

2022-23 SOARING SINGERS HANDBOOK

Hello 4th & 5th Grade students and parents!

I would like to offer the fourth and fifth grade students at Riverview the opportunity to participate in our Soaring Singers choir. This handbook is to present guidelines involved with your child participating in choir and outline expectations and requirements. If you have any concerns or questions along the way, please feel free to contact me through email or voicemail any time!

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I will send out communications through the Remind app. This is how I will let you know if a rehearsal has to be canceled or changed for any reason, or if there is an update to performances. Please text @resing to 81010 to join.

It is my goal to involve every 4th & 5th grade student who wants the opportunity to participate in choir. Choir is not for everyone, but you never know if you'll like it if you don't give it a try! My goals for choir include reading 2-part music, improving vocal technique (matching pitch, singing with a pleasant tone, singing in harmony, etc), and building leadership skills in a safe and engaging atmosphere. I want all singers to feel comfortable and at ease singing in our RE choir! We will have 2 sections in our choir. Depending on the number of choir members, we may have separate rehearsals for each part. All choir members should plan to report for our first rehearsal on Wednesday, September 7th - we will begin promptly at 8:00 in the music classroom.

*****Second Semester:**

All choir members should plan to report for our first rehearsal on Wednesday, January 18th!

REHEARSALS:

We will rehearse in the Music room on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:00-8:35 a.m. **beginning on Wednesday, Sept. 7th (Jan. 18th for second semester).**

Transportation to choir rehearsals must be provided by the parent/guardian. Carpooling with other choir members is a great idea! Students should not arrive before 7:50 a.m., as there is no teacher supervision until that time. Drop off for choir will be on the east side of the school (half-way around the car loop). This will help make sure students are

safe and eliminate some of the congestion with JCPRD traffic in front of the school. I am working with a large group of students during rehearsals and I am unable to keep an eye out for non-choir members during this time. Therefore, younger siblings cannot be dropped off with choir members. I apologize for any inconvenience this may create.

This is a performance-based ensemble, and rehearsals are necessary in order to learn the music. It is very important that all choir members attend all rehearsals and performances on time unless there is an emergency or an illness. If your child will need to miss a rehearsal, please be sure to email me so that I will know. Several missed rehearsals may mean that a student is unable to perform with the group. December rehearsals may need to be adjusted, and may not be needed depending on performance dates.

Performances:

- December 1st @ RE 6:30 pm
- December 20th @ RE student assembly
- April 11th @ RE 6:30 pm
- April 13th @ MVHS - District Elementary Choral Festival 7:00 pm (students will have rehearsal around 5:00 that evening, too - details to come!)
- May 24th @ RE student assembly

Please check your calendars now to be sure your child will be able to perform with us.

Musical Selections:

Please be advised that due to the voluntary nature of the group and the liturgical aspect of much choral music, some selections of a sacred nature, patriotic literature, and songs relating to holiday celebrations will be studied.

"The District supports the inclusion of sacred music in the curriculum and in school activities provided it is intrinsic to the learning experience and is presented in an objective manner without sectarian indoctrination. The study and performance of such music within an educational context is a vital and appropriate part of a comprehensive music education. This protocol is informed, in part, by recommendations of the National Association for Music Education."

UNIFORMS:

Our uniforms will consist of a Choir t-shirt and jeans or dark pants (no leggings or sweats, please). While I do not require shirts to be tucked in, please be sure singers

look “put together” for performances! Also, consider student’s growth during the school year - order the size you think your singer will need for the whole year.

Choir permission forms need to be submitted (Google form linked below) by Wednesday, August 31st (December 18 for second semester). There will be a \$30.00 yearly choir fee due by August 31st also (\$20.00 for those joining in second semester). This will help offset the cost of choir music and materials, and includes this year’s choir t-shirt. Please place the fee (check made out to Riverview or cash) in an envelope with your student’s name and “CHOIR FEE” on the front. This can be returned to your singer’s homeroom teacher. No student will be excluded from the choir due to the inability to pay the fee. Please contact me, Mrs. Turpin, or our Counselor, Mrs. Munsey, to find out about choir scholarships.

The spring choir usually starts rehearsing in mid-January. Look for communication in early January detailing the second semester rehearsal dates and performances.

Don’t hesitate to email me (ejkellogg@usd232.org) or call me at school (441-0808 ext. 2419) if you have any questions.

I’m looking forward to a fantastic choir season!

If you’re ready to join Soaring Singers, click [HERE](#) for the sign-up form! I’m excited to have you as part of this amazing ensemble!!