THOMAS J. RINN & RACHEL MASSEY, DIRECTORS

Colleyville Heritage Panther Choirs

Choir students and parents:

Each fall, thousands of choral students across the state of Texas enter the All-State Choir audition process with hopes of being chosen as one of the 260 singers "still standing" in February at the TMEA All-State Concert. As a director, I am often asked what it takes for a student to make the All-State choir. I always answer the following: It takes a special combination of vocal maturity, musical maturity, desire, dedication, and hard work. The bottom line is commitment. The students that make the choir are not those who enter with only ambitions of "winning" but those that understand the benefits of auditioning and therefore commit to the process. These students find "victory" in their progress as a singer and musician. The CHHS Panther Choir program has quickly established itself as a primary competitor in our area earning 5 spots in the 2016-2017 Texas All-State Choir. The individual skills (musical, and personal) gained from this process are simply invaluable.

For many students, the all-state process begins with attendance at one or more of the All-State Choir camps offered by universities over the summer. These camps offer students an opportunity to learn the All-State literature in a group environment. Camps provide a high level of instruction by experienced educators and a variety of social/recreational activities. Camps are 2-4 days in length and vary in price according to the university and housing. Most camps conclude with a "concert" that is recorded and open to the public. Attendance at one of these camp not only provides a huge boost to the student in the all-state process but also enriches them with a wonderful musical experience.

To simply learn and perform the All-State literature is a choral experience that many students may not have until college. Thousands of students begin the process and only 260 make the choir. Attending an All-State camp is the best way for students to get a good start on the All-State process and the only way to **guarantee** that they will have the opportunity to perform the literature with a choir.

All-State Camp Scholarships

We are pleased to announce that the CHHS Panther Choir Boosters will offer ten \$100 scholarships to assist in the cost of All-State Camps. For most camps this will not completely cover the cost of attendance, but will significantly reduce the financial burden. Applications should be submitted online by Friday, February 10th. Awards will be announced by Friday, February 24.

- Incoming 9th grade students are eligible to apply for the scholarship and should submit a letter of recommendation from their middle school director.
- Applications will be reviewed by the director and awarded according to student potential, commitment and financial need.
- Checks will be made out to the camp. In cases where payment has already been made, or payment must be done online, please present a receipt to redeem your scholarship.

All Recipients will be required to

- 1. Provide proof of attendance at a valid Texas All-State Camp.
- 2. Participate in all rounds of the competition as long as they advance.
- 3. Attend and participate in all rehearsals, clinics/concerts as specified by the director.

Students that do not fulfill these requirements for any reason (scheduling, ineligibility) will forfeit their scholarship. In the event that the booster club has already paid out the scholarship, the student account will be billed the amount of the scholarship.

Application is available via our website at www.chhspantherchoir.org