



Hello WMS Choir Families!

Happy New Year from the WMS Choirs! The first semester is over, but the second semester is filled with many wonderful opportunities for kids to showcase their growing skills through singing at a variety of formal and informal performances! This newsletter includes several very important announcements. Please read everything carefully and respond accordingly.

### NEWSLETTER IN A NUTSHELL

Concert Dates (February 20 & **March 19\***)

District Choral Festival (Tuesday, February 27th)

State Choral Festival (May 6 or 7 - Tentative\*)

Extra Events for Madrigals

2nd Annual SING-A-THON (Saturday, May 18th)

Scholarship Opportunities

Music Literacy



### FEBRUARY/MARCH CONCERT DATES & DETAILS

**7th & 8th Grade: Tuesday, February 20th / 6th Grade & Madrigals: Tuesday, March 19th-NEW DATE\***

Students should **arrive by 5:45** wearing **ALL BLACK** formal concert attire in Lars Hockstad Auditorium at Central Grade School. The performance will begin at 6:30 and end around 7:30.

### DISTRICT CHORAL FESTIVAL (7TH & 8TH GRADE ONLY)

Tuesday, February 27th @ Central High School during the school day - school bus transportation will be provided. Exact times will be announced asap.

### STATE CHORAL FESTIVAL (7TH & 8TH GRADE ONLY - \*Depending on District CF Results)

Monday or Tuesday, May 6th or 7th @ Central Michigan University. More info will be available by Spring Break. School Buses would be provided. This event would take place during the school day and after school hours. Parents would be welcome to join us and/or drive separately if preferred.

### EXTRA EVENTS FOR MADRIGALS ONLY

- Mix & Mingle - Saturday, February 17th @ The Presbyterian Church of TC (701 Westminster Rd, Traverse City, MI 49686) This is a TICKETED event. More info will be available soon.
- Music Booster Concert - Thursday, May 23rd in the Central HS Gym @ 7:00 - students arrive by 5:00 for dress rehearsal.



## **SECOND ANNUAL SING-A-THON - SATURDAY, MAY 18TH** 🎸🎹🥁🎤

Details for this event, including exact times and locations, are still being finalized. Stay tuned for more information. It will most likely be from noon-6:00 at Lars/Central Grade with specific blocks of time during that six hours for certain grades/classes to be in attendance to perform solos, duets, trios, quartets, and other small & large ensembles, as well as a few large choir performances. Most songs will be selected by students with teacher approval happening before spring break to allow for plenty of practice time. We might also be pursuing the possibility of hosting this event down by the bay! This will be a fundraising event with more details available soon and we might even have a few special guest performers and food available. It's gonna be a ton of FUN! Attire is blue jeans and t-shirt. 👖👕

## **SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS**

There are several opportunities for students to apply/audition for scholarship money that can be used towards private voice lessons or a choral summer camp experience. All interested students are encouraged to complete application forms well in advance of the posted deadlines. If any student needs assistance with picking out music for the auditions, they can contact me and I will help them find music. Here are the various links to the scholarship opportunities:

Music Boosters Scholarship - Deadline for applications is Friday, Jan. 26th. [Music Booster Scholarship Application](#). Auditions take place on Wednesday, February 7 @ WSHS after school.

Grand Traverse Musicale - The application for this scholarship is available now through March 1st. Please check out the website for more information. [GT Musicale Scholarship Audition Information](#)

Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp - A BLFAC Representative, Tom McNaughton, will be at WMS on February 2nd & 5th to listen to anyone who is interested in attending BLFAC during the summer of 2023. [Online Applications](#) must be completed before auditioning. Near the end of the application, enter code 1207 when prompted. Find out more about [Scholarships for Blue Lake](#). Find out more about the [camp dates and details](#).

TCWCO Scholarship - The application information for this scholarship will be available on the [HS Choir Website](#) in the near future. Last year the TCWCO awarded Ten \$1,000 scholarships!



Music Literacy - One of the key components of developing outstanding musicians is music literacy. While Choir students certainly need to listen well to hear pitches and rhythms, the use of their sense of sight is also crucial! Recently, 6th grade students have taken a music literacy pre-test and we've been practicing identifying the following musical terms and concepts: [pitch letters](#) and [solfege syllables](#) on the treble clef and the bass clef, [rhythmic values](#) of notes and rests including dots and ties, [tempos](#), [dynamics](#), [articulations](#), [piano notes](#), [key signatures](#), [intervals](#), and more [music theory basics](#)! 6th grade students will be completing a post-test this week on Thursday or Friday. We will continue to apply our knowledge to new music as we prepare for our upcoming concerts! If you'd like to see exactly what your students are learning about music literacy, check out some of the pages on the Choir website with them and have them demonstrate how quickly they can successfully complete some of the speed challenges. You could also take the [music literacy pre-test](#) (requires a TCAPS student login) with them so they can demonstrate their knowledge!

Sincerely,

Mr. Emerick Dee

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