

August 21st, 2019

Dear 6th Grade Choir and 7/8th Grade Choir Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back! I am so excited to begin my 9th year at Hillsboro!

Attached to this letter is the choir handbook. Please read through this with your child and sign the attached slip and return it to Mrs. Lemons by Tuesday, August 27th. The handbook includes important dates throughout the school year that you will want to put in your calendars. Changes to the handbook from last year's edition are highlighted.

Officer elections are coming up! Officers will be for 7/8th Grade Choir only. The descriptions of the responsibilities of each office are included in the handbook. The president of the 7/8th Grade Choir must be an 8th grader. In order to run for office, students must make a campaign video. We will watch the videos and vote on them in class on Monday, August 26th. Students may make the videos in groups. They must have a video to be considered for an office! After the choir watches the video, they will vote. The guidelines for the video are also included in the handbook. Please go over them with your child if they are interested in an office. Students may put the videos on DVDs/flash drives or they may upload them to YouTube so that we may watch them in class. There will be a signup sheet passed around for elections.

We will again be partnering with the band to do the same fundraiser that we did last year. This fundraiser will kick off on Friday, August 23rd. We are selling the same sweet treats. Please let friends and family know that your student is selling these yummy items! We use funds to purchase music, pay for transportation expenses, and other needed items in the choral department. As always, donations are welcomed. We understand if you are swamped with fundraisers and would just rather make a donation!

ILMEA auditions are coming up in October! Many of our students auditioned and were selected for this honor last year. I would love to see even more students audition! For those parents and students who are not familiar with ILMEA District Choir, this is a select choir made up of the best singers in our district. The district stretches all the way over to Effingham and north to near Champaign. Students will prepare songs and skills to sing alone in front of a judge in October. If they score high enough on their audition, they will be invited to sing in the choir in November. This is such an amazing opportunity and is a blast! There are many students currently in choir who have auditioned that your student may talk to if they are interested. The signup for ILMEA District Choir auditions will also be passed around.

There will again be sectional time where students will get to work with me in small groups or one-on-one. I will be restructuring this sectional time to be more student-centered. More details will follow.

8th grade only: We are in preparation for our choir trip to New York City in November 2020!
Please watch and listen for announcements about meetings and fundraising for this.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions you might have. Email is always the easiest way to reach me since I am back and forth between two buildings all day.

I'm looking forward to a fantastic year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Amy Lemons

alemons@hillsboroschools.net