

WELCOME TO THEATRE CLASS!

Please read all explanations and expectations for our class along with a parent or guardian. You are accountable for all information printed here, as well as your contribution to our class "Safe Zone" agreement.

DAILY EXPECTATIONS: BE...

- **PREPARED:** Come to class ready to be active and positively participate with whatever comes your way. Bring any required materials for classwork and be ready to give of yourself to your class and your art.
- **ON TIME:** Arrive on time. You will miss important information given out at the start of each class. Late arrivals will damage your participation grade.
- **RESPONSIBLE:** Keep track of your materials and communicate clearly. If you know you will miss class, be sure to tell me. Keep up with the work required of you.
- **RESPECTFUL:** Conduct yourself in a manner that respects the rights of others and contributes to building class trust under the "Safe Zone" philosophy. A community of trust and acceptance is essential to theatre work. Do not bring in outside food or candy as there is no eating allowed in class. Treat classroom property respectfully, as well.

Materials:

To be considered prepared for class, you must have with you every day:

- 2-pocket folder (or 6th grade binder pocket)
- pencil and highlighter
- charged iPad (and earbuds for certain projects)
- assignment planner or homework recording system
- DEAR book (Mondays)

Clothing:

Wear clothes and shoes you can easily move in and will not be revealing if you are active. If you are not dressed appropriately, you may be asked to only observe class when exercises require certain elements of range of movement, When this is the case, you will earn a deduction on your participation grade.

Tardiness:

Tardiness to class is unacceptable. If you are late, you disrupt the concentration of the class, miss out on essential information, and lose your warm-up time. Repeated tardiness demonstrates disrespect for the learning process and will result in a lower participation grade and, if repeated, will require class time to be made-up after school.

Absences:

Theatre is a highly participatory and group-based art form. When you are absent, you miss learning that cannot be duplicated. It is essential students are present in class if you wish to receive full participation credit. If you miss a class it is YOUR responsibility to find out (or ask in advance) what you missed. A student has one day for every day they were absent to make up missed assignments.

Substitute Teacher Policy:

When Ms. Janssen is absent from class, regardless of who the substitute teacher is, all students must follow all classroom routines and rules, show the same respect to the teacher and other students, and cooperate fully with the requests and expectations of the substitute teacher. Any student reported by a sub for disrespect or disruption while Ms. Janssen was gone will place a phone call home and other potential appropriate consequences. Make a substitute teacher's job easy by being superb humans for them! Make me proud!

Online Classroom:

Class assignments, resources, and information will be posted on our Google Classroom page. You are responsible for writing down your assignments, checking the school online homework calendar, as well as Google Classroom each night as part of your homework routine to determine if you have classwork due the next day.

Grading:

Assignments may be given point values, a percentage grade, or a letter grade, depending upon what makes sense for the nature of the assignment.

	Excellent Exceeds Standard A 90 - 100%	Above Average Meets Standard B 80 - 89%	Average Emerging Competency C 70-79%	Substandard Below Standard D 60-69%	Failing Needs Improvement F 59% & below
Participation	Always on time, dressed to move & well-prepared for class. Outstanding attitude and strong participation in class work and in positive support of others' work.	Generally well-prepared for class. Good attitude and participation in class work and in support of others' work. Can still grow in personal effort or connection to classwork.	Preparedness issues interfere with full participation. And/Or attitude or effort in class needs growth towards positivity.	Consistent problems which may include: lack of preparedness for class, lacking substantial positive participation, and/or poor effort put into classwork.	Disregard for class expectations. Poor participation. And/Or Attitude problems are grave and negatively affect self and others.
Acting Performance Work	Strong connection to material and ensemble. Meets all criteria with excellence. Well-rehearsed.	Good connection to material and ensemble. Meets all criteria. Well-rehearsed. Room for personal growth evident.	Intermittent connection to material and ensemble. Some lapses in meeting criteria. May lack in rehearsal effort.	Lack of adequate preparation, rehearsal, and/or sufficient effort is evident.	Not memorized, no serious effort to meet criteria. Obvious lack of preparation. Work undermines class intentions.
Quizzes and Tests	Quizzes are given as formative assessment of students' understanding of content in the process of being learned. Some quizzes may count toward final grades, while others may not. Tests will be given at the end of each unit as summative assessments of student learning. Usually, these assessments are given electronically and graded with percentages.				
Homework & Classwork	Occasionally, homework may be assigned with the purpose of completing necessary tasks that need accomplishing outside of class time. This may include memorizing lines, reading and responding to informational or fictional texts, and rehearsing for performances. In-class assignments may be graded and included in this category as well.				

Final Grades= ____% Participation + ____% Acting Work + ____% Quizzes/Tests + ____% Home/Classwork

Contact Information:

Ms. Karah Janssen
Theatre Teacher

EMAIL: (Best way) janssenk@avoca37.org

Phone: 847-251-3617 x132 (voicemail...but, might as well send me a carrier pigeon!)

I am generally available after school for extra help or make-up work.

“The Safe Zone”

You create a feeling of safety in the classroom in 2 important ways:

1. Emotional Safety

- *Protect each other from harm or hurt.*
- *Think about what you say before you say it.*
- *Think about how you say it.*
- *Think about what you're saying with your body language, too.*
- *Strive to always be positive and encouraging towards your peers.*
- *Make this a safe place to take risks without fear of embarrassment.*
- *Give and receive feedback with positive intention.*
- *Celebrate each other's growth.*

2. Physical Safety

- *Be aware of other people* at all times and keep your body and its energy from hurting someone else.
- *Be aware of classroom furniture, the walls, and the edges of the stage.* They can be dangerous.
- *Be aware of the noise level.* Listening is vital to what we do.

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HOMEWORK:

Students: please sign below, demonstrating your agreement to class expectations and your personal commitment to upholding your expected daily contribution to creating “The Safe Zone” in Ms. Janssen’s class.

Grade: _____ Class Period: _____

Print Student Name: _____ Student Signature: _____

*Students, you must **give this sheet to a parent or guardian, have them read it, and have them sign below** that they are aware of these Theatre guidelines and expectations.*

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____

Return to Ms. Janssen no later than one calendar week from the first day of class.

Please take responsibility for the energy you bring into this space.

Your words matter. Your behaviors matter. Our patients and our teams matter.

Take a slow, deep breath and make sure your energy is in check before entering.

Thank you.