

Dear 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students and Families,

## Forestview 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir

You are invited to join **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir** next fall and become a part of the legacy of choir music in the Brainerd Public Schools! On April 4<sup>th</sup>, students saw a performance by the 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls choirs. Throughout the week, students visited the choir room to talk with the choir teachers, Mrs. Swanson and Mr. Aulie. We were thrilled to meet with so many students eager to hear about music opportunities in 6<sup>th</sup> grade!

In our 6<sup>th</sup> grade choir program, any student can join choir and learn about singing. We sing a wide variety of music, ranging from music that is over 500 years old to music that you might hear on the radio. Students are split into three groups: boys, purple girls, and blue girls. The girls are not assigned a voice part that is “high” or “low;” rather, every girl is taught and encouraged to explore her voice by singing both high and low within the purple and blue sections. Boys are encouraged to sing throughout their voice change; no matter whether or not the process has begun, we embrace each stage of the changing voice! If you are uncomfortable singing or think you might not be “good enough,” don’t worry! We will teach you.

With the exception of our two evening concerts, all choir activities take place during the school day. You will not miss any regular classroom time to be in choir. Students who are in choir (and even in band / orchestra), will still have room in their 6<sup>th</sup> grade schedule for art, multimedia, phy-ed, all core classes, recess, and more. Students in choir include boys, girls, tennis players, football players, members of Student Council, members of church youth groups, and more. We appreciate your shared talents!

If you are interested in joining choir, **fill out and return the form at the bottom of the page**, or **fill out a form online** at <http://www.brainerdmusic.org/6th-grade-choir-registration.html>. I will contact you regarding the 6<sup>th</sup> grade schedule as the new school year approaches. If you are eager to get a jump-start on your singing, I invite you to sign up for the beginning voice lessons or piano lessons offered through the Community Education brochure, or attend **Summer Choir Camp** (more info will be sent home after registration).



Please call or email with any questions at any time, and feel free to check out the Brainerd Music website at [www.brainerdmusic.org](http://www.brainerdmusic.org). I look forward to meeting you!

Lucy Swanson, Forestview Choirs  
School phone: 218-454-6172  
Email: [lucy.swanson@isd181.org](mailto:lucy.swanson@isd181.org)

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## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir Registration Form

Return to Mrs. Swanson in the Choir Room

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Pod: \_\_\_\_\_ 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

## Questions About Choir

### 1. “I don’t know how to sing! And I’m scared to sing by myself!”

Don’t worry! In sixth grade choir, you will never be asked to sing by yourself, and you are never graded on how “well you sing.” All students learn to sing in a group and are encouraged to have fun singing, no matter your experience or ability.

### 2. “I’m in sports, and I’m busy! Will choir fit in my schedule?”

Yes! Choir does not conflict with other activities, and will fit in any student’s schedule. Choir students are involved in hockey, wrestling, basketball, soccer, football, FYAC, Knowledge Bowl, speech, dance, gymnastics, and a number of other sports and activities.

### 3. “Will I be a Soprano or Alto? What if my voice changes?”

In Forestview choirs, girls are not split into groups that sing “high” or sing “low.” Yes, you may enjoy singing high or low, but you will not be labeled a “soprano” or “alto” until high school choir. Boys are provided instruction and singing parts for all stages of the changing voice. We openly accept all boys in choir, and can help with “squeaking,” “voice cracks,” and all exploration while a boy’s voice changes!

### 5. “Do boys sing?”

Yes! Forestview has a 6th grade boys choir, 7th grade boys choir, and 8th grade boys choir. Our boys choirs are very active, energetic, and fun! The 7th and 8th grade boys choirs participate in the “Real Men Sing” Festival in Staples, MN, and our students have a chance to audition to be a part of the State Honor Choir.

### 4. “How can I become involved in singing?”

*6th Grade Choir at Forestview:* Turn in the registration form to Mrs. Swanson at Forestview

*Summer Choir Camp:* You will receive a brochure in the upcoming weeks

*Summer Voice / Piano / Music Lessons:* You will receive a brochure in the upcoming weeks