

# *Horn Lake Choirs*

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Remind seems to be acting up. I am going to email last week's update and this update to the email addresses in PowerSchool. From now on, all updates will also be posted on the main page of our choir website, [hornlakechoirs.org](http://hornlakechoirs.org). Please make it a priority to check the website at least three times a week.

**This letter is going to cover a lot of important information, so please stay with me:**

## **GRADES:**

For those enrolled in a choir class, I am no longer going to assign SRF or other assignments. Since school is completely on line for the remainder of the school year, I would like for you to concentrate on your academic coursework. I have more than enough grades for you to submit for this last 9 week grading term. If you did not do one or more of the assignments from 3/18 through 4/17, please go back and take care of it by May 8th. Your grade will come from those assignments.

## **BANQUET:**

Although we are not going to be able to have our choir banquet, we are still going to **honor our senior choir members**. We are going to make a video of pictures from the school year like we normally do, but this year we will add some well wishes clips to our seniors. Think about making a clip about a senior or two. Send videos & any photos you may want to submit to [hornlakechoirvideo@gmail.com](mailto:hornlakechoirvideo@gmail.com) by May 4th! I will list our seniors at the bottom of this update so we do not miss anyone! Keep the videos at 30 seconds so we can have many for each senior!

**SENIOR AWARDS** will still be given out. I will have pink graduation chords for our 4 year members and the senior plaques/certificates for our seniors at graduation practice.

## **GRADUATION:**

Because we are not able to rehearse, the mixed choir will not perform at graduation. Ensemble will perform the National Anthem (new version) and the song I selected for the senior song this year - an cappella arrangement of Micheal Jackson's "Man In the Mirror". Seniors that are not ensemble members, please email me if you want to learn the song & sing at graduation as well. We are not sure if Graduation will remain 5/26 or be moved later in the summer. Stay tuned!

## **SENIORS:**

If you have not made a college decision yet, NWCC has a new Director of Choral Activities, Mr Norris (previously of Hernando Middle). He has scholarship money! Contact me ASAP.

## **DISNEY TRIP:**

Okay, I hope I can explain this so that everyone understands the path... Since we were just two weeks from traveling, ALL monies had been paid to the hotel, bus company, & Disney. When

you plan group travel, there are contracts to sign, deposits due almost a year in advance, and all businesses must be paid in full three to four weeks prior to travel.

If I had cancelled the trip, we would have lost over \$300 per traveler. That was not an option in my opinion. Due to the pandemic, all companies involved were agreeable to allow me to move the trip date without financial loss. I initially moved the trip to the first week of June. However with the recent decision that school would remain online until the end of this school year, I was back on the phone with the hotel, bus company, & Disney.

*THANKFULLY*, they are willing to work with us to again move the trip without any additional financial responsibilities. The trip has now been moved to March 2021. We will depart at 6:00 PM on March 10, 2021 and return the morning of March 15, 2021. That is the Monday of Spring Break. Our schedule will basically be the same - Animal Kingdom, compete in Festival Disney, Disney Springs/Downtown Disney, beach day at Cocoa Beach, Ron Jon Surf Shop, & Magic Kingdom.

Just like we planned this year, singers will make a mixed choir for competition at Disney and will rehearse after school one day a week in January & February. **Those singers currently on the trip list will remain on the trip list.** Just to clarify, the companies have been paid in full (hotel, bus, & Disney), so we do not have the money to refund if you no longer wish to travel. Unfortunately you will forfeit the cost of travel if you no longer wish to be on the trip list, unless a replacement is found - a choir member that was not signed up to attend the original trip date but would like to attend the new date. Please understand that no one is trying to be difficult. In fact, many other groups from DCS school who had trips planned and had to cancel lost all of their travel cost - some in the thousands per traveler. I am trying to make these adjustments so that we do not lose money and the choir members still have the opportunity to travel/compete in Orlando!

If you do not have a travel spot but would like one, contact me ASAP.  
Seniors who are on the travel list - call me!

**NEXT YEAR’S CHOIRS:**

With the official addition of Mr McDowell, we will be making some changes to the choral program next year. First and foremost, the 12 ensemble members WILL NOT be part of the men’s choir or the women’s choir. Also, we are adding two beginning classes, one term each, that are separated by gender. The advanced women will be an elite group of 16 ladies who should rival the ensemble. The large group will be Belles Voix which will no longer be considered an intermediate level group. Lastly, Mr Wortham & I will not be traveling back & forth this year. He will be focusing on the 6 periods of choir at the middle school. We will have monthly opportunities to go to the middle school and host workshops, leadership building, etc... Mr McDowell will be directing the two beginning groups and the men’s choir at the high school - he may add a gospel/pop group that would meet after school. I will be focusing on the mixed ensemble, women ensemble, and the women’s choir. Below is a chart of what semester and block the different choirs will meet. Choir placement will be decided by your SRF assignments.

	Term One	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
BLOCK 1	Beg. Girls	Beg. Boys	Men’s Choir	(Men’s Choir)
BLOCK 2	Girls ensemble	(Girls ensemble)	Women’s choir	(Women’s choir)
BLOCK 3	Mixed Ensemble	(Mixed Ensemble)	(Mixed Ensemble)	(Mixed Ensemble)
BLOCK 4				

Please check in with each other. Some are having a hard time and need their choir family. Stay healthy! Use this time to enjoy things we are normally too busy to enjoy! Call if you need anything! 901-212-2949 (HB) Email if you have questions about anything on this update!  
[holly.beck@dcsms.org](mailto:holly.beck@dcsms.org)

*SENIOR CHOIR MEMBERS: Art Beronio, Quinterrius Blunt, A'khya Castal, Jaden Cleveland, Erika Duran, Alison Hartfield, Sasha Petty, Josh Shives, Karmen Taylor, & Jeremiah Vaughns*