

EMS Chorus Newsletter



Volume 1, Issue 1

September/October 2013

Introduction:

Hello and welcome to the first of this year's Choral Newsletters. I am truly impressed and encouraged by the talent and hard work of this year's Chorus students. We're looking to continue to strengthen the Choral Music Department, and, with your help and support, we are hoping to have a great year!

Please take the time to peruse the following information, and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (301) 650-6650 or email me at Robert_Bowden@mcpsmd.org. Thanks for your time and support!

- Rob Bowden



Parents: Lend a Hand

Parents, there are a variety of ways you can help the Chorus this year. The biggest way is to just become involved. Attend a concert, make sure your singer has transportation to the rehearsals, or just ask your son/daughter how the group is doing. All are great ways to help. If you can give more, please feel free to contact me by email or phone.

. Thanks—and we'll be contacting you soon!

DCC Choral Concert Tues. October 22

The Eastern MS Chorus's first performance will take place on October 22, 2013 at the DCC Choral Cluster Concert. The event will be at Northwood High School (located at 919 University Blvd W in Silver Spring) and it will begin at 7pm.

Eastern MS will be one of six local middle school performing, along with three ensembles from Northwood High School. Then, the concert will conclude with a combined number of all the choirs in attendance. It should be a wonderful evening of music and a great, first performance opportunity for our singers! I'm really looking forward to our participation in this event!

Because of the logistics of this event and the difficulty in trying to organize seven schools arriving and warming up, we have an unusual call time for this event. **Students need to arrive at Northwood HS at 5:45pm** to prepare for our performance. Because parking might be tight, you may want to arrive early.



Students should wear the uniform discussed in the Choral Handbook. All singers should wear a plain white dress shirt, and black pants/slacks. Also, students should wear dark dress shoes and socks—NO white socks or sneakers. If you are unable to obtain any parts of the uniform, please contact me and we'll see if there are any extra clothes owned by the EMS Music Department, available for use. If you're unsure about whether your clothes meet the uniform requirements, please ask.

Remember that this is a required performance. All Chorus students are expected to attend, and there is a grade attached to this event. This is one of only three evening performances we will have all year, so ***please*** make arrangements to be there if at all possible.

Thank you to all and I look forward to seeing you at Northwood HS on October 22!

Fall Fund-raising Kickoff— October 30!

Our first fund-raiser of the year is almost here! On Wednesday, October 30, we kick off our first program of 2013-2014 working with Great American Fundraising to sell holiday gifts and wrap. Also available will be magazines, jewelry, and other items. There's something for everyone! Mr. Puckett and I looked at a number of options and we feel this gives us a great chance to raise some money for the EMS Music Department and its students.

The profits raised have been designated for a variety of uses. Any student planning to go on the Spring Trip may have large portion of his or her profit credited toward the cost of the trip. Choral students not attending the trip have their profits go toward the Choral Music Fund, designed to cover miscellaneous expenses such as County Festival registration fees, end-of-the-year awards, accompanist expenses or busses for field trips.

More information will be forthcoming as we get closer to our launch date.

Thanks in advance, to all students and parents, planning to participate!



Comments? Questions? Concerns?

If there's anything you've heard or read about the Chorus program, that you'd wish to comment on, or wish to discuss, please contact me at the address below. Whether by phone, email, or US mail, I'll get back to you as soon as possible, and will do my best to address any concerns. I look forward to hearing from you, and I appreciate your time and support!

Eastern Middle School Chorus

Eastern Middle School
300 University Boulevard, East
Silver Spring, MD 20901

Phone: 301-650-6650
Fax: 301-650-6657
Email: Robert_Bowden@mcpsmd.org

Visit our Website—
[www.EMS-
Chorus.weebly.com](http://www.EMS-Chorus.weebly.com)

Chorus Schedule

(See the Calendar for more details)

Cluster Concert @ NWHS	Oct. 22, 2013	5:45 (Call time)
Fall Fundraising Kick-off!	Oct. 30, 2013	In-school
MCPS Chorus Auditions	Nov. 5-7, 2013	TBA
Thanksgiving Lunch Perf.	Nov. 25, 2013	In-school
Winter Concert @ EMS	Jan. 16, 2014	6:30– 8:30pm
MCPS Choral Festival	Apr. 1, 2 or 3	In-school
Spring Trip @ Hershey	May 9, 2014	TBA

Arts Alive / Spring Concert **June 3, 2014** **6:30–8:30pm**
(*** Note the NEW DATE for the spring concert. Thank you. ***)



MCPS Honors Chorus Info—Coming Soon!

All students in Chorus will have the opportunity to audition for the Montgomery County 6-8 Honors Chorus in early November.

Audition information will be sent out to teachers in 1-2 weeks, and I will then pass it along to students and parents.

This is an optional activity but a great, musical opportunity! While auditions are in November, rehearsals and the concert will not happen until Spring 2014.

If you think you'd enjoy the challenge of auditioning for this group, keep an eye for additional details coming out in class soon!

Good luck!

Acknowledgment Slip



This part of the slip serves two purposes. It acknowledges that both parents and students have seen this newsletter and understand the contents written. A small grade is attached for all chorus students—this slip must be signed and returned.

Thanks for a wonderful start to the new school year, and I hope to see you all at our first performance this year at the Northwood HS Cluster Concert on Oct. 22!



Acknowledgement Slip:

I have read and understand the information contained in this newsletter.

Student Name—Print

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date