

**Penn Middle School Drama Club**

**2017-2018**

**Welcome/Club Registration & Dues** [**www.pennmiddledrama.com**](http://www.pennmiddledrama.com)

Welcome to the Drama Club! This is our 11th year and we are very excited to get to know our new crew and introduce them to the wonderful world of theater. The following is a brief overview of what we will be doing and what will be expected as a member of the club. Every year student involvement in the club grows and this year we will have with over 150 members! It will be important to get organized, so we can have lots of fun and put on awesome shows! Thanks in advance to the kids for being interested, parents for supporting your kids and Jim Simpson for supporting all of us!

We have tried to have 2 shows a year, A Christmas Play & Spring Musical, however we are sad to announce there WILL NOT BE A CHRISTMAS PLAY this year due to Personal commitments on the part of our Directors & the school schedule. Please be aware we are not setting a precedent it just won’t work this year. Our schedule will look a little different so please pay close attention to the initial calendar (available on our website). We will be using the extra time to prepare for the spring musical and with this amount of students it will come in handy.

**Auditions (Spring Musical):** Audition dates will be ***November 13 th & 14 th after school from 3:00 – 5:00pm, we will have sign-ups during club time in school.*** Please report to the cafeteria promptly at 3:00 P.M. Keep in mind once you have auditioned you may leave. We encourage everyone to audition! You will be provided a monologue the day of the audition. We know for many of you this is your first time doing something like this but we try to keep the atmosphere as stress free as possible. We try very hard to choose who we feel is the best person for the part and do not take into consideration prior experience as well as lack of experience. These are judged fairly and you may be cast in a part other than the one you auditioned for. If you do audition and have any concerns please let one of us know. Please have a song prepared it can be a current song, one from a show & if you are trying for a specific part it is a good idea to pick a song that character sings in the show! You are permitted to use your ipod with earbuds if needed during the audition, many choose to sing without. If you cannot make these audition times let us know and we will make other arrangements.

**Meeting Times:** Drama Club officially meets every other Wednesday during school at 9:35am on Club Days. After School scheduled rehearsal days will be Monday & Wednesdays after school from 3:00-5:00 P.M. in the cafeteria. ***We will announce when the first practice will be!***  The only time these rehearsals will be cancelled is if there is no school, a snow day or an early dismissal. If you are scheduled in a group that will be meeting after school for any reason your participation will be mandatory unless otherwise discussed with one of our parent directors. If you are a lead actor or have a speaking role in the production your attendance is very important to the success of the play. We do take attendance at all rehearsals. If you have 4 unexcused absences, we will have to consider getting a replacement for your part. Extra rehearsal times will be announced as needed. The week leading up to the show, called Tech/Dress Rehearsal is very busy with lots of after school rehearsals. If you are in other activities, please consider the size of the role you will be considering.

**Membership:** We have a $25.00 yearly membership which covers participation in the Fall Play & Spring Musical, Acting Workshops, snacks and drinks for longer rehearsals. This will help defray the costs of many of the items we will need to purchase such as props, costumes, music, sets, paints, wood, scripts etc.

**Volunteers:** As you know, none of this would be possible for the students without parents donating their time and talents to the Drama Club. We are hopeful that you will consider helping the Club. Please note you do not have to attend rehearsals as we have those covered. This would be for times closer to the show like helping with Tech Week meals, selling tickets before performances, concessions ... so please consider volunteering, we can use as much or as little time as you are willing to give. SPECIFICALLY: We are looking for sewers, Painters (creative & general) & crafty people. Please email if interested.

**Other Crews within the Club:** Although we encourage giving acting a try, if you do not feel comfortable on stage there is plenty to do off stage. The following is a list of the different crews available for sign-up to get involved in. They are vital to the success of the shows as they provide critical support. Sign-ups for crews will be during in school Club-Days.

Stage Crew: Limited after school rehearsal however, the week leading up to the show, Tech/Dress Rehearsal week, and your participation is a must and also at all shows.

Art & Set Design Crew: After school time required (at least six days). Will make the sets as well as get them together on the stage during Tech/Dress Rehearsal week. These students also make great stage crew members since they know what sets go where.

Costume/Hair & Make-up Crew: Limited after school rehearsal. Will help choosing, making and organizing costumes as well as do hair and make-up for the cast for all shows.
Lighting/Sound Crew: Practice time during Tech/Dress Rehearsal week only. Will learn their way around the school lighting system to be used during the shows. Must be at all Tech/Dress week rehearsals.

**Things to discuss with the kids:** Since we have a large group of young teens, we thought it would be a good idea to spell out our expectations while at Drama-functions whether that be after school rehearsals or performances.

* All required paperwork must be turned in before attending any after school events relating to the Drama Club (permission slips). *This is not optional and is required by the school.*
* Do not leave school property while under Drama Club Supervision.
* Do not roam the school during after school rehearsals. We are primarily in the Cafeteria or Auditorium.
* Clean up after yourselves and take all items with you when you leave.
* Hands off all supplies that belong to school. We have our own and are not permitted at any time to use their supplies.

As you may have noticed many of these have to do with respecting each other, the facility and yourselves! We have a good track record and we would like to keep it that way while providing a safe and productive experience!

**Drama Club Website:**

[**www.pennmiddledrama.com**](http://www.pennmiddledrama.com)

**Drama Club Email Address:**

**pennmiddledrama@gmail.com**

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Thanks in advance for your support!

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