

# Welcome to the 2019-2020 South High Vocal Music Department!

This is NOT a joke, or a prank. I have borrowed this idea from friends of ours from across the Mid-West (*Special shout out to Franklin Central for allowing me to use portions of their letter in ours*). You will need to read the **ENTIRETY** of this letter before you can see the results from the 2019-2020 South High Vocal Music auditions.

The purpose of this letter before seeing the results for 2019-2020 choirs is simple: some of you will be thrilled with the choir(s) you were selected for, while some of you will be upset and/or disappointed. I hope you understand that EVERY student is important to the vocal music staff, and we want to make sure you are placed in the ensemble that will challenge you to reach your potential and still manageable for where you are at now.

*If you end up being excited for where you have been placed, please keep this in mind:*

## **Be Excited**

- Congrats! You get the honor and privilege of being a part of something bigger than yourselves. Many have carried the preverbal torch before you, and you now have the **privilege** to do so. Carry it with Honor, and Respect.
- There is nothing wrong with the excitement/unknown of the next school year! Just remember, your excitement might bring pain/heartache to others. Be careful how, when, and with whom you share your joy.

## **Be Humble**

- Your placement in your desired ensemble is a privilege. There are others that worked hard and wanted your place.

## **Be Ready**

- Just because you've reached your goal DOES NOT MEAN you can/get to become complacent/lazy and just show up. This is not the end of your hard work, **it is merely the start of a long and rewarding journey.**
- **Remember, X=X. What you put into these ensembles is what you will get out of it.** If you come to every rehearsal/performance with a fiery passion, you will get the results you are looking for and **then some.**
- **Don't Wish for it – Work for it.** Work hard to make your edition of each ensemble the best we've ever been.

*If you end up disappointed in where you have been placed, please keep this in mind:*

## **Be Strong**

- If you think we've made a mistake, there is nothing better than being proved wrong by a student who takes their placement and absolutely shines. It helps if you ask yourself the following questions:
  - Did I/Do I sing/dance (for show choir) as well as I possibly can? Do I have room to grow?
  - Have I put forth the most effort in at ALL times?
  - Am I living up to rehearsal/behavioral expectations (off of phones, respecting others?)
- Your value in life and society IS NOT determined by which Ensemble(s) you sing in next year. **You are a wonderful, beautiful individual who has so much to look forward too. The sun WILL rise tomorrow. The year will carry on.** 99.9999% of the world's population doesn't even know or care about these lists. It might hurt for a while, but adversity is an opportunity to grow.

## **Be Hungry**

- Congrats! You get the honor and privilege of being a part of something bigger than yourselves. Many have carried the preverbal torch before you, and you now have the privilege to do so. Carry it with honor, and respect.
- If you want feedback from your auditions, schedule a time with Gruttemeyer sometime next week. Remember feedback is only that – a tool for you to learn and grow from.
- Come in with a **STRONG** desire to showcase your talents. If you are an incoming or current 9<sup>th</sup> grader, remember that **YOU'RE YOUNG!** There is so much growth ahead of you in nearly every aspect of your life, including Choir!

## **Congratulations and welcome to all!**

We look forward to seeing and most importantly HEARING the [2019-2020 South High Choirs](#) next year!

*Mr. Gruttemeyer, and Mrs. Bolton*