



Graham Elementary Choral Program

September 2008

Dear Parents,

Thanks for the interest that your student has shown about becoming part of the Graham choral program! This year promises to be a fun and exciting one for our school choir. We have great plans and a great choir tradition here at Graham to carry on.

For those students who were with us last year, each 5th- and 6th-grader will still be meeting twice a week this year; the rehearsal schedule will look like this:

5th Grade: Tuesday mornings, 10:05-10:35am
Thursday mornings, 7:35-8:35am

6th Grade: Tuesday mornings, 9:30-10:00am
Thursday mornings, 7:35-8:35am

Free bus transportation will be provided to students for the early-morning rehearsal times. Students will be arriving on these buses at Graham E.S. between 7:20am and 7:25am on....

(please see other side)

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2008-2009 Graham Choir Sign-up Form

- ☺ We are excited about having a fun year in choir!
- ☺ We understand the commitment involved in being part of the Graham choir.
- ☺ We agree that the student listed below will be a regular attendee at rehearsals and performances.

Please sign us up!

Student name: _____

Grade level: _____

Classroom teacher's name: _____

Student signature: _____

Parent signature: _____

(Please detach and return the bottom of this page to the student's classroom teacher by Friday, September 12.)

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....Thursday rehearsal mornings. More information will follow.

Students signing up for choir have two rehearsals to change their minds. After our first two rehearsals, students are committed to at least our first season of performance (September-January). A new rehearsal/performance season will begin in February and will continue into the spring. Students will also have an opportunity to try out for our all-school Honor Choir, a select group of students who will be participating in the annual Bethel District Choral Festival in March. Exact choir performance dates and times will be announced as soon as possible.

Attendance procedures are similar to what they have been in previous years:

- Absences resulting from sickness, doctor appointments, etc. are excused. Excused absences will not count against a student's choir attendance record.
- Rehearsals missed due to inappropriate behavior or incomplete classroom work will be marked unexcused; as well as any unexplained absence.
- After a student's third unexcused absence, he/she will automatically resign from choir.

Thanks again for your interest and for taking the time to read this letter. If your student would like to participate this year, please fill out the bottom of this letter, detach it **and return it to your student's classroom teacher by Friday, September 12**. Day-time rehearsals will begin almost immediately, and early-morning rehearsals will start as soon as possible.

Here's to a great upcoming year!

Mr. Mike Hoye

Choral Director



Graham Elementary Choral Program

September 2008

Dear Parent,

Thanks for supporting your student's involvement in Graham's Choral Program this school year. We are excited to have your student participating.

We're writing this letter to request important feedback from you regarding the mode of transportation that your student will most likely use in getting to school for our once-a-week early morning rehearsal (Thursdays, 7:35-8:35 am, for ALL 5th/6th grade students). Please fill out the bottom portion of this page, detach it and return it with your student to their classroom teacher by Friday, September 12.

The transportation options are as follows:

- *Students who are within walking distance may choose to walk to school.
- *For parents who prefer, students may be brought to school on Thursday mornings...

(Please see the other side of this page.)

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2008-2009 Choir Transportation Survey

Please choose one (or more) of the transportation options that work best for you:

- We'll be providing our own transportation (or will have our student walk to G.E.).
- We will be providing our own transportation. We are also available to provide a car-pool vehicle for _____ students who need it.
(how many?)
- We would like information on being part of a car-pool.
- We would like to make use of the Graham-Kapowsin/Frontier bus on Thursday mornings.

Comments/questions: _____

Student's name: _____ Parent's name(s): _____

Address: _____

Home/work phone: _____ Classroom teacher's name: _____

(Please detach and return the bottom of this page to the student's classroom teacher by Friday, September 12.)

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...by family car and should arrive by about 7:30 am. (If you would like to find out about possible car-pool arrangements OR if you yourself could be a car-pool driver, please let us know by filling out the option at the bottom of the previous page.)

*Free bus transportation will be provided for students who desire it. On Thursday mornings, students will catch the nearest bus that goes to Graham-Kapowsin HS & Frontier JH and then make a transfer to a bus going to Graham Elementary. (For the first few Thursdays, Mr. Boynton or Mr. Barrett will help kids when they arrive at Graham-Kapowsin HS.) Students will be arriving at Graham E.S. between 7:20 am and 7:25 am. This option is free to the student (and paid for by the district). While the student would be spending more time on the bus this one day a week, this option still provides a reliable transportation possibility for those who need it. (Exact bus-stop and pick-up time info will be provided soon.) Last year, the bus option worked very well for those who chose to use it.

Please fill out the bottom of the previous page and **return it to your student's classroom teacher by Friday, September 12.** Early-morning rehearsals will begin as soon as we can get all student information in and processed.

If you have any questions, we are available by phone at school, (253) 683-8500, and by e-mail (mhoye@bethelsd.org and kboynton@bethelsd.org). Please feel free to call us. Thanks again for working with us as we seek to provide outstanding opportunities for your student's growth.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Mike Hoye

Choral Director

Mr. Kelley Boynton

Principal