

Hopewell Middle School

Chorus & Orchestra

To: Parents of Seventh Grade Chorus & Orchestra Students

From: Donna Fallis & Teresa Hoebeke

Re: **Performance Trip to Dollywood**

We are very excited to announce that the HMS 7th Grade Chorus & Orchestra will be traveling to Dollywood in Pigeon Forge, Tn. for the Music in the Parks Festival this year. Our travel plans are coming together for this fun & exciting festival competition. We are looking forward to this tremendous opportunity for our Chorus and Orchestra students this spring.

Our tentative itinerary will begin with a morning departure from Hopewell on Friday, May 12, 2017. Upon arrival in Pigeon Forge, we will head directly to our performance location for the music festival. Our afternoon & evening will consist of visiting WonderWorks, the Dixie Stampede dinner theater, and hotel check-in. We will spend a fun-filled day on Saturday at Dollywood. We are scheduled to arrive at Hopewell late in the evening on Saturday, May 13, 2017.

The cost of this trip is $370.00 (with full buses). The cost includes hotel, transportation, festival registration, Dollywood ticket, WonderWorks, Dixie Stampede, and some meals (Friday dinner, Saturday hotel breakfast, & Saturday lunch at Dollywood). Students are asked to bring a sack breakfast and lunch, as well as snacks and drinks for the Friday bus ride. Students will need to bring money (@$12.00-$15.00) for one meal (Saturday dinner at Dollywood). Students should also bring extra spending money for snacks and/or souvenirs while on the trip. Please continue to check the Chorus and Orchestra websites for additional information about these events and other important information about the trip.

There will be a limited scholarship fund for partial payments, but scholarships will not be used for the initial $50 deposit. If you would like to contribute to the scholarship fund, it would be most greatly appreciated. If you would like to request scholarship assistance, please notify Mrs. Fallis (chorus) or Mrs. Hoebeke (orchestra).

Parents who wish to accompany their student as chaperones on this trip will be able to join us for the amount of $425.00 per person (double room) plus meals. Chaperones will be required to undergo a background check and fingerprinting as per Fulton County policy. Chaperone badges will be good for two years.

Please read the following information regarding fingerprinting:

1. All chaperones have to be fingerprinted by Fulton County Schools at 6201 Powers Ferry Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30339.
2. No appointment necessary.  FCS will fingerprint chaperones on Thursdays and Fridays between 9-11am

Or 2-3pm ONLY.

1. There is a fee due of $44.25 for printing which has to be in the form of a money order or cashier’s check made payable to:  Fulton County Schools.  **No Cash, no credit cards, no debit cards, or personal checks accepted**.

**The trip payment schedule is as follows:**

1st deposit due Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at $50.00 per person **non-refundable**

2nd payment due Friday, January 20, 2017 at $100.00 per person

3rd payment due Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at $100.00 per person

Balance due Friday, March 24, 2017 at $120.00 per person **($175.00** **for parent chaperones)**

All checks are to be written to **HMS with your child’s name on the check**, and given to your student’s music teacher. Cash will be accepted. *Please pay careful attention to the payment schedule and adhere to these dates so we do not incur penalties for late payment.*

It is necessary for students to meet some basic standards in order to qualify to participate in this trip. This is essential for assuring the educational quality of the trip and for the safety of the students.

1. **Performance Requirements:**  The student must demonstrate positive effort and preparation in class and other performances.
2. **Academic Requirements:** The academic performance of a student should reflect a positive effort. The classroom teachers may be consulted for verification.
3. **Conduct Requirements:** The conduct of the student should demonstrate that he/she is a responsible individual, 3’s in conduct do not reflect this responsibility. An ISS or OSS will result in ineligibility. In addition, students must demonstrate a willingness to comply with the school’s dress code.
4. **Final Decision:** The music teachers along with the administration of the school reserve the right to make the final decision on the eligibility of the student.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our students and we hope you will consider joining us!

Sincerely,

Donna Fallis & Teresa Hoebeke