



North Hills District Children's Choir

2006/2007 INFORMATION

WELCOME...

...to the fifth season of the North Hills District Children's Choir! We are excited that you will be a part of our group, and know that we will have a fun time singing together this year. Please read the following information carefully, and keep this paper in a safe place at home so that you can always know what is going on.

WHO ARE THE TEACHERS?

Mrs. Susan Rossetti, music teacher at Perrysville, Seville, and West View, is returning to work with us for year number 5. Mr. Shaun Cloonan, music teacher at West View and chorus teacher at the Junior High, returns for his second year with the choir. Feel free to contact us with questions or concerns throughout the year. We can be reached via email at rossettis@nhsd.net or cloonans@nhsd.net, or by calling the buildings listed above.

WHERE DO WE MEET?

We rehearse on Monday evenings at West View Elementary School, located at 47 Chalfonte Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15229. (To reach the main office, call 412-318-1503; music room can be reached at ext. 5225). **Please use the auditorium entrance in the back of the building.** Parents should use the parking lot entrance on Bellevue Avenue. Our Winter Holiday and Spring concerts will both be held in the West View auditorium this year as well.

WHEN ARE PRACTICES?

We meet every Monday evening (following the school schedule) from 6:30-7:30PM. Due to After-School Care and possible other activities using the auditorium, *please do not arrive any earlier than 6:15PM*. We will begin promptly at 6:30 and end promptly at 7:30, unless you hear otherwise. Dress rehearsals before concerts are extended – they end at 8:00PM. Parents, due to teachers' non-school obligations, your students *must be picked up by 7:30PM*. If you know you will be unable to arrive by this time, please make other arrangements for your singer's departure. We cannot leave students unattended.

WHAT IS THE ATTENDANCE POLICY?

In order to participate in the NHDCC, singers must be at all practices and performances. You are permitted 3 absences (excused or unexcused) during the year. We only meet once day per week for one hour – every minute we have together is valuable. After the third absence, we will call home to find out if there is a problem, and you may be asked not to sing at our next concert if you do not know the music well enough. Chorus is much like a team sport; we all work together to be the best we can be, and if you miss too many practices, you won't know how to play the game (or sing the song in our case!).

WHAT IF I AM IN BAND OR ORCHESTRA?

There are no conflicts with the band or orchestra practices and concerts this year. We worked together to make sure that didn't happen when we made the 2006-07 concert calendar. You can do both!

WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING WITH ME TO PRACTICE?

Just energy and a singing voice! When you come to Monday night practices, you will sign in at the table by the auditorium door. Find the sheet that has your school name listed on it, and write your name (neatly!) under your school name. Then, find a seat and make sure that you have all of the music you need in your folder and check to see if there are any announcements you might need to take home.

At the end of practice, you must return your music folder to the box by the door where you signed in. Make sure to take home any papers with special information on them. This will help us to make sure everyone gets the information we need to have sent home.

Special note about “Dress Rehearsals”: this is a term used in the performing arts to refer to the practice just before a performance. In musicals and theater, the cast members “dress” in their costumes and run the show without stopping. We will do our best to run our concerts at these extended rehearsals, but you do **not need to dress up for them!*

WHEN ARE THE CONCERTS?

We will have two performances by ourselves at West View (December and April), one with the combined junior and senior high choirs at North Hills Junior High School (February), a performance at Northway Mall (December), and if we are invited, we will join the senior high jazz choir on their spring tour of the elementary schools (Spring). In addition, we may also sing for a School Board meeting (Spring). We're a busy group! Please refer to the schedule on the next page for specific dates. All scheduled district concerts begin at 7:00PM. Any changes will be listed.

WHAT IS THE DRESS FOR CONCERTS?

We strive to look as polished and presentable as possible, reflecting the hard work put in before each performance. We will let you know well in advance of our concerts what we would like you to wear (shopping alert for Mom: make sure your child has a “dressy” outfit before December!).

HOW WILL I KNOW IF THERE IS A CHANGE TO THE SCHEDULE?

While there are times when things change at the last minute, we will do our best to make sure changes to rehearsal times, locations, etc., get announced at your school at least once before the school day is over. And, new for this year, we will be posting our schedules, practice tracks from our CDs, photos, and any other important information on the district website. Go to nhsd.net, click on “Schools,” and scroll down to “extra curricular activities” to find the NHDCC link. Once we know a direct site link, we will send that information home. We will work to make sure the most up-to-date information is posted online, so that you can check it easily from home or work.

LET'S SING!

We want to have a really fun and exciting year together, full of singing and beautiful music. Help us to do that by attending all of our practices and performances (and letting us know if you can't be there), and giving us your best effort for the hour we spend together. So, now that you know what's going on – let's sing!

Mrs. Susan Rossetti
Perrysville, Seville, & West View
Voice Mail: ext. 5763
rossettis@nhsd.net

Mr. Shaun Cloonan
West View & Junior High
Voice Mail: ext. 5225
cloonans@nhsd.net