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August 2017

Dear Chorus Parents & Students,

I hope you had an enjoyable Summer. I would like to welcome you to the 2017-18 Choral Program! I am very excited to begin my 17<sup>th</sup> year of teaching and 13<sup>th</sup> year at South Lakes. I truly enjoy making music come alive with our students. It is my lifelong goal to bring the best music education possible to every student in my classroom.

For those who are new to the program this year, WELCOME! I so look forward to you joining our Chorus family.

**Please mark your calendars for Monday, September 25th at 7:00 PM which will be our annual "*Back to Chorus Night.*"** Back to Chorus Night (separate from Back to School Night) is designed to help all chorus families get acclimated to the new school year and understand the mission and scope of the program. ***Changes to the program, new initiatives and a comprehensive picture of this year's expectations, performances & events will be presented.***

**From 6:00-7:00 PM** New to South Lakes Chorus parents and guardians are invited to come an hour before Back to Chorus Night. Join us on September 18 at 6:00, for a New to Chorus Meet & Greet. Come meet the PCA Officers, other adults with kids in your singer's choral group, and learn more about the ways adults support the choral program throughout the year.

**From 7:00-8:15 PM** I will conduct an in depth view of the department goals and initiatives for this year in the theatre. All parents (returning and new) and new students are expected to attend (new students will be meeting separately with the student chorus officers to get acquainted and learn about the program in the cafeteria).

For those of you who are new to the program, you will find that high school choir is more than a class elective that meets during the school day. SLHS Chorus is a program of studies & organization filled with opportunities for students to expand their musicianship through many mediums. Each aspect of the program requires financial and voluntary support to keep it running at its best. I encourage you to get involved!

We are very fortunate to have a strong booster organization that helps provide first class educational opportunities to our students. Our Parents for Choral Arts (PCA) Booster board members will continue to work on how to best organize and utilize volunteers for performances and events during the year. You will have an opportunity to meet them at Back to Chorus Night and learn ways you can get involved.

For more information on the Parents for Choral Arts, contact the PCA board at [board@southlakeschorus.org](mailto:board@southlakeschorus.org)

**Our 2017-18 Board Members are:**

President, Susan Sather

Vice President, Heather Wellman-Massey

Secretary, Leslie Moore

Treasurer, VACANT – (Susan Brownsword is acting as interim)

Member at Large, Amy Shaw

Member at Large, Connie Davis

Administrative Assistant, Mitsuyo Sprague

Webmaster, Ray Van Hilst

Long-Term Music Substitute, Susan McCormick [smccormick@fcps.edu](mailto:smccormick@fcps.edu)

**Please take a moment now to download the 2017-18 Chorus Calendar and all of the 2017-18 Required Chorus Forms & Information. Completed forms are due on September 18<sup>th</sup>.**

All information is available on our website: [www.southlakeschorus.org](http://www.southlakeschorus.org)

I encourage you to contact me and/or the PCA Board throughout the school year with any concerns or questions that you may have. I look forward to seeing all of you soon!

Musically Yours, Mrs. Gigliotti