

Mills Park Middle School

Drama Class Syllabus

Contact Information

Instructor: Charlotte Webb

Location: The stage

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Drama Department Website: [www.millsparkdrama.weebly.com](file:///C%3A%5CDocuments%20and%20Settings%5Ccwebb1%5CLocal%20Settings%5CTemp%5Cwww.millsparkdrama.weebly.com)

“THE ENTIRE WORLD IS A STAGE AND THE PEOPLE IN IT, MERELY PLAYERS.”

*William Shakespeare*

**Materials Needed**

* Pen/Pencil
* Note Book
* Folder

**The Drama Folder/Notebook:** All students are required to have a drama folder. Folder should contain the following:

* Syllabus
* Drama Vocabulary Sheets
* Drama projects, activity sheets and project critique sheets
* Notes taken in class about drama topics and rehearsal schedule
* Written reviews and critiques

Students are responsible for bringing all materials to class. Students will not be able to return to their lockers after the beginning of class to get folders/notebooks.

***What will students learn in 6th grade Drama?***

* *Theatre games, Physical and verbal warm-ups*
* *Improvisational techniques*
* *Auditioning techniques/reciting monologues*
* *Voice and diction techniques focusing on volume, pitch, rate, tone, articulation and vocal expression*
* *Understand how to read and write scripts*
* *Analyzing and critiquing plays for theme, character, conflict, setting*
* *How to use technical theatre components of costumes, props, mask and set pieces for formal and informal theatre*
* *How to use technical elements of theatre such as lights, sound, set and costumes to enhance a theatrical production*
* *History of theatre: Europe and South America and the emergence of early theatre history*
* *Appropriate audience and performance etiquette*
* *Understand the roles of the actor and director in creating a performance*
* *Drama vocabulary- you must be able to speak the language of theatre in order to act or “to do” theatre.*

***What will students learn in 7th grade Drama?***

* *Theatre games , physical, and verbal warm-ups*
* *Auditioning techniques/writing original monologue*
* *Improvisation techniques*
* *Playwriting skills to communicate conflict, plot, and character*
* *Voice, and diction, pitch, volume, projection*
* *Read and analyze plays for theme, character, conflict, dialogue, for formal and informal theatre productions*
* *Illustrate and use technical*

***What wills students learn in 8th grade Drama?***

* *Theatre games, physical and verbal warm-ups*
* *Auditioning techniques/writing original monologues*
* *Write and perform original scripts*
* *Read and analyze plays: theme, character mood, atmosphere, conflict*
* *Use costumes, props, set pieces, lighting, sound in formal and informal presentations*
* *Understand and create original works that exemplify the culture and style of North Carolina, US, and North America*
* *The production process*
* *The final product A One Act Class Play*
* *Appropriate audience and performance etiquette*
* *Drama vocabulary- You must be able to speak the language of theatre in order to act or “do” theatre*

The Essential Standards is the basis for the 6th, 7th and 8th grade Drama curriculum.

Formal and Informal Audience Etiquette:

* Listen attentively. Pay close attention to each group or individual performance
* Refrain from talking, movement or distracting sounds
* Refrain from chewing, eating and drinking
* Stay seated until each performance is completed
* No cell phones or electronic devices are allowed in class. Turn them off!
* Applaud to encourage other performer(s)
* Accept each other’s style of performance and creativity

**Classroom Procedures:**

**Starting Class:** When you arrive to class, you should begin working on the warm-ups activities posted on the board or projector. Leaders are to start physical/verbal warm-ups and theatre games. You will receive limited amount of time to complete each activity and will lose points if you do not use your time wisely.

**Ending Class:** Pick-up trash and dispose of it straighten chairs, put all supplies away in designated place. Wait until you are dismissed by the teacher.

**Homework:** Students are to study for test and study lines for plays at home. Any unfinished project should be completed at home and returned by due date.

**Paper Headings**: Your first name, last name, date, and period should ALWAYS be included on all assignments. You should write this information at the top right hand corner of your assignment. Two points will be deducted each time any of these items are missing.

**Use of the Facilities:** (Auditorium) same rules apply as in the classroom. DO NOT TOUCH anything unless you have been assigned to do so. DO NOT HIT hanging microphones, run across the stage, or run in the cafetorium.

**Classroom Policies: Assignments:**

**Make-up Work:** If you are absent, you will be allowed to turn in make-up work during the time that we are working on a unit or topic.

**Assignment Center:** It is your responsibility to find out what you missed the day you return from an absence. You should check the ***“Daily Work Folders”*** for handouts missed. All handouts will be kept in the hanging folders.

**Bathroom Policy**: Students may be granted permission to go to the restroom during the last ten minutes of class, unless it is an emergency. If someone is presenting, I asked that you please try to wait until they are finished before entering and exiting the room. Extra movement breaks concentration.

**Format of Class:** While primarily a hands-on, on your feet class, expect daily assignments, projects, papers and both solo and group performances. Usually, there is enough time to complete assignments, but occasionally you will have homework.

**Grades**

Listed below is how students earned daily points. Test scores and projects are entered separately and are weighed differently.

4=100 (A), 3=90 (B), 2=80 (C) 1=70 (D)

***1. Prepared for class-*** Students should come to class with all materials (Journal, Folder, and pen/pencil. Students should study scripts and learn lines at home. Any unfinished projects should be completed at home and turned in by due date.

***2. Warm-Ups***- Students must enter the room quietly and respond in their journals to the written journal entry statement that is written on the board or projector. Students are to prepare their bodies and mind for performance by participating in physical and verbal warm-ups and theatre games.

***3. Be engaged***- Students should be tentative to when classmates or I speaks and participate in class presentations.

***4. Demonstrate Growth***- Students will show progress by completing 1-3 and demonstrate growth by being for class projects by knowing lines, blocking, and character development.

**Wake County Public School Grading System**

 A= 100-93

 B= 92-85

 C= 84-77

 D= 76- 70

 F= 69 Below

***The Final Performance***

 Students who cannot participate in the after school rehearsals or performance must let Ms. C. Webb know with a written note or an email from parents with an explanation by Friday February 6, 2015. The performances is an exciting part of the drama program. Students have an opportunity to show case what they have learned in class. It is important that everyone who is working on the play show up for the performance. Cast members rely on each other to know their lines and perform their assigned duties for the show. If someone who is in the cast or crew does not show up; it causes confusion, cast members become nervous and the show will not be as effective.

***Performance Date(s)***

Second Semester- 7th and 8th grade students will present a dinner theatre; an evening of one-act plays. Show date: ***Thursday May 21, 2015 @ 6:00 PM.***

Students are to arrive by **5:00 PM** for costume and make-up.

***After-School Technical/ Dress Rehearsal Dates for 7th and 8th grade classes:***

May 13 – May 21 2015. All rehearsals are from 3:00 PM until 6:00 PM in the Cafetorium. Listed below is the tentative rehearsal schedule: **This schedule is subject to change depending upon the weather or other unforeseen circumstances:**

Wed. May 13 1st Pd 8th grade Dress Rehearsal/Tech

Thurs. May14 2nd Pd 8th grade Dress Rehearsal/Tech

Fri. May 15 4th Pd 7th grade Dress Rehearsal/Tech

Mon. May 18 1st Pd 8th grade Tech Rehearsal

Tues. May 19 2nd Pd 8th grade Tech Rehearsal

Wed. May 20 4th Pd 7th grade Tech Rehearsal

**Show date Thursday May 21, 2015 Strike set Friday May 22, 2015**

**6th grade performances will tentatively be on Thursday, May 7 during class time. NO After school rehearsals for 6th grade!**

**Class and Rehearsal rules**

* Be Prompt
* Be Prepared
* Be Polite
* Be Respectful
* Please refrain from eating, drinking and chewing gum in class and rehearsals

**Classroom Consequences**

* Verbal Warning/ Time Out
* Email/ phone call home
* Referral to the Office

**Rewards: PBIS Rewards**

**Some of the Benefits of Drama**

By participating in Drama you will increase your awareness of your surroundings, increase your awareness of others, and enhance your physical movement and expression; sharpen your diction and vocal projection skills/ you will also experience these outcomes:

* ***Critical Thinking***- problems solving and understanding the ethical and aesthetic power of the stage
* ***Personal Responsibility***- attendance and punctuality to class taking initiative in classroom activities, and planning and managing time on task.
* ***Social Responsibility*** – working with others in class activities, making an active contribution to shows, and participating in community through play production
* ***Communication***- presenting ideas, through class activities such as performances, written and verbal critiques, viewing actual productions and researching theatre topics.
* ***Common Core Assessments***- This is the first year of the Common Core State Standards. Students will be able to increase critical thinking skills, global awareness, speaking and listening skills by integrating the core subjects with the arts and technology.

Please fill out the information below after you have read this drama syllabus and return this form to Ms. C. Webb. Thank you!

Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Please Print)

Parent’s Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Please print clearly)

Phone Number Cell \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_