

# PORTAGE NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

## CHORAL DEPARTMENT

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26 September 2017

To the Parents and Guardians of PNMS Music Students:

We are very excited to have your children participating in music this year! This school year promises to be a successful year, and I would like to share with you the details of a very special opportunity for your child.

Beginning in 2004-2005, we formed a small ensemble of PNMS 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade choir students that performed at NMS Choir concerts. In 2005 we added a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade small ensemble as well. We will form a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Select Choir only this year. This group will be picked based on interest and an audition with me in the choir room on September 26 from 3-4 PM. The audition will consist of the student singing "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" or "Happy Birthday" with piano accompaniment and without as well as a short section of a new piece that will be introduced to the students on the day of the audition. I will also look at the student's grades in their music class (if any exist up to that point), and their effort and attitude during their music class.

**Select Choirs:** The choirs who meet during the school day are non-auditioned and are part of the school curriculum. Mr. Jordan will be forming an extra-curricular choral ensemble this year for sixth graders depending on interest and best educational practices. The students who audition for the sixth grade select choir must be able to attend a one-hour rehearsal once a week beginning at 3:05 PM on each Tuesday that school is in session. There is not a set size for this group, and admittance to the group will be determined by a hard working attitude, behavior in their regular music class, vocal health, vocal skill, and a vocal audition. Attendance is mandatory; the choir will meet weekly while school is in session during the school year. Poor behavior or poor attendance (two unexcused absences) will result in a parent/teacher meeting or phone call, and if the problems do not improve the student will be removed from the group. You should have a ride home arranged with a family member or someone you trust to transport your child.

A Choir Calendar of performances will be distributed in rehearsal. All Select Choir members must attend and perform at all of the performances which list the Sixth Grade Choir as participants. The calendar and syllabus are also available on my Google Site at <http://rjordan.site.portageps.org/>

If you have any questions at all, please feel free to email me. I'm sure you will be very proud of the hard work your children have been doing.

Sincerely yours,

Robert C. Jordan  
Director of Choral Music  
Portage North Middle School