

Hello Foothill Choral Program Families,

Welcome back! The 2018-2019 year is already under way with lots of exciting things in store for our choral students. I look forward to another incredible year with all of you.

Please read, complete, and return the following, to help us get the school year started and ensure that all of the great opportunities planned can happen. In the interest of full disclosure, here is the FHS Choral Program expense information:

- **Pleasanton Unified School District is generous, but it does not pay for our annual equipment and material needs, uniform maintenance, transportation, or our festival fees, not to mention our trip costs and financial aid to support families who are unable to afford these opportunities.**
- Until now, these costs have come out of the Choral Program account, which has been funded entirely by donor contributions with concert ticket sales and student-aided fundraising efforts during the school year. While this has kept our program afloat, it has become financially unsustainable to meet the needs of this growing program on this income alone. It has also required the inconvenience of asking our families and community members to pay to attend performances where they can watch these students display their hard work.
- Currently, students help to fundraise at our annual Falcon Fest event, Graduation, as well as Holiday Caroling in the community, and our annual Singing Valentines sales. Our program intends to continue these fundraising opportunities.

In order to support your child's education and ensure that the Choral Program continues to grow and thrive at Foothill High School, **we request your assistance through a monetary offering, titled the "Choral Operations Donation."** Here is a breakdown of the program needs that your donation helps to make happen:

Foothill Choral Program – Operating Costs
Music for 4 Ensembles (4 concert seasons per year, 3-5 pieces of music per group/per concert)
CMEA Festival Registration for 3 Ensembles
CMEA Festival Transportation (2 buses)
Vocal Jazz Festival Registration
Financial Aid for Student Travel Costs
Classroom Piano Maintenance (tuning, repairs)
Uniform Maintenance & Replacement
Equipment Maintenance & Replacement (instruments, risers, music storage system, sound system)
Folder Replacement (40 per year)
Miscellaneous Costs (classroom materials, fundraising items, fees, additional music, clinic costs, etc.)

After careful consideration and budgeting of the above items, the estimated per-student operations cost comes to **\$150**. This one-time contribution helps to fund our growing choral program, and *eliminates the need to charge admission for concerts and other needs moving forward**. Because PUSD is a 501(C)(3) Tax Exempt organization, this donation is also tax deductible with Federal Tax ID Number 94-3062524.

*This contribution is in addition to the costs of uniform rental/purchase and Spring Tour costs for Treble and Chamber Choirs.

**This contribution, or lack thereof, will not change any student's ability and right to participate in any and all activities presented by the Foothill Choral Program, per (cf. 0410 Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities) and (cf. 1312.3 Uniform Complaint Procedures).

So that we can plan properly and cover our expenses, please check one of the following:

- I/We pledge to pay the tax-deductible voluntary Choral Operations Donation for the 2018-2019 school year. Our payment will be made:
 - As a one-time contribution on _____ (date) or
 - 2 payments (1 per semester), on September 1, 2018 and February 1, 2019
- I/We can pledge to contribute \$_____. I would like to discuss possible alternatives.
- I/We pledge to make an *additional* tax deductible donation amount of \$_____.

Note: If the program does not receive enough funding, costs will need to be cut and programs will be significantly reduced.

Contributions can be made by cash, check (payable to FHS Choir and brought to Mrs. Brekke), or by card through FutureFund (linked on our website, where you can enter a custom amount). Thank you for your understanding and support of our students.

Student Name: _____

Guardian Name: _____ Signature: _____