

Dear Parents,

August 10 , 2015

I am very excited that your child has shown an interest in becoming a member of the Singing Jaguars. Third, Fourth, and Fifth Grade Chorus will be offered on Wednesdays after school from 1:50 - 3:00 P.M. beginning on September 9th and ending in May. Transportation home will have to be provided by the parents. If your son/daughter will be going home with someone other than yourself or walking home, I will need a letter stating your intentions. If an emergency arises that interferes with transportation for your child, please contact me at school and I will accommodate him/her. After reading through the remainder of this handbook, please complete the on-line form by **Friday, September 4th** titled: **Singing Jags Student Information Form – 2015-2016** on Mrs. Isabelle's website:

<http://teachers.stjohns.k12.fl.us/isabelle-k>

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE A CHAPERONE, THERE IS A "VOLUNTEER FORM" THAT YOU CAN FIND ON THE ST. JOHNS COUNTY DISTRICT WEBSITE THAT MUST BE COMPLETED EACH YEAR EVENTHOUGH YOUR INFORMATION MAY NOT HAVE CHANGED. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, FOR THERE ARE TWO CHORUS

PERFORMANCES IN OCTOBER! There is also a \$50.00 "Fair Share" fee. The forms and \$50 need to be returned to me by **Friday, September 4th**. **However, if you are not able to pay the full amount by Friday, September 4th, please pay \$25 by that date, and pay the remaining \$25 by Wednesday, October 7th.** No refunds will be provided. The children also need to bring a white 1/2" 3-ring binder with pockets to every rehearsal. The first rehearsal is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 9th!** ☺

I believe it is important for parents and teachers to support one another and to work together. I hope to see many of you as chaperones and to help out during the performances we will have. Thank you for your cooperation. I'm really looking forward to working with your child!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kathe Isabelle***E-Mail Address: Kathe.Isabelle@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Mrs. Allison Olson

My Philosophy for Teaching Chorus

Singing is a universal language all its own and is a channel for all types of expression. For instance, when someone is happy he/she may sing a fast, upbeat song. On the other hand, when someone is sad he/she may sing a slow, subtle song. Singing is also educational. The lyrics to songs tell stories so people can learn a lot from studying the words.

Chorus is a great way for students to express themselves and also be a part of a group at the same time. I feel that being a part of chorus will be a memorable experience and I look forward to sharing those experiences with your child.

Rules:

Students who are in chorus are expected to follow these rules:

1) Attend all rehearsals.

Consequences: Students who have more than 3 unexcused absences will be dismissed from chorus. I will notify the student's parent(s) after the second unexcused absence.

2) Attend all performances.

Consequence: Students who miss one performance, and I have not received a note from a parent or guardian will be dismissed from chorus pending discussion with the student's parent(s).

*** Every voice is important at each performance, whether or not a child has a speaking or dance part. We work together as a team!

3) Wear the chorus uniform to all performances.

Consequences: First Time: Students who do not wear their chorus uniform will be asked to sit out of that performance, and their parent(s) will be notified.

Second Time: Students who do not wear their chorus uniform to more than one performance, will be dismissed from the chorus.

4) Speak and act in a respectful manner.

Consequences: First Time: Warning

Second Time: Time Out - Notify parent(s) by letter that will need to be returned to Mrs. Isabelle the next day.

Third Time: Dismissal from chorus.

5) Keep all gum for lunch and recess.

Uniform

The students are required to wear their uniform to all performances. Students who are not dressed in the complete uniform, will not be allowed to perform. The uniform is as follows:

1) Royal blue polo shirt with “Jaguar” embroidered logo in gold with white lettering (For indoor performances only – Ex. JCE’s cafeteria, and airport)

*** I will be ordering the shirts from O’Meara’s Advertising Specialties, so you do NOT need to shop for one. My goal is to have all the students look the same, and alleviate you from having to shop!

*** Royal blue T-shirt with silkscreen print on front/back (For outdoor performances only, and Spirit Days (Wednesday’s) Ex. “River of Life Fall Festival ”

*** I will be ordering the shirts from O’Meara’s Advertising Specialties, so you do NOT need to shop for one. My goal is to have all the students look the same, and alleviate you from having to shop!

2) Solid tan (only) slacks (girls and boys)

Stores sell out of these fast, so I would try to buy these as soon as possible!

*** Jeans are not permitted for any of the students.

*** The slacks may be found at stores such as: Bealls, Walmart, Target, Sears, Belk, Dillard’s, JCPenney, or the JCPenney’s Back to School Catalog.

4) Black shoes (flats, no heels) girls and boys

*** Sneakers are not permitted for any of the students.

5) Navy (only) ankle socks for the girls

6) Navy (only) ankle or crew socks for the boys

Unless indicated below, I give permission for my child’s picture to be included in photos on the school website, newspaper, or other media.

Please sign below and return to Mrs. Isabelle. Keep the rest of the handout for reference during the year.

Student Name _____

Student Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date _____

_____ I do not give permission for my child’s picture to be used in publicity photos in the school website, newspaper, or other media.

Performances

The Singing Jaguars perform frequently . All of the students will be required to make-up all school work that is missed due to a performance. The following list of performances is **TENTATIVE**. I will send home a letter/permission slip at least two weeks in advance of each performance.

Friday, October 16th : Foreign Language Conference (Renaissance Resort)
Time: Evening - TBA.

Saturday, October: River of Life's "Fall Festival"
Time: Morning or Afternoon - TBA

Thursday, December 3rd: Jacksonville International Airport – 11:00 A.M.

Tuesday, December 8th: Holiday Concerts in JCE's Cafeteria
1:30 P.M. for students/faculty
6:30 P.M. for family and friends

Friday, March or April: Family Fun Day's Pasta Dinner Performance - Cafeteria
Time: 6:30 P.M.

Tuesday, April 26th: Spring Concert – Cafetorium
1:30 A.M for students / faculty
6:30 P.M. for family/friends

Wednesday, April 27th: "Pizza Party"/Movie – Music Room! ☺
1:50 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Friday, May 6th: Jacksonville International Airport (TPC Week) – 11:00 A.M.

Fair Share

The amount is \$50.00. **Families that have more than one child participating in chorus, “buy one, get one half off” will apply! ☺** **If your child is in 4th or 5th grade, and he/she will also be participating in JCE’s band program, ONLY the band fee will need to be paid, NOT the chorus.** Also, if there is a financial hardship, please let me know. No child should be left out for financial reasons! The forms and \$50.00 need to be given to Mrs. Isabelle by **Friday, September 4th**. **However, if you are not able to pay the full amount by September 4th, please pay \$25.00 by that date, and pay the remaining \$25.00 by October 7th.** No refunds will be provided.

What Will The Fair Share Cover?

- 1) Two chorus uniform shirts
- 2) Purchasing choral music
- 3) Purchasing accompaniment CDs
- 4) Purchasing Props
- 5) Purchasing sound equipment as needed.
- 6) Busses for performances such as the Jacksonville International Airport, otherwise the cost will need to be paid by the students as a field trip fee.

Chorus Contract

- 1) I agree to participate in chorus the entire school year.
- 2) I agree to attend all rehearsals.
- 3) I agree to attend all performances.
- 4) I agree to wear my chorus uniform to all performances.
- 5) I agree to exhibit excellent behavior in rehearsals and performances.

Signature of Student

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Please return this form and \$50 to Mrs. Isabelle by Friday, September 4, 2015. No refunds will be provided.

Student's Name _____

Homeroom Teacher _____

Parent's Names _____

Mom _____

Dad _____

Address _____

Home Phone Number _____

Parent's E-Mail Address _____

***This address is very important because I plan on communicating this way in addition to sending home letters.

Work Numbers

Mom _____

Dad _____

I would like to be a chaperone on a chorus field trip (Performance).

Yes _____ No _____

***Be sure to complete the "Volunteer Application Form." ***

I would like to help serve refreshments at a chorus concert.

Yes _____ No _____

*** Be sure to complete the "Volunteer Application Form." ***

Transportation Form

Please place a "√" on the appropriate line.

_____my child will be a car rider Wednesdays following Chorus rehearsal.

_____my child will be a walker/bike rider Wednesdays following Chorus rehearsal.

_____my child will be going to Extended Day on Wednesdays following Chorus rehearsal.

Student's Name

Parent's Name

*****Please return this form to Mrs. Isabelle by **Friday**, *****
September 4, 2015.

Chorus Shirt Sizes

Please place a (✓) on the line next to the correct size. The sizes are fairly true to size. I have a sample of each size if you would like to try one on your son/daughter. Please schedule a time with me. Available times are 8:00 A.M. - 8:30 A.M. - Monday-Friday, 3:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M. - M, Tu, Th., Fri.

Parents do not need a chorus uniform shirt in order to be a chaperone. You may wear whatever you want. ☺

*****PLEASE** note: The polos run a bit smaller than the T-shirts.

Children's Sizes

- _____ Small (6-8)
- _____ Medium (10-12)
- _____ Large (14-16)
- _____ X – Large (18-20)

Adult Sizes

- _____ Small
- _____ Medium
- _____ Large
- _____ X-Large

Student's Name _____

Parent's Name _____

Please return this form and payment to Mrs. Isabelle by **Friday, September 4th**. No refunds will be provided.

Volunteer Form

I would really love help in the following areas if you can spare some time!
☺ ***If you would like to be a chaperone, you MUST complete the “Volunteer Application Form” that can be found on St. Johns County’s District website. This is a state requirement.

(Please check any activity you would like to help with, based on your interests and abilities)

- ___ Calling parents to be chaperones for performances away from school.
- ___ Coordinating refreshments following the Tuesday, December 8th performance.
- ___ Creating and teaching a dance(s) for a song (s).
***This would be a tremendous help for me! ☺
- ___ Making props (Ex. Signs) for a performance. This may be done at home.
- ___ Sewing props (Ex. A cloak to be worn around someone’s shoulders).
- ___ Teaching sign language for a song(s) to students.
- ___ Video Taping concerts/making copies of CD’s and DVD’s of concerts.
- ___ Decorating for concerts.

Parent’s Name: _____

Parent’s Signature: _____

Student’s Name: _____

Contact Number: _____