly updated with any performances and is already filled with all of the known performance dates for this school year.
- New choir apparel order form! **There will be no paper forms sent home this year.** Please use the form on the homepage of the website. Payment cannot be made online, payment must be submitted in person **in an envelope labeled with the student's name.**

### **What do I wear to the choir concerts?**

We have uniforms for the choir program. Beginning this year, the district is covering the cost of uniforms. **New choir students must fill out the uniform size form by September 23rd.** If you are in the classes 2024-2027, when you leave choir you can still request a refund for the cost of your choir uniform. You can also choose to donate the cost of your uniform back to the choir program. More uniform information can be found on the attached sheet.

### **What about emergency situations or when plans change suddenly for the group?**

In the event that communications urgently need to be made with choir members (for example, in the past we have had no school due to power outages on the day of a concert) please make sure you are signed up for REMIND texts. Parents are encouraged to join, students are *strongly* encouraged to join. You can also sign up for the texts by downloading the REMIND app if you so choose. I find it easier to use this way, but signing up for the texts is enough. Students text "@woodhavenc" or parents text "@g6k3d2" to 81010.

All other information regarding rules, grading procedures, and classroom expectations can be found in the handbook online. I look forward to making music with you this year! If you have any questions feel free to email me at [RizeC@wbsdweb.com](mailto:RizeC@wbsdweb.com) or call me at 734-783-3333 ext. 2887.

### **Classroom Procedure Highlights**

All of this information can be found online in the handbook, but here's a quick reference guide for smooth sailing in choir:

- The following items are allowed at your seat/on the rehearsal risers:
  - Folder or binder containing music
  - Writing utensil
  - Water (optional)
- Google Classroom Codes
  - 1st Hour Concert Choir:
  - 2nd Hour Treble Troubles:
  - 4th Hour Bella Voce:
  - 5th Hour Chamber Ensemble
  - 6th Hour Warrior Chorus:
- No food in the choir room!
- Bathroom Policy:
  - If the pass is there, you can leave after writing your name and time on the dry erase board.
  - Only one person out at a time.
  - **Any student gone for more than ten minutes will be considered to be “skipping” and will be marked absent.**
- Performing is a required aspect of this course, both during rehearsal and at concerts whether those concerts are during or after school hours. On a performance day students are expected to:
  - Show up on time for call.
  - Arrive in proper dress.
  - Act maturely both on and off stage.
  - Perform to the best of their abilities.
  - Failure to meet these expectations may result in a lowered performance grade.
- When considering attendance for this class, remember that choir is a group activity and every member contributes to the overall sound and performance of the choir. Excessive absences will not only result in exclusion from concerts and performances, but also negatively impacts the group as a whole. Please do your best to show up, on time, every day, ready to do your part for the ensemble.
- In regards to graded assignments
  - Students are given ample class time to complete assignments. Other than practicing singing at home there is no homework in choir and no reason for missing assignments.
  - I take late work for full credit
  - Work that is turned in on time can be corrected and resubmitted
  - Late work cannot be corrected

**INSERT A QR CODE FOR THE HANDBOOK**

**INSERT A QR CODE FOR UNIFORM ORDERS**