

The Power Company Family of Show Choirs



*Power Company
& The Current
Handbook 2010-2011*

**Parent and Student informational meeting
Wednesday, June 9 at 7:00 PM**

Please Bring your Checkbook and Family Calendar

The Power Company Family of Show Choirs



Congratulations on your selection to the 2010-2011 *Power Company Family*. I was faced with many difficult decisions in choosing this year's ensembles but I am confident that I have the best and brightest vocal students who will fit into our "Family". I know that if we work hard and together, maintain positive attitudes, and have fun we will have a tremendously successful year.

As a member of *Power Company* or *The Current* you are making a commitment to this ensemble and all of the members within. Please review my expectations along with the rehearsal and competition calendar. For veterans of *Power Company* and *The Current* you can expect that your time commitment will be very similar to this past year. After reviewing these items sign and return the forms packet by Wednesday, June 9, 2010.

We will hold an informational meeting on Wednesday, June 9 at 7:00 PM This is your opportunity to meet all of our new family members and ask questions. **We need all veteran and rookie parents to attend as well as all members of *Power Company* and *The Current*.** Mr. Olson will go over the schedule for next year, as well as the expectations for *Power Company* and *The Current* members and their parent/guardians. It is very important that at least one parent from each family is able to attend this meeting. I hate to say the word mandatory to parents but it is very important that you attend. If this will be impossible, please contact me ASAP.

We will compete in 6 competitions in 4 states, as well as hosting our very own competition. **Star Power, "Where Show Choirs Shine"** - Lake Waconia's Seventh Annual Show Choir Competition will be held on Saturday, February 19, 2011. We are very excited about this opportunity to showcase *Power Company*, *The Current* and *Shockwave* along with the entire community of Waconia at this very exciting event. Mark your calendars now and plan on helping out and participating.

I am looking forward to yet another very exciting, successful and fun filled year. I believe that it will be the best ever.

Sincerely,

Aaron R. Olson

Power Company & The Current Tuition 2010-2011

	Tuition	Trip	Total
Power Company Singers	\$665	\$300	\$965
Megawatt	\$465	\$300	\$765
Power Company Stage Crew	\$290	\$300	\$590
The Current Singers	\$615	NA	\$615
Watt	\$265	NA	\$265
The Current Stage Crew	\$165	NA	\$165
Sing in Power Company & Sing in The Current	\$715	\$300	\$1015
Sing in Power Company & assist with The Current Stage Crew	\$715	\$300	\$1015
Sing in Power Company & Play in Watt	\$715	\$300	\$1015
Sing in Current & assist with Power Company Stagecrew	\$665	\$300	\$965
Sing in Current & Play in Megawatt	\$715	\$300	\$1015

We are doing our best to keep costs down and raise revenue through fund-raisers so that we can continue to provide first class opportunities and performances. Like the commercial says: " Show Choir shoes... \$25.00, Make-up and nylons... \$50.00 An opportunity to perform in a Show Choir... **PRICELESS.**

We are very proud of the fact that we provide scholarships to families that qualify for the free and reduced lunch program. The scholarships are based on a matching fundraising program and applications are available upon request. The Boosters are committed to ensuring that no one is turned away because of financial concerns. We will work to find a way to make it manageable for you. Simply contact Aaron Olson, Molly Aalfs or Pam Melchert if you have any questions regarding these confidential scholarships.

Power Company tuition will cover all camp fees, all competition entry fees, transportation to and from all competitions, hotel rooms, a basic uniform, dry-cleaning and the canoe trip in August. **Items not included in this fee are: WHS Activity Fee (\$125) Girls shoes (\$65.00), Guys shoes (\$35) performance undergarments (\$20.00-30.00), nylons (\$10.00), shirts for the guys (\$30.00-40.00) or other accessories for the ladies. Food at competitions also will not be covered under this one time fee.**

The Current tuition will cover all camp fees, competition entry fees, transportation to and from all competitions, hotel rooms, a basic uniform, dry-cleaning. **Items not included in this fee are: Girls shoes (\$65.00), Guys shoes (\$35), performance undergarments (\$20.00-30.00), nylons (\$10.00), shirts for the guys (\$30.00-40.00) or other accessories for the ladies. Food at competitions also will not be covered under this one time fee.**

There are two payment options.

Option # 1 Payment in Full - Pay the full amount by July 1, 2010

Option # 2 - 5 payments as follows (based on Power Company Singer)

Payment # 1	\$200.00	July 1, 2010
Payment # 2	\$200.00	August 1, 2010
Payment # 3	\$200.00	September 1, 2010
Payment # 4	\$200.00	October 1, 2010
Final Payment	\$165.00	November 1, 2010

Please make your payments on time. It is your responsibility to make sure that payments are received in the Booster box at WHS either on or prior to the due date. You will receive your payment coupons at the parent meeting on June 9. Please make checks payable to Waconia Choir Boosters and mail them to:

Waconia Choir Boosters
Waconia High School
1400 Community Drive
Waconia, Mn 55387

Payment in full must be made by November 1, 2010. If this payment schedule is not appropriate for you, we would be happy to make an alternate plan that fits into your financial plan. Simply contact Aaron Olson, Molly Aalfs or Pam Melchert for more information.

Failure to meet these deadlines will result in student being benched until account is in good standing, at which time they will have an opportunity to try to earn their spot back. (No guarantees) Just like in sports, when you lose a spot it can be difficult to get it back.

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Power Company & The Current Expectations

Power Company and The Current will continue to improve and achieve success when we are all working towards the same goals. If we keep the following goals in mind, we will have another tremendous season, filled with excitement, great performances and most of all lots of fun.

Teamwork is essential to our success. We need everyone working together to achieve our common goals. This means that we will do the following:

1. Display respect at all times.
2. Take care of academics. Set your sights on no less than a 3.0 GPA.
3. Make responsible choices in life. Every choice you make has a consequence and affects us all.
4. Take private voice lessons.
5. Stay focused, keep a positive attitude and improve our performance at every rehearsal.
6. Attend sectional rehearsals when they are called and seek extra help when needed.
7. Become/remain physically fit

1. Singer Membership Requirements - Power Company and The Current are extensions of the curricular choir offerings at Waconia High School. By making a commitment to be a singing member of Power Company or The Current you are also making a commitment to participate in one of the curricular choirs offered at Waconia High School for the entire year. **No exceptions can be made.** Failure to follow this requirement will result in immediate dismissal from the group and student will not be able to participate in any further show choir performances.

2. Megawatt & Watt Membership Requirements - Members of Megawatt & Watt are required to participate in a curricular performance ensemble (either choir or band) for the entire school year. Failure to follow this requirement will result in immediate dismissal from the group and student will not be able to participate in any further show choir performances. It is my hope that all Megawatt & Watt members will also be members of the choir.

3. Stagecrew Membership Requirements - Members of the Stagecrew will be selected from students who participate in one of the curricular choirs offered at WHS. As a member of the Power Company Stagecrew you are also committing to participating in choir for the entire year.

4A. Power Company Dance Camp Attendance - During the camps, we will focus primarily on choreography and transitional aspects of our competition show. At this time, all blocking and moving assignments will be given, therefore any absence during this time will be extremely detrimental to the ensemble. **Frontline performers will be selected from members present at camp. If you are absent, due to an excused absence (athletics, family, or church) do not expect to be placed in the frontline or any other "highly visible" positions such as lifts.** Only under extreme circumstances will members be excused from any portion of camp. If this situation should arise, it is up to the student to draw up a contract explaining a makeup plan, including a time line, and other students involved in teaching the makeup will be signed by all of the students involved, their parents and Mr. Olson. This will need to be taken care of at least 30 days prior to the camp. **Rookies will not be excused from camp for any reason.**

4 B. The Current Dance Camp Attendance - During the camps with our choreographer we will focus primarily on the choreography and transitional aspects of our competition show. At this time, all blocking and moving assignments will be given, therefore any absence during this time will be extremely detrimental to the ensemble. **Frontline performers will be selected from members present at camp. If you are absent, due to an excused absence (athletics, family, or church) do not expect to be placed in the frontline or any other “highly visible” positions such as lifts.** While we are a little more flexible with absences with The Current Camps, we still require you to draw up a contract explaining your plan to learn the choreography. Please get this plan to Mr. Olson in advance of the camp.

5. Rehearsal Attendance - You are expected to arrive early for all performances and rehearsals. Physical warm-ups will begin 10 minutes prior to all scheduled rehearsals. An unexcused absence from a rehearsal may result in a suspension from Power Company or The Current for at least one competition or performance. Two unexcused absences may result in dismissal from the group. No one will be excused because of work. Make sure you clear your work schedule in advance. Any absences, with the exception of emergencies, or illness that are not cleared with Mr. Olson at least three weeks in advance may be considered unexcused. Three tardies will be considered an unexcused absence. The alternates are eager and capable of replacing anyone who has an unexcused absence. Any illness or injury that prevents you from rehearsing will require a note from parent/guardian. Without notice, student will be sent home and it will be considered an unexcused absence which may result in suspension from Power Company or The Current for at least one competition or performance.

6. Sectional Rehearsals The Section leaders will hold weekly sectional rehearsals (before school at 7:00 am) throughout the season as needed. You will be expected to attend these rehearsals unless you have a prior school related commitment. Unexcused absences from sectionals will be dealt with in the same manner as a regularly scheduled rehearsal.

7. Competition/ performance Attendance Everyone will be expected to be at every competition and performance. Any missed performance regardless of the reason may result in your missing the next performance. Mark your calendars now. No one will be excused except under extreme circumstances. Exceptions will be made for unexpected athletic playoff dates, in which case you will have the choice to play or perform. An unexcused absence from a competition/performance may result in further suspensions and missed performances. **Again, Alternates are ready and waiting to take your spot. A general guideline is that if you miss one performance you will sit out an additional performance.**

8. Competition behavioral expectations All members of Power Company and The Current will be expected to ride the bus to and from competitions. All members will be expected to remain at the competition site the entire day. I will expect that you listen to and show respect for the adult chaperones. You will be expected to be dressed and ready to go at least one hour prior to our performance. You will be expected to watch the performances throughout the day in the performance space or in the cafeteria. You will be expected to cheer on and support other groups that are performing.

9. Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco All members must obey all the rules of the Minnesota State High School League regarding the use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco. Failing to follow these policies will result in consequences as laid out by the Minnesota State High School League. Breaking these rules while participating in a Power Company or The Current event may result in immediate dismissal from the group.

10. Overnight Hotel Stays - Students are expected to respect the rules set forth by Mr. Olson and the chaperones. Any deviation from these rules will be dealt with by Mr. Olson and parents will be notified of misbehaviors. Anyone found breaking rules in regards to alcohol, drugs, and tobacco, or found outside of their room after lights out, or participating in any dangerous or abusive situations may be sent home at your own expense and you may be immediately dismissed from the group.

11. Bus rides. I expect that the bus will be kept clean. We will not watch any “R” rated movies. While riding after dark, overhead lights must be turned on if students are sitting co-ed.

12. Costume care and repair Mr. Olson will make the final decision regarding costuming. We have several parents who are willing and prepared to help with the care and repair of costumes including alterations so do not hesitate to ask for help if needed. Obviously our costumes are a vital part of our performance. They need to look clean and sharp for every performance. They need to be complete and they need to get to the competitions. This is your responsibility. Please, please, please double check.....triple check your costumes to make sure that you have **everything** before boarding the bus. No one will be allowed to perform with an incomplete, soiled or damaged costume.

You are responsible for the following:

- A. *The cost of repairing or replacing any costumes should they become damaged or lost.*
- B. *Any minor alterations such as hemming pants or installing velcro fasteners.*
- C. *Organizing, and storing of the costume in it's proper location at all times. Should there be any problems with this responsibility, it will cost you \$5.00 to get your costume back from the director or whoever took care of it.*
- D. **Taking your costume home following each performance to “air them out”.**

13. Makeup, Hair, Performance Undergarments and Other Accessories All members will be informed during our first camp as to what will be expected as far as makeup, hair and other accessories are concerned. Everyone will be expected to be uniform in appearance and follow the guidelines that are set. Girls hair will be in curlers and out of the face. Guys hair should be short and well kept. **Hair coloring other than highlights are not acceptable. Red, green, purple or other colors other than natural occurring hair colors will not be allowed on stage. No piercings or tattoos should be visible while at competitions.** All members will be informed during our first camp about what will be expected as far as performance undergarments are concerned. It is expected that all members will wear the designated items.

14. Payments I expect that all payments will be made in full and on time. Scholarships are available based on need. See Aaron Olson, Molly Aalfs or Pam Melchert if you have any questions regarding scholarships. **Failure to meet these payment deadlines will result in students being benched until account is paid in in good standing, at which time they will have an opportunity to try to earn their spot back. (No guarantees) Just like in sports, when you lose a spot it can be difficult to get it back. Please make your payments on time. It is your responsibility to make sure that payments are received in the Booster box at WHS either on or prior to the due date.**

15. Load in/ Load out Everyone will be assigned equipment to carry to and from the bus. You will be responsible for your assigned equipment, Double check everything before loading onto the bus. Do not assume that something is in a box or case because it is supposed to be there.

16. Athletic conflicts We are able to work around most athletic conflicts next year including, Football, Cross Country, Wrestling and both Boys and Girls Basketball and Volleyball. Unfortunately, show choir students will not be able to participate in Danceline as our competitions are on the same days. Students will not be excused for any Metro Teams. In the Fall, I do not expect you to miss any WHS sports activities for Power Company. In the Winter season, WHS team games will have priority over *Power Company and The Current* rehearsals. *Power Company and The Current* performances should have priority over WHS team practices. If a game and a performance conflict, students will have a choice of performing or playing. If a practice or rehearsal is rescheduled/added and now creates a conflict because of the move, the activity that was scheduled first should take priority assuming that activity is a school sponsored team.

17. Parent Involvement The Power Company members need your parental support. We need parent help with the Boosters, fund raising, chaperoning and most importantly as fans. We hope that you will take an active role in supporting Power Company. Please mark your calendars now for the **Seventh Annual Golf Scramble on Friday, July 30, the Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, January 14, Star Power Show Choir Competition on Saturday, February 19, and the Show Choir Spectacular on April 14-16.** These are our most successful events and we will need everyone to help out to ensure their continued success.

18. Fund Raising There will be several fund-raising activities throughout the year. All of the fund-raising activities will benefit the entire organization; therefore, all members are expected to participate. You will be expected, at a minimum, to work at the Fireman's Pancake Breakfast in October or March. **In addition all show choir members will be expected to sell or purchase 5 Coupon Books that we will be selling this July. If you do not participate in this fundraiser your account will be charged \$100.00 (\$20 x 5 books)**