

CODE OF ETHICS

The success of our production will depend on the cooperative effort of many, many people. Each will bring their own individual talents to the whole group. Our show will be a fun and rewarding experience *only* if together we create, develop, and maintain an environment in which *everyone* shares in the creative process.

In order to reach this goal, we must be guided by a set of rules:

1. Casting The Actor and Stage Crew member must understand it is an honor to be chosen for a role, be part of the Ensemble, or to work on Crew in an SPX Theatre Arts production. However, it should also be understood that anyone can be replaced if the situation warrants.

2. Attitude Respect each other's work. At all times we must remain aware of our own and others' physical and emotional well-being. Every person has a different level and type of talent, and each of us should encourage each other in a positive way toward improvement. It is to everyone's benefit to put on a good show. In other words, maintain a positive attitude! Stage productions require discipline. While people are working onstage, those offstage must keep activities and conversations to a minimum. Nothing offstage should cause anyone's concentration to be distracted.

3. Attendance Cast and Crew attendance at every rehearsal or work session is important for yourself and those of us who depend on you. The Actor and Crew member will be on time to all rehearsals, Crew work sessions, performances, technical rehearsals, meetings, and any other calls given by the Director or Stage Crew Moderator. Actors will sign in at the Call Board upon their arrival. No one can sign in for another person. If the Actor is not in the rehearsal space when called, without prior notice given to the Director, the Actor is considered tardy. Four tardies may lead to the Actor's dismissal from the production. The Actor is allowed no unexcused absences. All conflicts must be given in writing. There is no specified limit on excused absences, but if the Director feels the Actor is not committed to the production, the Actor may be dismissed from the production.

4. Consideration Respect those we work with and those with whom we share the facilities. We are large groups of people trying to work, at times, simultaneously in the same workspace. We must give and we must take. Pick up after yourself, don't write on chalkboards, or behave inappropriately.

5. Directors (Drama, Stage Crew, Music, Choreography, Costumes, Hair & Makeup) The Directors are the people in charge of artistic implementation. The Directors have final say. Complaints and comments can be directed to the Student Director, Stage Manager, or Crew Chief. Wanton disregard for direction, or disrespecting any Director, may result in removal from the show.

6. Student Director, Stage Manager, Crew Chief The Actor and Crew member must understand that these individuals are disciplinarians. It is their duty to keep everyone focused and on task. Most often, directions from any one of these individuals comes directly from a Director and may pertain directly to the Actor's or Crew member's well-being. The Student Director, Stage Manager, and Crew Chief will command the same respect as a Director.

7. Stage Crew The Actor must appreciate that Stage Crew is a necessary and valuable part of any production. Actors will respect their work and WILL NOT TOUCH any items not assigned to them.

A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY HAS BEEN ADOPTED FOR RULES #8, 9, 10, & 11.

IF A STUDENT IS FOUND IN VIOLATION OF ANY OF THESE RULES,

HE/SHE WILL BE EXCUSED FROM THE PRODUCTION.

THERE WILL BE NO SECOND CHANCES.

8. Designated Areas During all practices and performances, you are to remain in the designated areas. No one is allowed to wander outside or through the building. If you did not get what you needed from your locker at the close of school, you may not get it during rehearsal time. No one is allowed to leave the school grounds during rehearsals without written permission from a parent and your Director's approval. You are entrusted to our care during the time you are scheduled to be at rehearsal. Therefore, we will take no risks. If you are not needed onstage or do not have a specific assignment elsewhere, whether you are Cast or Crew, you are expected to stay in an area designated by your Director.

9. Dangerous Activities No student shall engage in any activity that could potentially have dangerous consequences. Any student with knowledge of such activities is required to report it to a Director. Any activity that cannot be discussed with a Director is an activity students should not be engaged in.

10. Facilities Handle school property carefully. It does not belong to you. Vandalism or theft of any kind will not be tolerated and will be cause for immediate dismissal. After rehearsals, the stage must be put away; tools and paint, costumes and props must be stored in their assigned places. All areas should be cleaned before anyone leaves.

11. Friends Friends are not allowed at rehearsals, during set construction, or backstage during performances. Directors are responsible for all individuals at practice. As stated in the Student Handbook, “Public displays of affection are considered inappropriate in the school setting or at school functions.” ***Cell Phones are not permitted during scheduled cast/crew work sessions.***

12. Academics The following rule listed in the Student Handbook will be strictly enforced:
ACADEMIC PROBATION: “Academic Probation is imposed upon any student who has received two or more failing grades. A student with two or more failing grades is suspended from participation in all co-curricular activities beginning on the school day after report cards are posted until the school day after the next quarter’s report cards are posted.” In other words, if you don’t make the grades, you are out! Bring your books and homework to rehearsal if you find you have free time. Education comes first!

13. Food or Beverages Food and beverages (except water) are allowed only when there is a break. Plan ahead if you think you will become hungry during rehearsal. In other words, eat before you come. Keep all food away from scenery, props, and costumes. **Clean up your mess!**

14. Pick-up Times Students who do not drive must make parents aware of the time they need to be picked up. Directors should not have to wait until rides are called for and arrive; parents acknowledge their responsibility to pick up their student on time, waiting, if necessary, during final cleanup. ***No one leaves until all areas are clean.***

15. Fundraisers Every student pledges to participate in the **fundraisers**. These fundraisers directly benefit the drama productions and no other school activity. There are **two**:

Patron & Ad Sales: each student is required to sell a **minimum of \$75** in ads for the program book per show or \$150 in ads for the entire year (3 shows). As an alternative to selling ads, a payment of \$75 per show, or \$150 for the entire year, may be submitted.

Pizza Sales (usually in February or March): each student is required to sell a minimum number of pizzas &/or cookie dough (number to be determined). You may opt out of pizza/cookie sale for \$100 payment. Failure to fulfill fundraising obligations will result in student not earning privileges such as participation in school performance, trips, special events, etc.

16. Cast and Crew Meals Each Cast & Crew member is required to submit **\$20 per show** for Cast & Crew meals. This money helps defray the cost of meals provided during long rehearsals, dress rehearsal, closing night, strike, etc. \$20, \$40, or \$60 (cash or check made out to Christine Vaught may be put in an envelope with student’s name and “Dinner Money” on the envelope) should accompany the signed contract.

15. Power Tools For safety, no student is to use any **power tool** without a Director’s express permission and guidance. Safety glasses **must** be used while any power tool is turned on.

16. Due Dates Due dates must be adhered to or students will not be given Drama privileges (field trips, absence from school for performances, etc.).

17. Bios All seniors will submit a bio 3 weeks prior to the Spring Musical.

18. Student Handbook The rules stated in the Student Handbook are included herein and will apply during rehearsals and production.

We all must make every effort to keep the lines of communication open. If at any time, you need to discuss something with a Director, please do not hesitate to see or call us.

Any infraction of the rules, explicitly stated or implied above, may be cause for dismissal from the production or, at the very least, recommendation for detention.

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