

“Back to the 80’s” Parent’s Meeting Notes December 1, 2008

SNOW DAYS: Reminder that if and when we have a snow day we try to rehearse under the following conditions. If school is cancelled due to ICE then we probably will not have rehearsal, but if the administration allows it, we will – but chances are high that they will say no. If school is cancelled due to SNOW then we will probably have rehearsal, after crews have a chance to get the snow removed. Check the emails, call the school 224-1315 or call Mrs. Cooper. There is almost always administration and/or secretaries at the school on those days and they will have the information you need. Figure an 11:00 rehearsal time IF we are allowed to have rehearsal. (BTW – most of the sports teams will be here on those days as well so we are not the only crazy ones)

WATER: It is important that we keep the students hydrated. Any donations of cases of bottled water are greatly appreciated, especially during tech week and performance week. A cast this size can go through 2 – 3 cases per day, and that is having only ONE bottle per performer. We try to keep a 5-gallon container of water in my room that the students can use to refill each day if they want to. Now is a great time to wean your student off the soft drink habit. These are bad for their health, bad for their voices and they shouldn’t be drinking them OR the energy drinks.

POTLUCK: we will have TWO potluck dinners during the course of the show. The first one is Monday, Feb 2nd. We try to have the food here by 5:00 and the kids eat all evening long. We do not stop for dinner – the kids just come and eat as they get off stage. The second potluck is on the Saturday of performances, Sat. Feb. 7th. We try to have the food here as soon as the first show is over – we think about 3:00. The kids then eat – we do some paperwork, balloting for end of the year awards, etc. and then we put them down for a nap and some quiet time before starting all over again for the evening show. They are, of course, welcome to leave if they would like to but it is a fun time for all if they can stay.

T-SHIRTS: \$15 unless your student sells their tickets

PARTICIPATION FEE: Not having one – students have to sell tickets and provide their own costumes

STUDENT MATINEE: We will be having a student matinee on Friday, February 6th. Usually we start at 8:00 a.m.-ish so call time is 6:30 a.m. Freshmen Center students should arrive here at South. We will arrange transportation back to the FC for them when we are finished.

TICKETS: Each student is responsible for selling a **MINIMUM** of 35 tickets. If every cast and crew sold 35 tickets we would just barely cover our costs. The tickets will be available before Christmas Break and are \$8.00 apiece. Students need to return tickets or money. Each ticket will be good for ONE performance and one performance only but can be used at any of the four performances. We have instituted this change to encourage the students to take ownership of this show. They’ve GOT TO PROMOTE it. If they don’t, no one else will.

As encouragement for the students the following incentives have been arranged:

35 tickets – t-shirt for free

45 tickets – cast photo for free

55 tickets – cast photo CD for free

Top ticket seller will receive a \$100 bill

Any student who sells their 35 tickets will have their name put in a drawing for a \$50 bill

SET CONSTRUCTION: Happening Monday – Thursday. Starting right after school and continuing until 5:30. We will soon be at the point where we need help painting. There will be lots of painting to do. We will be using the students as much as possible but any other help is always appreciated.

VIDEOS: Music Theatre International does not allow the video recording of this or any of their shows. Please do not bring your camera to the performances. We have great photos available for you.

LAUNDRY BASKETS: Speaking of dressing room messes – It really helps things if each student will have their own laundry basket with them in the dressing room. They can put their personal things in the basket and helps immensely to keep things organized. It makes it easier to take things out to the car as well.

DONATION ITEMS for concession stand: Each student is asked to bring two 2-liters of soft drinks to performances and donations of candy bars, snack packs of chips, cookies. Bottled water is also necessary. We sell these items at our concession stand and the profits go directly to the senior scholarship fund.

WE HAVE HAD THEFTS IN THE PAST. DON'T BRING ANYTHING YOU DON'T WANT TO HAVE STOLEN. THIS INCLUDES \$\$\$\$\$, CELL PHONES, ETC. PURSES CAN BE LOCKED UP IN THE STUDENT'S LOCKER, IN THEIR CAR OR LEFT AT HOME.

COSTUMES: Students will be furnishing their own costumes this year. They have been divided into strict groups and given costuming information. I have extra copies if you want to see them. Please check with me before purchasing anything that you have a question on, I would hate to have you waste your money on something your student absolutely cannot wear on stage. Every cast member needs a complete costume for Act One, Act Two, Prom and something in the color WHITE, from the 80's, to wear on the bottom, i.e. jeans, skirts, shorts, etc.

SHOES: All cast members will provide their own shoes. Anything from the 80's is fine as long as they can dance in them.

Flyer/promotional stuff: I will have flyers early in January if not before. Please distribute these as far and as wide as possible. Also look for an email version that you can send to friends and family also. Promote the show on facebook, blogs, etc. The more people know about the show the more likely they are to come see it and that is what we want – a show without an audience is just another rehearsal – and that's no fun!!!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: There are lots of time slots available to help with concessions, flower sales, pictures/video sales, Cappies Room, etc. Most of these allow you to watch the performance and still help. The Cappies Room on Fri. night is the only one that would have you missing part of the show. Your help and assistance is needed and greatly appreciated. Please see Mrs. Cooper if you would like to help.

FLOWERS: We will be selling flowers in the lobby pre-show, and during intermission. It is close to Valentine's Day and flower costs go through the roof at that time of year, our costs are usually the lowest in town. If you would like to purchase your flowers in advance and have them ready to go please contact me and we can get you all taken care of.

PICTURES: a picture CD will be available for purchase. Last year's show had over 350 pictures on the CD. You can then take them, print out just the ones you want, crop them, send them to Aunt Edna, post them on facebook, etc. etc. etc. \$15 buys you all these memories and so many ways to use them!!!

SILENT AUCTION: We will be having a silent auction every evening performance, and Sat. matinee. We are currently seeking items to be auctioned off. Previous year's hot sellers were guided fishing trips, car detailing and good smelly stuff in baskets. You can start dropping off your donated items as soon as possible.

CAPPIES: Plan, purchase and set up food for Cappies Room on Friday night. We have a small budget for this, we just need someone to do the work. It requires tending immediately after intermission and after their meeting is finished at the end of the show (which could take up to 45 minutes).

REMINDER: ALL FLOWER, CONCESSION, PICTURE, SILENT AUCTION PROFITS GO DIRECTLY TO OUR SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND!!! PLEASE HELP US HELP OUR STUDENTS. Our Booster Organization has used some of their funds to help with the Fall production's journey to the State Thespian Festival in January so if we want to have \$\$\$ available for our senior students then we need to get busy and raise funds!!!