

Dear Students and Parents:

As our year gets underway, I would like to invite 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students to consider becoming a part of the school choir, *The Wildcat Chorale*. This is a great opportunity for students who love music to experience it differently. There are no prerequisites for joining the group. You don't have to be a great singer, either. Just sing and have fun!

The choir will be meeting for the first time on **Tuesday, Sept. 10, from 2:40-3:45**. We will practice each Tuesday at the same time. Choir will be a lot of fun, but come prepared to work hard! Please bring the following signed contract and a pencil to rehearsal.

### Expectations

- Please be on time to rehearsal, as we do not have a lot of time.
- **Behavior needs to be controlled by the student.** You are joining a prestigious group and are expected to demonstrate self control and respect. **Students not able to do this will be asked to leave the group.** This is NOT like regular music class where you will get multiple warnings.
- Students will need to arrive on time and will meet in the music room after school.
- Always arrive with music, a pencil, and a great attitude. We will be learning music from all over the world: some of it familiar and some very new styles. We will also be singing 2 and 3-part music. This can be a challenge, but is very much worth it when we create beautiful sounds.
- Choir is a team 'sport'. As such, it is absolutely necessary that we rehearse together as often as possible. Because we meet only once per week and have several different performances, students are permitted only 2 absences (for any reason) from rehearsals per semester/concert. If a student misses 3 or more he/she will be required to do a singing preparedness test for me before they are able to perform at the next concert. If a student has excessive absences from rehearsals they may be removed from the group. A singer's lack of responsibility in remembering to sign in (how attendance is taken) is not an excuse and will be counted as an absence.
- Singers are expected to practice and memorize their music at home. Practice tracks are provided to students in their Google Classroom.
- Our **season is from 9/10-12/19**. Students are expected to commit to the choir for the entire season. We rely on every student's voice and it negatively affects the group when people drop out in the middle of the season. **Please don't do that to your team!**
- Students who are new to *The Wildcat Chorale* or who need a new **choir T-shirt** will need to buy a shirt. The cost is **\$10**. The T-shirt design will remain the same each year so T-shirts can be used from year to year. This is a one time cost, as long as the student T-shirt is in good condition and still fits. Because this is an extra-curricular group there are no scholarships available. This is a part of the uniform and it is expected that all singers have a T-shirt. Students will also be asked to have a pair of blue jeans or dark pants (not leggings please; we will be tucking our shirts in) and tennis shoes to wear for concerts.
- Additionally, **there is a cost of \$15.00/singer** to help cover the cost of purchasing music and supplies **(for a total of \$25 for T-shirt and music).**

### **Rehearsals\***

Tuesdays from 2:40-3:45, beginning Sept. 10, 2024

### **Performances**

Pomona Area Vocal Celebration - Nov. 15, 2024- concert 6:30 pm

Dec. 15, 2024 at 6:00 pm - concert with 5th grade (this is a typo - should be **Dec. 12**)

Dec. 19, 2024 at 6:00 pm - Choir caroling

All events and rehearsals are posted on the music calendar, which can be accessed through my website via the school website.

I hope to see aspiring musicians on Tuesday, Sept. 10.. Please feel free to contact me at 303-982-0857 or by email at [joey.venable@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:joey.venable@jeffco.k12.co.us) if you have any questions or concerns.

Musically Yours,

Joey Venable ~ Vocal music teacher

[joey.venable@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:joey.venable@jeffco.k12.co.us)

303-982-0857 (vm)

## **Parent Meeting - Highly recommended!**

There is a parent meeting on September 3, 2024, in the music room at 6:00. It is **highly recommended** that all parents with singers interested in choir attend this meeting. This is where you will have the opportunity to learn more about the choir program and ask any questions or give input into the future of the program.



**The Wildcat Chorale Contract (this is a promise!)**

I understand that I have certain responsibilities and obligations as a member of *The Wildcat Chorale*. I understand that choir is a "team sport" and that all of the other members are counting on me to do my part, learn my music, and to attend rehearsals. I know that the group is negatively affected any time that a member does not pull their weight. I also understand that failure to fulfill these responsibilities could result in a loss of membership with the group, with NO warning.

MY RESPONSIBILITIES ARE:

1. **Staying in the group until the end of the choir season.**
2. Attending **all** practices. I understand that there are only 2 absences allowed before I have to do a singing preparedness test for Ms. Venable in order to participate at the concert.
3. Attend all choir functions with a positive attitude and with respect for other members and the community.
4. Performing in all scheduled performances/concerts. (Just as a sports team practices for a game, so our rehearsals prepare us for our concert.)
5. Take care of my music folder and know that I am financially responsible for the folder if lost (approximately \$5).
6. Learning and memorizing all choir music in time for the concert. This includes practice at home using my practice tracks (found in Google Classroom).
7. Behavior needs to be controlled by me, the student. I understand I am joining a prestigious group and am expected to demonstrate self control and respect. I know students not able to do this will be asked to leave the group.

Choir begins Sept. 10. Rehearsals begin at 2:40 pm in the music room and end promptly at 3:45. Please be sure to sign in on the attendance sheet (on the table by the door after our first rehearsal).

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am committing to the fall season of choir for *The Wildcat Chorale*. **I understand that a commitment is a promise and that as such, I will uphold all of my responsibilities (listed above) to the best of my ability so that the group will be successful. I understand that if I am not happy in the group I can only quit at the end of the season because the rest of the group is counting on me.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
student signature

I understand that my child will be expected to attend every rehearsal for *The Wildcat Chorale*. These rehearsals will be from **2:40-3:45** each week, depending on the schedule. I also agree to the student responsibilities and commitments listed above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
parent signature

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Classroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone 1: \_\_\_\_\_ phone 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent email: \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt size (**circle one if applicable**): Child S    Child M    Child L    Adult XS    Adult S    Adult M

**If you and your child would like to make a commitment to choir for the season, please fill out this form and return it along with a check or cash (\$25 for T-shirt and music) to Ms. Venable by Sept. 10. Please make checks payable to Warder Elementary. Credit card payments can be made by calling the Warder office.**