

MSA booster meeting 9/17/19

Nine is going really well, very exciting, musically and the acting all coming together.

Nicola needs help with costumes – a lot of costumes 37 kids in the cast, will buy a lot probably won't rent because it's not as accessible. also building and farming out projects so reach out. Crafts, headaddresses. Early 60s, constrained palette, very European and sophisticated, black/white/gray. Will be in touch as things come together more, kids shifting in scenes, workshop in progress.

New choreo is going really well, really fast. each child is getting so much attention, what they need for all to grow. wonderful to trust this gentleman, takes some weight off Rodney's shoulders. Hard music, fitting into our voices very well. Short, sweet, personal, song, move on.

Poster by a month before the show. Please try to talk it up, doesn't have name value to sell the show.

Headshots – email and link came out today. So many good ones, hard choices for the lobby. Let Mr Franz know if you didn't get the email.

Trying to get the panel together for callbacks for **Midsummer**, maybe during office hours. Want to keep the same panel across the board for fairness.

Spring show is still up in the air. Should decide before the winter break in December.

Please do your **Drivers Auth** and **chaperone packet**. Find info online, different trips will be organized by different people depending on the excursion. Drivers auth approval takes a lot longer than chaperone approval. Allow at least 2 weeks! **Amy Hogan** is a point person, she's double checking how long all the tests last before needing to retake.

Friday night is **first Studio Night**. Master class, generally parents and some friends. Workshop songs, scenes, monologues, gives insight into what they do in class. Freshmen especially are very brave and open and able to take direction. Get out of their comfort zone, beyond what they are used to – the zone between the comfort zone and panic. [showed bullseye like in the Handbook] [Performing kids need BLACKS, age appropriate, tights under skirts – attention goes to the face]

Shakespeare test in about a week. where the vowels and consonants are placed, lip syncing assignment to model after people who make big choices. Kids are enjoying it.

Trying to do fair, more modern way of grading. Before you'd get a zero for not turning something in, no points for absent day, 10 point scale can't get less than 5 before failing. Changing to be on 4-point scale, proficiency **grading rubric**. Handouts of rubric available, or check the Handbook. Not grading the student, grading the performance. Easier to know where they stand on the scale. They grade themselves as well. Process grade comes out every grading period (27th is the end of the first one): focus, respect, group dynamics.

? Go over this specifically with kids? Sure, you can say things 10 times, every opportunity to get help and fix things up, may be a surprise but we are trying with different avenues and different ways to communicate. Powerful and what separates us from different schools. [anecdote about someone from Tam coming to an MSA show and being impressed]

? Ohlone happening? No, seems to be over. Mother Lode may still happen for musical theater, scenes. May be conflicting overlap with spring play/Midsummer. [story about not being able to take field trips when he first arrived, as the booster president's senior son had a controlled substance in a hotel room with a freshman]

? when will rehearsals start for spring play? Franz will try to figure out by next meeting.

15 go to Chapman, 1 or 2 to ESU.

Tomorrow will post things for Special Projects Director for MSA, hoping that will make it easier to get things done, less nonsense with schedules.

Book Passage nice to buy a book or two. List of scripts to buy for theatre department. Will perform simple things from musical, sonnets, maybe something else. Primarily kids from the show, maybe some others, kids will be informed. Have 10 minutes to fill. **ALL kids need blacks**, can take back the items that are being used for the musical.

? 100% certain that **spring play tech week** is spring break? YES. Have Thanksgiving week off, have first week of Christmas off, have ski week off after Chapman

? Spring play usually theatre not musical? What about crew? It's up in the air, such a talented group, it might be fun to do a musical, and depends on who wants to commit and who needs a break or other commitments. Like with this musical, need to keep participants in mind (had some people leave just before fall musical casting)

Production fee \$75 donation from those cast in NINE. Checks written to MSAF. Not a requirement, and anything is helpful. We may ask you to buy things, either reimburse you or can come out of the balance. May provide undergarments or ballet flats, would ask to buy as you'd reuse. Nicola will be on site most rehearsals (definitely Saturday) to collect. Please submit in envelope with student name.

? Communications update? Trouble for many people with the Wix notifications. Will explore and report back with support.

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