

November 6, 2009

Dear Company (both cast and crew) and parents of company:

And thus it starts; the dreaded advance into tech week. OK, maybe it's not that bad, but it does require extra time and energy, and I want us all to be prepared for the next three weeks.

1. Parents

- Please go to the web page (www.unit5.org/nchs/drama) and click on the **parents' link**. It takes a lot of support to do these long hours, and we would greatly appreciate your help. We need food to help feed the company, goods to sell at intermission, people to help take tickets, and more. Please consider it.
- For \$20 you can put a picture or **message of support for your student in the program**. If you are interested please email me (vernonk@unit5.org) before 11/9. If you own a business or know someone who may be interested, we also offer full page **ads** for \$50 or half page ads for \$25, and we estimate over 1,000 people will look at these programs.
- We also offer **professional head shots** of the actors, group shots of the crew, live action photos of the dress rehearsal, and posed production shots for sale. If you would like any of these, please go to our web site (above) and follow the links. Obviously, not all of these shots are available yet.
- Finally, if you are interested in hosting a **cast party** that would be great. Parties tend to start after 9:30 p.m. and end by midnight, and I personally attend all of them so rest assured they are appropriate. We have parties on the Fridays and Saturdays of production nights.

2. Students - Tech week hours

- For this **upcoming week**, the schedule remains the same, but we may extend beyond into 6:30 or 7.
- **Saturday, 11/7** - We will have a workday beginning at 9 in the morning. We will be hanging lights, setting up sound, finishing building, and continuing to work on props and costumes. Everyone is invited to spend what time they can. Light crew, this is mandatory.
- **Sunday, 11/8** – This is the cue-to-cue. Tech will be there around noon and actors will be called at 1. We will run the show from on sound or light cue to the next, without any acting in between. This day may last until 7 p.m.
- **Monday, 11/9** – We will either finish the cue to cue or run the show. This will last from 2:30 – 6. Volunteers frequently stay after rehearsal to help paint until very late, but please have your parents' permission *first*.
- **Tuesday, 11/10** – We will run the show, with all props and probably costumes. Again, you may volunteer to stay late and finish the set.
- **Wednesday, 11/11** – This is the first dress rehearsal. Your call is 5 p.m., but many students just stay after school. Parents are providing a dinner at 5. **YOU MAY NOT EAT OR DRINK IN YOUR COSTUME!** This is the first time we will work with both costumes and makeup, and run as if it is an actual show.
- **Thursday, 11/12** – Final dress! Call is 5, and dinner is provided. This is an open dress rehearsal, so it's your first performance in front of an audience. You may invite friends, teachers, or family if they cannot attend the performance nights. There is no admission.
- **Friday, 11/13** – **OPENING NIGHT!** Call is 5 and dinner is provided. We normally go to Denny's or have a cast party this night.
- **Saturday, 11/14** – Performance. Call is 5, and dinner is **NOT** provided. We usually have a cast party at someone's house that night.

(Sunday – Tuesday – NOTHING! Get some rest)

Wednesday, 11/18 – 2:30 – 6 (maybe a little longer?), and we will be taking production shots with costumes, makeup, lights, and set.

- **Thursday, 11/19** – Performance. Call is 5, dinner is provided. We may run out to Denny’s for a while after.

- **Friday, 11/20** – Performance, cast party

- **Saturday, 11/21 nothing**

- **Sunday, 11/22** – Strike. This is a mandatory call; everyone must be there. It begins at noon, so get there as soon as you can if you have church or something. We hope to be done by 4, but I can’t promise that

- So... -

Sat, 11/7 – light hand and workday 9 to 4ish

Sun, 11/8 – Q2Q – noon 7 or later

Mon, 11/9 – 2:30 – 6 or later

Tue, 11/10 – 2:30 – 6 or later

Wed, 11/11 – 5 – 10; possible technical work before and after

Thur, 11/12 – 5 – 10

Fri, 11/13 - 5 – 10

Sat, 11/14 – 5-10

Wed, 11/18 – 2:30 – 6ish

Thur, 11/19 – 5 - 10

Fri, 11/20 – 5 – 10

Sat, 11/21 – (nothing)

Sun, 11/22 – noon to 4ish

3. And finally...

If you are bringing in **costume** pieces, please have them in by Sunday. Do you have your **makeup kit** from the Alamo II yet? Don’t wait, or you might get the wrong skin tone!

That’s a lot of information, but I think it’s everything. I hope this leads to fewer surprises, conflicts, and stress. Please let me know if you have any questions. My cell is **(309) 303 – 2303** and while I can’t answer it sometimes, I will respond to voice mail and texts. As always, you can reach me at the email listed earlier as well.

Thank you all, parents and students alike, for your hard work and patience. This is a very time consuming hobby, but I guarantee you are going to be pleased with the end result. This is going to be a show of which you can be very proud.

Thank you,

Vern