**Drama Tech**

Syllabus

Dunbar Creative and Performing Arts Magnet Middle School

**Mr. Thomas Thompson**

**tthompson3@mcpss.com**

**Objectives:**

Drama Tech is a hands-on introduction to the understanding, designing, crafting and execution of theatrical productions. Our objective is to learn the basics of theatre/drama terminology and to obtain the hands-on skills to properly execute the basic theatre production. You will come from this course a better problem solver, carpenter, electrician and leader.

**Course Description:**

Drama Tech will introduce the first year technician to the areas of stagecraft and theatrical production. *You will build, paint, climb ladders, lift things and handle various tools and materials in this class.* The theatre elements to which you will be introduced will include, but are not limited to:

Stage elements Stage properties Crews/Assignments

Theatre appreciation Costumes Makeup

Lights/Sound Set Construction Stage Management

Scene Painting Tools/Equipment and more...

**All students are encouraged to participate in all drama/theatre productions and other performances/assemblies as needed. The dates will be announced in class and over the school announcements.**

**General Course Requirements…**

1. Maintain a 3 ring BINDER and bring it to class daily. The following should be in your binder at all times.

\* The Syllabus

\* Loose Leaf Paper

\* Daily Objective Section

\* Bell ringer section

\* Notes/Vocabulary Section

\* Handouts Section

1. View and evaluate two (2) live theatre events per semester at the middle school level or above. Live theatre events do not include videos of any kind, films, T.V. shows, or rock concerts. **Each viewing/evaluation will equal one (1) major grade.** You will turn in a program and/or ticket stub along with a written critique about what the show was about and what technical aspects of the show you thought were great and what you thought did not work for the production. Both evaluations must be turned in one week prior to the end of each semester. These critiques must be typed and are graded for grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc.
2. Production/crew/appreciation hours: all drama tech students are required to complete a minimum of 8 crew hours per semester. **The hours must be documented on your ‘Production/Crew Hours’ card and will count as two (2) major tests during the school year.** Also, you are to write a half page summary of the production you saw or worked in regards to the technical aspects of the show. Talk about what technical elements were involved, and what worked and what didn’t work with the show. (Ex: Did the scene changes happen smoothly?) You are in charge of keeping up with your appreciation hour’s time sheet. It’s your responsibility to document and prove your crew hours. You may prove your hours with a sponsor or adult signed program or ticket stub. If no program was available, a note signed by the event sponsor will suffice. With the exception of theatre events, no student may acquire all of their hours from a single event and all events must be performed at the Middle School level. There is a max of two hours per event. These rules are subject to change.

**Production Hours (Opportunities):**

* 1. Any professional theatre performance or Middle School or High School Performance
  2. Live performances of band, orchestra, choir, dance, baton, and art.
  3. Any DMS drama department activities.
  4. Other fine arts departmental performances will be accepted.

**Grading Policy:**

Projects & Tests will count 60%, Participation/Daily Work 20%, and Homework will count for 20%.

What we will be doing from week to week will depend primarily upon what the fine arts departments need for us to do. There will be times when we will be working on set pieces for drama productions, props and backdrops for dance performances, and sound for all of the performances/assemblies. We will also be bringing back the annual Dunbar Haunted House Fundraiser this year. Your child will be taking part in building props, sets, backdrops, and costumes for this fundraiser. There will be some actor roles in the haunted house as well, but those roles and how they will be given will be determined at a later date.

**Parents/Guardians: Please do one of the following to let me know that you have read** **through the class syllabus.**

* Send me an email that tells me you read the syllabus. My email address is at the top of the syllabus. Make sure you let me know who your child is in your email.
* Sign this paper below and have your child show it to me.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature Date