Dear ABRHS Chorus Students & Parents,

Greetings!! I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer vacation. Please read this letter thoroughly - It includes a great deal of information that all ABRHS chorus students and parents will need for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year.

Our first big event of the season is Chorus Camp – Tuesday, August 23rd from 9:00am-1:30pm! Chorus Camp will be held in the HS music rooms, and it is a casual, one-day event that gives us the opportunity to get a head start on the year. You will learn all about the ABRHS Choral & Music Programs including our first performance of the year, Cabaret Night 2016 (the 22nd annual!), and you’ll get to know and reconnect with your fellow singers through games created by your student chorus officers. You do not need to pre-register for camp – just show up on that Tuesday, and we will see you there! A pizza lunch will be provided by our parent organization, ABFOM (AB Friends of Music) - Please email Ms. Moss if you have any dietary restrictions.

MOSS MUSIC NEWS WEBSITE & AB CHO RUSES FACEBOOK:

Please bookmark my web site, and check back often for up-to-date information regarding performances, rehearsals, auditions & all chorus related activities: mossmusicnews.weebly.com
And don’t forget to “Like” our AB Choruses Facebook page where we post live happenings going on in the department. Click here to subscribe today: www.facebook.com/ABChoruses

PARENT VOLUNTEER & CHAPERONING:

Whether you have a lot of time or just a few hours, like to work with students or work from home, have specific skills or just want to help out as needed, we can use your help! Please respond to the following online survey (link below), so we may match your interests with our needs. You are not committing to anything yrt; someone will contact you to confirm. Click this link to access the chaperone form online:

https://docs.google.com/a/abschools.org/forms/d/1Ev1LCdtrtSWw-MfjvNUeamFmfJT-B6nyIWztaxVoEw8/viewform
CARWASH:

Our fall car wash will take place the Saturday before Chorus Camp on Sat. Aug. 20th at the Administration building (across from the JHS & next to the Parker Damon Bldg) from 9:00am-3:00pm. With so many members in our choral and instrumental ensembles washing cars, these events are very lucrative for our department, and every dollar goes right towards our music programs. PARENTS – please consider volunteering to help supervise, and STUDENTS – please pick one time slot: 8:30-10:30am, 10am-Noon, 11:30am-1:30pm, or 1-3pm. Simply email Ms. Moss with the time you would like to help out or just show up that day of. Parents should email Jodi Hopfinger if you can help supervise for a shift: jbhschool1@verizon.net. SEE YOU THERE!

FORMS:

Please read through, complete, and return all of the appropriate forms to Ms. Moss at the above school address. A pdf titled, “Chorus Summer Packet” is also available for download on my website, and the ABFOM website. **Forms should be returned NO LATER than August 23.** (Students may also bring completed forms with them to Chorus Camp).

CHORUS PACKET FORMS:

1. Welcome Letter with Parent Volunteer & Chaperoning Link
2. Contact Permission & Fundraising Contract Form
3. Extracurricular Agreement (only the signature page needs to be returned)
4. ABFOM Membership Form
5. CORI Checks Information
6. 2016-2017 Performance Calendar – please put these dates in your home calendars/schedules now

I look forward to hearing all about your summer adventures when we return to school! Please feel free to email me with any questions between now and the fall, and enjoy the rest of your summer vacation!

Jennifer E. Moss
Director of Choral Activities
ABRHS Chorus Email Permission & Contract Form

Student Name: ___________________________________________ Yr. of Grad: __________

Email is used almost exclusively to communicate important information about chorus as well as other music department events. It is recommended that all students and at least one parent receive music department emails. Please list those email addresses at which you would like to receive messages:

Student ABschools email ____________________________________________

Parent #1 Name & email ____________________________________________

Parent #2 Name & email ____________________________________________

Student Name: ___________________________________________________

Fundraising Contract

Fundraising programs are organized and provided for the students of the music department throughout the year. Most of the programs are designed to support the individual efforts of the participating students. The large percentage of the profits are deposited into student accounts held by ABFOM. Students may use these accounts to support their music department needs such as the cost of trips, uniform items and banquet tickets.

I pledge personal responsibility for the fundraising materials which have been entrusted to me. I will safeguard both the merchandise and the money I have accepted until they can be properly credited by the Friends of Music treasurer or event organizer. In the event of loss or theft, a debit will be applied to the student’s account until either the merchandise or the money is returned.

Signed,

________________________
student’s signature

________________________
parent/guardian’s signature
APPENDIX 2
ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOLS
EXTRACURRICULAR AGREEMENT - Senior High
To be Used For Any School-Sponsored Activity *

TO THE STUDENT:

This agreement between you, your parent(s)/guardian(s), and the Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools is designed to serve several purposes. It is intended to influence students to make wise and legally sound decisions. It is designed:

• To help ensure the physical and mental health of students;
• To enable participating students and student leaders to set an example of responsible behavior;
• To promote zero-tolerance of under-age (21 years) drinking, as well as the use of illegal and harmful chemical substances among our youth;
• To bind the community together in support of its students’ health.

RULE

During the school year, or from the first meeting of an extra-curricular activity, a student involved in this activity shall not, regardless of quantity, use or consume, possess, buy, sell or give away any beverage containing alcohol, **marijuana, steroids or any controlled substance as defined under Mass. General Laws, Ch. 90D, or inhale the vapors of any intoxicating substance such as glue, nitrous oxide and the like, sometimes referred to as "huffing". Students using tobacco products within 100 feet of the school property (as described by Mass. General Laws, Ch. 71 Section 2A and 37H) will be subject to penalties of this agreement. Smoking or any use of tobacco products is also prohibited during all school activities off school property.

* Students involved in athletics should see "Extracurricular Agreement – Athletics."

** The use of wine or alcoholic beverages for religious observances does not violate this agreement.

CONSEQUENCES

FIRST VIOLATION

When the extra-curricular activity’s advisor or director and the school administration find that a student has violated the above rule, the student shall lose eligibility to participate in any and all activities for a period of two weeks. Activity advisors, parent(s)/guardians(s), counselors and the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School Student Assistance Team will be notified of such finding and the resulting action as soon as possible.

ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOLS
EXTRACURRICULAR AGREEMENT - Senior High

OFFICER'S RULE:

If a student officer of a class or school sponsored organization is found to have violated the above rule, the student will be no longer eligible for that position and any other leadership role for one calendar year (12 months) from the date of the violation.

SECOND AND SUBSEQUENT VIOLATIONS:

When the advisor or director and school administration confirm that a second or subsequent violation has occurred, and following an opportunity for the student to be heard, the student shall lose eligibility to participate in all extra-curricular activities for the next twelve (12) weeks. Parent(s)/guardian(s), counselor and the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School Student Assistance Team will be notified as soon as possible.

If the student, on her/his own volition, becomes a participant in an approved chemical dependency treatment program, the student may be certified for reinstatement in her/his extra-curricular activities after a minimum period of six (6) weeks. Such a program must be recommended and approved and the subsequent certification confirmed by the Student Assistance Team.

Consequences shall be cumulative only during one academic year. A period of consequences will extend into the next academic year if the consequences are not met during the current school year.

It is recommended that a student involved in Proscenium Circus, Band, and Academic Teams be allowed to attend rehearsals or practices in a non-participatory fashion while he/she is meeting the consequences of his/her violation.

The first time a student signs this agreement, he/she is considered to be bound by the agreement for the rest of his/her involvement in the extra-curricular activities offered in the Acton-Boxborough Regional School system. However, each year the student, parent, and activity advisor must sign the agreement as reaffirmation of acceptance of the terms of the agreement.

This agreement is reviewed yearly by the Local Alcohol and Drug Abuse Task Force of the Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools. A copy of the agreement can be obtained from the principal’s office of the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School.
RETURN THIS PAGE of the agreement

ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENIOR HIGH EXTRA CURRICULAR AGREEMENT

NAME (Please Print) ____________________________________________

SIGNATURES

I have read the ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOLS' EXTRA-CURRICULAR AGREEMENT - SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL - and I understand its provisions, terms and consequences for my failure to comply with them. By signing my name below I indicate that I agree to be bound by the provisions, terms and consequences of the ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOLS EXTRA-CURRICULAR AGREEMENT - SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL.

_________________________ ______________________________
Date Student's Signature

I have read the ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOLS EXTRA-CURRICULAR AGREEMENT - SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL- and I understand its provisions, terms and consequences for my child’s failure to comply with them. By signing my name below I indicate that I agree to be bound by the provisions, terms and consequences of the ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOLS EXTRA-CURRICULAR AGREEMENT - SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL. I further certify that I am legal guardian of the above-named student and that I am a legal resident of the Town of

_________________________ ______________________________
Date Parent or Guardian's Signature

I have read the ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOLS EXTRA-CURRICULAR AGREEMENT - SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL- and I understand its provisions, terms and consequences. By signing my name below I agree to support this student in her/his effort to understand and comply with this agreement.

_________________________ ______________________________
Date Faculty Advisor/Director

Please Join Acton Boxborough Friends of Music!!

BECOME A MEMBER of the Acton Boxborough Friends of Music! As a non-profit organization, we are staffed completely by volunteers, and 100% of donations support the music programs in the school district. ABFOM funds help pay for:

- musical events, special guest conductors and instruction
- equipment, uniforms, costumes, props, and supplies
- music scholarships for graduating seniors and students in grades 7-11
- event transportation... and much more.

Membership does not obligate you to volunteer, but your help is welcome! Please fill out the Volunteer Interest Survey at www.abfom.org to let us know how you would be interested in volunteering.

Only one membership donation per family is requested per school year, regardless of the number of siblings participating in band, color guard, or chorus.

To join Friends of Music, complete the information below and return this form with your check for $25 made payable to ABFOM. You can mail the form to ABFOM, PO Box 2334, Acton, MA 01720. Or you can return it with your other band forms to Mark Hickey or with any chorus forms to Jennifer Moss, ABRHS, 36 Charter Rd., Acton, MA 01720. Thank you for your support!

Check here if you’d like a free AB Music Department decal _____
(Please provide us the mailing address if it is not on your check.)

Parent / Guardian Name(s):_____________________________________

Contact Phone:____________________ Email: ________________________

Oldest Student Currently in the ABRHS Music Program:

- Name:________________________________________________________
- Grade:________
- Participating in? Band____ Chorus____ Color Guard_____

Basic 2016-2017 Dues $25.00
Additional AB Music Decals: Number____ x$2.00 $____
Optional additional contribution (any amount is appreciated) $____

TOTAL $____
MANDATORY CORI CHECKS

Thank you to all of the parent volunteers who have already applied for CORI checks for the 2016-17 school year. The law requires the school district to obtain criminal offender record information (CORI) for all current and prospective employees as well as volunteers who may have “direct and unmonitored contact with children.”

If you have applied for a CORI with our school department since January 2015, you are all set. Your CORI is good for three years and is good for all of the schools in the Acton-Boxborough School District. Parents who have not applied for a CORI since January 1, 2015 must do so in June or July if they wish to volunteer for Band Camp or Chorus Camp. This process involves applying in person at a school location listed below and bringing along picture identification that will be checked, copied and attached to the main form provided by the CORI authorized employee below. During the weekdays only the following people are able to assist you with this process between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 1:00 P.M.: Deb Trentsch or Jeanne Potter – SHS Main Office (ext. 3404), Tammy Costello – Central Office at JHS (ext. 3260). You should call prior to arriving to check that somebody is available to help you (978-264-4700).

Please understand that it takes a few weeks for a CORI to be approved and that you must have that approval prior to volunteering.

Thanks for your support! Without volunteers such as yourself, we wouldn’t be able to offer the programs we do.
~ ABRHS 2016-2017 Chorus Calendar ~

Please write these dates in both your home & school calendars
(Students must attend all required performances listed in BOLD on the schedule.)

August
• Sat. Aug. 20:  ABFOM Car Wash @ Administration building  8:30am-3:00pm
• Tues. Aug. 23:  Chorus Camp @ ABRHS  9:00am-1:30pm

September
• Tues. Sept. 13:  ABFOM General Mtg. - Band & Chorus Performances 6:00pm @ ABRHS

October
• M-W Oct. 17-19:  Cabaret Auditions in HS Chorus Room  2:30-5:00pm

November
• M-W Nov. 14-16:  Cabaret Dress Rehearsals @ ABRHS  6:00-9:00pm
• Fri & Sat. Nov. 18 & 19:  Cabaret Performances @ ABRHS  7:00pm
• Sat. Nov. 19:  Eastern Senior District Auditions  Time TBA

December
• Fri. Dec. 9:  Tunes & Tapas @ Boxborough Holliday Inn  6:00pm
• Tues. Dec. 13:  Winter Concert @ ABRHS  7:00pm

January
• Fri. & Sat. Jan. 6 & 7:  Eastern Senior District Music Festival
• Sat. Jan. 21:  Massachusetts All-State Music Festival Auditions  Time TBA
• Sat. Jan. 28:  Eastern Junior District Auditions  Time TBA

February
• Tues. Feb. 14 & Wed. Feb. 15:  Pan Choral Concerts @ ABRHS  7:00pm
• Date TBD:  Singing Valentines @ ABRHS - delivered during English classes
March
- Fri. Mar. 3 & Sat. Mar. 4: Eastern Junior District Music Festival
- Th. Mar. 9 - Sat. Mar. 11: Massachusetts All-State Music Festival in Boston

April
- Fri. Apr. 7: AB Music Dept. "Swing Night" @ ABRHS  7:00pm

May
- Tues. May 9: Spring Concert @ ABRHS  7:00pm
- Fri. May 12: Spring Jam A cappella Night @ ABRHS  7:30pm
- Wed. May 17: Music Dept. Banquet  6:00-10:00pm
- Fri. & Sat. May 26 & 27: Madrigal Dinners  6:30pm @ Indian Hill Music Center

~ Attendance Policy ~

We are very lucky to have so many opportunities to share our music with the public. The above performance schedule is also posted on Ms. Moss’ website, as well as the ABFOM website - please put these dates in your calendars now. Occasionally, due to circumstances beyond our control, performance dates may change. Ms. Moss will notify students of any changes in advance. Also, additional performances may be added to the schedule as the year goes on. Always listen carefully to announcements in class and check Ms. Moss’ website, as well as the ABFOM website for updates.

Students must attend all required performances listed in BOLD on the schedule. Failure to attend a performance without an excused absence from Ms. Moss will result in a grade drop of one letter. For example, if you begin with an A-, missing a performance without permission from Ms. Moss would cause your term grade to drop down to a B-. Speak with Ms. Moss ASAP if you have a conflict with any performance date. A note from parents/guardians is required for absences.

Please note: Homework, work, other performances, and vacations are not excused absences for scheduled concerts. All students have busy schedules and responsibilities - time management and planning ahead are important aspects of any performers’ life, and being part of the AB Choruses.

Moss Music News: mossmusicnews.weebly.com
ABFOM: www.abfom.org

Here’s to another great year!!!