Show Choir Parent Survey

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your continued support as our students complete our second competition season! The choral program saw some growth this year as Diamonds grew from 17 to 35, and Encore grew from 37 to 43. Both groups made great strides in singing beautifully as a choir! Every year, things will get easier and easier as we figure out how to fit a new, yet big activity into the many things going on at Walker High School, as well as how to operate like a big time show choir. A couple things I’ve learned:

1. I feel I have a clearer picture for next year on what the timeline is from August to March in regards to learning and perfecting our competition sets, costuming, funding, etc.
2. How to locate more quality costumes at a more affordable price.
3. HOW TO SCHEDULE AFTER SCHOOL REHEARSALS!!! Next year, in the fall, Diamonds will meet every Wednesday from 3:15-5:15 (no band conflicts!) and Encore will meet every Thursday from 3:15-5:15 (no band OR football conflicts!). A consistent rehearsal time that we know about in May will allow us to properly adjust our schedules long before August (scheduling dance classes, preparing bosses for time off needed, etc.), and will NOT have to stay until 9:00 at night anymore (not sure about the spring yet)

I hope this experience has been a pleasant one for you! Every year, we will learn and make adjustments. As more people see exactly what competitive show choir can look like and what potential we must reach, we get a clearer picture of what it takes. I want to push us a far as possible, but I want a good understanding of how far is too far too fast. Please give me your feedback so I can make some decisions regarding next year.

1. An average student fee for show choir across Alabama and Mississippi is $800-$1200 (depending on if they compete somewhere like Orlando or not). What are your thoughts on fees being in that range? Lower fees make it harder to locate costumes that fit and compliment each member. Higher fees allow for more highly qualified choreographers and clinicians to come in and work with our students, as well as higher quality costumes in which all members can feel comfortable on stage and still look good.

2. I try send home several printed schedules and letters to keep people as updated as possible. What information can I get out sooner and what are some more efficient ways to communicate? How can I encourage more than just 20 parents to sign up for the Remind 101?

3. What area of the overall program do you feel needs the most improvement? How can we do that?

4. What are some ways I can utilize parents better, and would you be interested in participating in a parent’s division of the Walker Choral Department? I would like to start having meetings once every month or every other month with some leadership roles such as secretary, president, tech, PR, etc.

5. For the 2016-2017 season, Diamonds and Encore as classes will be in the *spring*. ALL STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO TAKE THIS CLASS, and those unable to schedule will not be allowed to compete. It’s a tough decision but we cannot sustain a program with members all over the place, and we definitely cannot improve. In order to stay on top of our competition set, we will rehearse once a week throughout the fall at the times listed in #3 of the opening statement of this survey. While this is not a response question, I would like to take the time to encourage you to contact Walker’s administrators and Dr. Jackson if a scheduling conflict arises with no presented solution.

6. What are some positive takeaways you or your child has from this year?

Please return this to me either by sending with your student, mailing it to the high school (1601 Highland Ave, 35501), or by copying and pasting this into an email and sending it to glindsey@jasper.k12.al.us.

Thank you for your time!

-Mr. Lindsey