Ms. Meacham

H Drama 1

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**Welcome to Honors Drama I**

Welcome to Drama! This year we will explore all areas of theatre such as acting, improvisation, voice, play analysis, scene study, stagecraft, playwriting, directing, and film and TV technique. This is a workshop class, which means we will be on our feet, learning through doing.

Lane is fortunate to have arts partnerships with Steppenwolf Theatre, Chicago Dramatists, and Pegasus Players Theatre. Your class will go on at least one field trip this school year to see a professional play in Chicago.

Just a reminder: you must be here in order to learn and explore new theatre concepts. Finally, you need to come to class with an open mind and a willingness to take risks.

**What will you learn?**

Quarter 1: Basic Acting Skills and how to create character

Quarter 2: Voice: using voice in performance

Play Analysis: how to read and analyze a play as an actor

Scene Study: how to analyze, stage, and perform a scene from a play

Quarter 3: Playwriting: how to write a one-act play

Improvisation: short form improvisation rules and games

Quarter 4: Scene Study and acting review

Film/TV acting technique

Directing

**Course Materials**

You will need the following:

* A Drama folder (with pockets) and notebook paper
* A flashdrive
* Pens
* Plays, scenes, monologues, and scripts as needed

**Class Expectations and Standards**

You are expected to:

* Report to class time.
* Be seated and prepared for class when the bell rings.
* Complete all assignments on time and to the best of your ability.
* Treat yourself and others with respect.
* Refrain from talking when others are speaking or performing.
* Wear your school ID around your neck.
* Refrain from eating and drinking.
* Follow the dress code.
* Keep all electronic devices such as cell phones and i-Pods off and in your bags (unless they are used in a lesson).
* Listen.
* Participate and have fun.

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**Homework**

Homework is project-based and is expected at the beginning of class the day it is due. If you are absent, you are responsible to find out what homework you missed. The week’s homework assignments will be posted with the class goals every day and on my website. Late homework assignments will be half credit.

**Attendance/Behavior/Community Participation**

Attendance is mandatory; you need to attend class in order to do well. You will receive a 50 point punctuality/attendance/participation grade every 5 weeks. The grade will reflect your participation and behavior in class as well as the following elements:

* **tardies** (-3 each unexcused tardy)
* **cuts** (-30 each cut and an automatic zero on any assignment completed/due in class)
* **cell phone infractions** (-10 each infraction)
* **Not wearing an ID** (-3 each infraction)

Because community is a very important part of the drama class, students will also receive grades as a group/class. The community grades will be based on warm-ups, transitions, station work, and group performances.

**You must be in class the day you are scheduled for a performance or a presentation. If you must miss a performance assignment due to an emergency or illness, email me (mmeacham@cps.edu) or leave a message on my voice mail (773-534-5400, ext. 23177) the morning of your presentation. Otherwise, you will not be able make up the assignment, which could result in a failing grade.**

**Grading**

* You will be graded on a point system.
* Late papers and projects will receive one letter grade lower for each day they are late.
* Plagiarism results in a zero on the assignment.

**Grading Scale**

**A=90-100**

**B=80- 89**

**C=70-79**

**D=60-60**

**F=0-59**

**Extra Help, Questions, Concerns**

I am here to assist your learning. Please feel free to email me with class concerns or questions. Also, I am available for extra help before or after school, and during 5th period by appointment. I look forward to a successful year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Meacham

**Drama Student Survey**

Last name:  First name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Class period:  ­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Pronoun:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You are all amazing people, and I am eager to learn more about each of you. Please help me do so by completing the following handout. I appreciate your honesty. Thank you!

1. What did you do this summer?
2. Why are you taking this class?
3. What types of activities would you like to do in this class? What part of Drama do you think you are interested in studying?
4. Please list any theatre related experience. This includes acting, improv, music, dance, and backstage related classes and performances.
5. Do you have art, carpentry, sewing, make-up, back stage, or computer skills? If so, list.
6. List your favorite book, TV show/movie, and actor.
7. What are you really good at?
8. What is something I (as your drama teacher) should know about you?
9. Do you have a job? If so, where and how many hours a week?
10. What are your other hobbies and activities?
11. Who is in your family?
12. What language(s) is/are spoken at home?
13. I learn the most when the teacher…
14. I learn the most when I…
15. I don’t like it when teachers…
16. After high school, I will probably…
17. My ideal job would be…

**PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT SHEET**

**DRAMA**

Room 202 – Ms. Meacham

**Student Information**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Information**

Parent 1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (print)

Parent 1 Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent 1 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent 2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (print)

Parent 2 Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent 2 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Student/Parent Agreement***

*Drama I—Ms. Meacham*

I have read the course syllabus and understand all of the policies and guidelines. As a student, I agree to adhere to the expectations set before me and understand the consequences if I do not. As a parent, I agree to the expectations set for my child and will support them in their academic endeavors.

Signature of Student Print Student Name

Signature of Parent Print Parent Name

Date

**PARENT/GUARDIAN SURVEY**

Dear Parent or Guardian,

These questions will help me get to know both you and your student better. I appreciate your honesty. Thank you!

1. What strengths does your child bring to the classroom?

2. Are there any struggles your child may have in this class? If so, please tell me about your concerns.

3. Please describe a time when your child was particularly creative, or tell a favorite story about him/her/them.

4. Is there anything else that I should know so that we can start the year on the right foot?