Wednesday, March 25th

Students and parents -

I hope all of you have been well and safe during our extended time apart. It certainly has been an adjustment for all of us and will continue to be moving forward. During this time, I wanted to bring attention to a few choir department related items, including curricular choir auditions for next year.

E-Learning Update

With the shift to E-Learning, the transition for us is actually pretty easy, as the resources that we will continue to use have been made available to all choir students since the beginning of the year. Over the coming weeks, I'll begin the shift for all classes to Google Classroom. This is something that I was looking to enact for the 2020-2021 school year, but with the present circumstances, we'll begin that transition soon. Students, you will likely see a majority, if not all of your classes enact this shift. A majority of what we do utilizes Google's tools already, so the shift to Google Classroom will act as more of a hub than anything else.

Until that time, to remind all students, practice tracks for spring music have been uploaded to your class's Google Drive. This can be found by going to the choir website, going to the curricular tab and selecting "Student Resources". You are encouraged to continue working on your parts.

Additionally, continue to use Sight-Reading Factory. I cannot emphasize this enough for all students. Make it a habit to use this on a daily basis.

Curricular Choir Auditions Update

Whether or not school resumes in-person this year, I have decided for all curricular choir auditions to take place remotely this year. I will provide further information about how students will submit their auditions, but all returning students should've begun preparing for the audition. **The melody, harmony and sight-reading component of the audition will remain the same. It is possible for additional components to be added.** Audition resources can be found by going to the choir website, going to the curricular tab and selecting "Auditioning for choir".

<u>Online Resources</u>

Some of these are already posted on the Student Resources page on the choir website, but they're worth making mention of again! All of these are free resources, with some just requiring an account for log-in. ***This was sent out in the previous update from Friday, but it is worth sharing again.***

1. [Noteflight](#) - write your own music scores.
2. [MusicTheory.net](#) - this is the theory site we use in class and for finals review. It's a great resource to refresh/continue music theory.
3. [uTheory](#) - *new* Additional theory website. I am currently working on getting a license for each choir student.
4. [ToneSavvy](#) - this is a **<u>great</u>** resource for ear-training (seniors - if you plan on studying any music in college, get a head start!)
5. [Metropolitan Opera Nightly Streams](#) - interested in seeing what opera is all about? The Met Opera will be posting streams nightly of their opera archives.
6. [Berlin Philarmonic Digital Concert Hall](#) - for the next month, Berlin Philharmonic will be offering access to their performances for free. This is one of, if not, the best orchestra in the world. There are choral and orchestral performances, but do yourself a favor and dive in!

As we transition to E-Learning, I know a lot of this can be overwhelming for students and parents. I want to make this transition as easy as possible for all of us. I will continue to send out information through Remind and post updates on our website and social media channels. With that being said, please be proactive and attentive. We are all here to help one another during this time. If you have any questions about the above mentioned information, please do not hesitate to reach out through Remind or email me at nrancato@psd202.org.

Regards,
Mr. Rancatore