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September 20, 2017

Dear High School All-County Chorus Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Congratulations on being selected to participate in “All-County Chorus 2017!” This district-wide event highlights the pure singing abilities of auditioned choral students from our six traditional DPS high schools: Durham School of the Arts (DSA), Hillside, Jordan, Northern, Riverside, and Southern. As part of this outstanding group of singers, you will perform a varied and challenging repertoire under the direction of our guest vocal clinician Maestra D’Walla Simmons-Burke, Director of Choral and Vocal Studies at Winston-Salem State University. Ms. Simmons-Burke is an esteemed conductor who will unite the district All-County Chorus students into one amazing chorus!

Students will first have school rehearsals with their choral directors to learn the six songs. Then there will be a pre-event rehearsal lead by the high school choral directors for all the students at Southern School of Energy and Sustainability on Thursday, October 5, from 5:45-8pm. Then Ms. Simmons-Burke will direct the rehearsals at Southern on Thursday, November 16, (4:45-9pm) and Friday, November 17, (8:45am-7pm concert). The 7pm concert features both middle and high school All-County Chorus students who will first perform separately and then combine for the finale. Students wear their school’s formal concert attire for the performance.

Invite your friends and family to the DPS All-County Chorus Concert on Friday, November 17, at 7pm at Southern (800 Clayton Road). The concert is free and open to the public.

Please plan for the two meals on Friday, November 17:

- LUNCH – On-site only > Bring a bag lunch
- DINNER – On-site only > Pay \$3 for a pizza dinner by October 2 (or bring a bag dinner)

Students: Share the contents of this packet with your parents so that they understand your honor and obligations. In order to perform in this concert, students must attend their school rehearsals and all three district rehearsals on October 5, November 16, and November 17. Please return your signed contract and \$3, if you are ordering pizza, by Monday, October 2. Thank you in advance for your commitment!

Thank you for supporting the ARTS,



Mary W. Casey  
Director K-12 Arts Education