

November 17, 2021

Dear Parent(s),

Our Festival of Carols Concert is quickly approaching! **Saturday, December 4**, will be here before we know it! I hope you are as excited for this event as your students and I are.

This will be our fifth year to do a joint Holiday Concert with the choirs of Ann Smith Elementary, Highland Elementary, and Ridgeland High School. It will be a very special afternoon. Because of the amount of singers we will have participating, **we will be having TWO performances (at 4:00 and 5:45 PM)**. Students will be fed light snacks and get a break between performances. If you have a food allergy or special dietary need, please let me know so that I can make sure there is something for you to eat. Also, as a reminder, this will count for students' 1st Semester Exam grades, and their attendance is **mandatory**.

The RHS Auditorium seats 800 people (including the approx. combined 300 singers). We anticipate having a large crowd again this year. In order to keep spectators socially distanced as well, we are hoping that having two performances will resolve the seating and distancing issues.

There is no cost of admission for the audience. We will clear the auditorium in between performances, so if you wish to attend both, you will need to exit and re-enter for the second performance.

Please don't forget to make sure you have your uniform ready to go for our concert!

6th Grade girls and Ladies Ensemble:

- Black $\frac{3}{4}$ or long sleeve top
- Black dress pants
- Black closed-toe flats (boots will be OK for this concert since it will likely be cold)
- NO jewelry.
- Hair out of your face.

6th Grade guys:

- White button-up long sleeve shirt.
- Black dress pants.
- Black dress socks.
- Black dress shoes.
- Black belt (if needed).
- I will have your ties for you at the auditorium.

Chamber guys:

- Black button-up long sleeve shirt.
- Black tux pants.
- Black dress shoes.
- Black dress socks.
- I will have your ties for you at the auditorium.

Chamber girls:

- Black choir dress.
- Black stockings/pantyhose.
- Black closed-toe flats.
- NO jewelry.
- Hair out of your face.

****MASKS WILL BE OPTIONAL FOR THIS PERFORMANCE****

We will also be having an afterschool rehearsal at the RHS Auditorium on **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, from 3:45-4:45.** Car riders will be dropped off there. Bus riders will receive a bus pass from me, get off the bus at the high school, and walk over to the auditorium for rehearsal.

Students are to be at the RHS Auditorium **in their uniforms** by **2:30 PM**. We will rehearse the finale piece with ASE, HES, and RHS from **3:15-3:45**. It is imperative that you arrive on time so that we can practice on stage, work out logistics, and settle any nerves we may have!

Doors will open at **3:45 PM** for seating for the 4:00 performance and at **5:30 PM** for the 5:45 performance. The concerts will begin promptly at **4:00 and 5:45** and should end around **5:00 and 6:45**. There will also be a wreath raffle during the concert. Tickets for that are \$1.00 and can be purchased at the concert.

I am in need of **5-6 parent volunteers for each performance** to help myself and the other directors with chaperoning, monitoring students before and during the concert, helping with seating, etc. If you are interested in helping December 4 and did NOT mark that on your Parent Volunteer Interest form you filled out at the beginning of the school year, please send me an e-mail. I greatly appreciate your help! Last year's parent volunteers made ALL the difference!

Please let me know if you have any questions either via e-mail or Remind. I hope you enjoy our concert on the afternoon of December 4th !

Sincerely,

Jamie Lee Moore
OTMS Choir Director
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