Abstract

Middle school is a time of life that most adults would characterize as their worst years ever. From awkward haircuts to awkward social interactions, most people who have survived those sixth, seventh, and eighth grade years would say that middle school was a miserable, lonely period of their lives. Yet, I have chosen to dedicate my life to teaching middle school students. Through teaching Theatre at a local middle school for three and a half years while attending Ball State, I have learned that middle school is a time of passion, creativity, discovery, and growth for students. Contrary to popular belief, middle school can actually be some of the best years of a student’s life. That’s where Theatre comes in, with its proven ability to open discussions and provide a safe, caring environment for students. In this project, I explore the merits of Theatre as an element of life for a middle school student, and I also present my developed materials for a production of *Alice in Wonderland Jr.* that was performed on November 14, 15, and 16, 2015.
Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Michael Daehn, who has encouraged and helped me through all my years at Ball State and who, unwittingly, inspired me to choose Ball State. Thank you, Mike.

A secondary shout-out to my parents who have always believed in me, my brothers who always make me laugh, and my friends Andrew Walker, Rebecca Craig, Danny Jackson, and Shelby Myers, people who made this show possible.

And a Queen-of-Hearts-sized thank-you to the students at Northside Middle School. Thanks for being the craziest and best people on the planet.
Author’s Statement

When I tell people what I do with my life and what my chosen career path is, the most common response I get is, “You’re kidding, right? Ugh, that sounds like the worst job I could imagine.” No, I’m not an ER nurse or a garbage collector. I’m a middle school teacher.

“Middle school?” you ask, incredulous. “But middle school is the worst time of life for everyone! Middle school is when no one liked me and I had braces and ate lunch all by myself every day!” These are remarks I regularly hear from all kinds of adults. And my response is always the same: with the beginning of a smile, I ask in response, “But didn’t you have that one teacher who made everything bearable?” And invariably, the answer is a surprised “yes.” Maybe time and distance put a dark lens around society’s collective memory of middle school, or maybe it truly was that bad for some people, but even the adults with the worst memories of their preteen years often recall a shining beacon of light that held their lives steady. Many times, this beacon of light is a teacher.

I have had the distinct privilege of working as the Theatre director at Northside Middle School in Muncie, IN, for the past three and a half years – and yes, that is six semesters out of my nine semesters total at Ball State. I actually began to work at Northside during my freshman year (Fall 2011) as a volunteer in an English classroom once a week. I enjoyed the opportunity to be immersed in a classroom environment so early in my college career, and I learned a great deal that year. The following year, several English teachers at Northside, having heard that I was a Theatre major as well as English, approached me and asked me to take over their Theatre program as a director. Uncertain and nervous, painfully aware of my young age and lack of prior experience with both directing and teaching, I agreed.

I could not tell you how different my life would be if I had listened to my fears and said no.

That next semester, in January of 2013, I began my journey as a middle school teacher. I was challenged with learning the rules and norms of a school at which I did not officially work, and I was challenged with meeting and forming relationships with the choir director, band director, office staff, custodial staff, and a host of other faculty who helped me with problems as small as obtaining a roll of duct tape to as large as setting up the finances for the drama club. Amidst the chaos of a sharp learning curve of the school’s policies and amidst the artistic challenge of blocking a whole show for the first time, one facet of this experience never felt like a challenge to me: getting to personally know, respect, value, and encourage my students.

I discovered through this experience that these students, ages eleven through fourteen, are some of the most compassionate, caring, and downright fun people I have ever met. I discovered that, although most adults would say that middle school was their worst years, these students are full of life and passion. Many are nervous and almost all are uncertain of who they are and where they fit into the world – but they are searching. They want meaning, they want substance, they want to know that they belong and that they can be a part of something bigger than themselves.

And that’s where Theatre comes in. I do not pretend to have all the answers to a student’s every question about life, but I do know that Theatre provides a medium through which to discuss possible answers to those questions. Theatre provides these students with a community in which they can be themselves – which, as corny as it may sound to an adult reader, is actually an extremely important quality for middle school students to have in their lives.
and in which they can make friends, make mistakes, and make happy memories in a safe and encouraging environment.

Theatre gives students of this age a space where they can think about big ideas. When we put on The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood in the spring of 2014, we had conversations about what qualities define a hero and heroes in traditional storytelling. When we did Once on This Island in fall of 2014, we had open discussions about what love really is – if it really can cross the earth and withstand the storm.

More close to my heart, Theatre also gives students a space where they can be respected and valued. I often tell students that they are important and that their ideas and opinions are important, too. I know that these statements are ones that too many students do not hear often enough. When they are in my Theatre, they know that the people around them are their friends and allies. The people there are loving. One student once characterized our group as “a family that never gets divorced.” He meant, of course, that students will grow up and move on to high school and other pursuits, but the values, lessons, and friendships made in this program will never be forgotten.

Alice in Wonderland Jr. served as the last chapter of my experiences at Northside, and every moment of it spoke reminders to me about all that I have learned about middle school students and the importance of Theatre in their lives. For the seventy-five students involved in the show, Theatre became their home. One student confided to me that, this semester, Theatre “was the only reason I wanted to wake up and come to school.” I have received many such comments from students, and while the comments speak to the poignancy and relevancy of the program that I have established, they also demonstrate that most of these students lead far less-than-perfect lives. In a community entrenched with poverty and all of the problems that come with poverty, Theatre becomes the place where these seventy-some students feel safe, affirmed, and part of something bigger than themselves.

Putting on Alice in Wonderland Jr. was my way of showing the students what a crazy, zany world Theatre is – and how worthwhile it is to create and dwell in. The world of Wonderland is complex but nonsensical; it’s sunshine-filled but has a lurking darkness behind it. Wonderland thus mirrors the students’ lives in many ways: it’s unpredictable, it doesn’t always make sense, and sometimes bad things happen. Just like life – and by extension, just like Theatre, which is of course “a mirror held up to society” – Wonderland is a place of love and laughter coupled with confusion and chaos. But at the end of the day, there is not one student who wouldn’t want to take a trip to Wonderland.

I know that the process of creating this musical has inspired my students to take on bigger challenges in their lives – caring more deeply for others, taking that extra step to be a friend to someone, or going out of their comfort zone to help someone else. I also know that their personal levels of confidence go way up when they are involved in the Theatre “family,” which you can see evidence of in the Student Interviews section at the end of this binder. I know – because I have seen firsthand – that being in Theatre in middle school can truly change a child’s life for the better. They become more self-confident, empathetic, well-rounded humans.

“A legacy is planting seeds in a garden you never get to see” (Hamilton). These students – I have taught about a hundred and fifty in my time with Northside Theatre alone – will someday remember me as “that” teacher. When they are adults and someone mentions middle school, their reaction will probably be standard: “Ugh, that was the worst time of my life!” But I hope that they are next asked, with the beginning of a smile, “But didn’t you have that one teacher who made everything bearable?” And they will remember me. And they will remember
how much they learned in Theatre, about life and about themselves. I will not always get to see
the garden I’ve planted, but such is the lot of teachers. I am content to trust.

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Parent Meeting Agenda
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“Songs by Character” Plot for Choreographer
Emails to Parents
Show Flyer
Director’s Note
Copy of Playbill
Strike Chores
Making a Difference: Student Interviews

*Text adapted from *Disney’s Alice in Wonderland Jr.*, adapted by David Simpatico for Music Theatre International
Audition Contract
Alice in Wonderland
Audition Form

Name: ____________________________
Grade: ____________________________
Home Address: ____________________________
Email address: ____________________________
Cell phone # (if applicable): ____________________________
Parents'/Guardians' names: ____________________________
Parent phone #: ____________________________
Parent email address: ____________________________

I am interested in (check all that apply):

___ Acting
___ Singing
___ Dancing
___ Building/painting scenery
___ Costumes
___ Makeup / Hair Design
___ Technical (lights, sound)

Previous Theatre Experience
Please list any theatre experience you have had in the past two years or so. If you don’t have any, just write “none.”

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Special Skills
Please list any special skills you have, such as singing, playing an instrument, juggling, riding a skateboard well, cartwheeling, etc.


Rehearsal Conflicts
Our performances are going to be the evenings of Friday, Nov. 13, Saturday, Nov. 14, and Sunday, Nov. 15.

Rehearsals will begin on Monday, Sept. 21 and run Monday-Thursday afternoons after school until about 5:00 or 5:30.

The directors are willing to work around your conflicts (such as sports, piano lessons, etc.), but please let us know about them in advance! Please list below any conflicts you have with the rehearsal schedule:


Agreements
• I agree to be quiet, respectful, and encouraging toward all other actors and participators during these audition sessions.
• I agree to listen to instructions at all times during the process.
• I agree to present my best effort during my audition: to talk loudly, to smile, to NOT STRESS OUT, and to just be myself and have fun onstage.

I understand and agree to the above statements.

(Your signature)
First Rehearsal Calendar Draft
# September

**Alice in Wonderland JR Rehearsal Calendar**

If you are unable to attend a rehearsal, you MUST contact Miss Akers at least 1 week in advance at 765-252-8794 OR dsakers@bsu.edu.

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<td>GENERAL AUDITIONS</td>
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<td>First Rehearsal: Cast Bonding! ALL CAST &amp; TECH 3:10-5:00p.m.</td>
<td>Read-Through ALL CAST &amp; TECH 3:10-5:00p.m. Parent Meeting 5:00-5:30p.m.</td>
<td>Music: Dodgsonland Pt. 1 &amp; 2 3:10-5:00p.m.</td>
<td>Blocking: Prologue &amp; Sc. 1 3:10-5:00p.m.</td>
<td>Workshop #1 3:10-4:30p.m.</td>
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<td>Review</td>
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<td>Dance: Dodgsonland</td>
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# October

**Alice in Wonderland JR Rehearsal Calendar**

- **Northside MS Theatre**

If you are unable to attend a rehearsal, you MUST contact Miss Akers at least 1 week in advance at 765-252-8794 OR dsakers@bsu.edu.

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<td>Review: all previous 3:10-5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Review Day ALL CAST 3:10-5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Workshop #2 3:10-4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Saturday Rehearsal: Very Good Advice, Ocean of Tears, Caucus Race 10a.m. - 2:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>I'm Late Reprise / Review Day ALL CAST 3:10-5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Music/Dance: How D’Ye Do / Sc. 3 3:10-5:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Review Day ALL CAST 3:10-5:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>18</td>
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<td>Review Golden Afternoon / Sc. 4 3:10-5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Music &amp; Dance: Zip-a-dee-doo-dah 3:10-5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Review Day ALL CAST 3:10-5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Workshop #3 3:10-4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Saturday Rehearsal/Build Day: 10a.m.-2:00 p.m. Zip, Unbirthday Pts. 1&amp;2, I'm Late Rpr. / Sc.5</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<td>Review Painting the Roses Red / Roses Rpr. / Sc. 6</td>
<td>Music/Dance: Simon Says Pts. 1&amp;2</td>
<td>Review Day ALL CAST 3:10-5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Workshop #4 3:10-4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Saturday Rehearsal/Build Day: 10a.m.-2:00 p.m. Unbirthday Repr., Who</td>
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# November

*Alice in Wonderland JR Rehearsal Calendar*

**Northside MS Theatre**

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<td>OPENING NIGHT! Call time: 5:00p.m Show: 7:00p.m.</td>
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<td>SHOW #3! Call time: 12:30p.m Show: 2:00p.m.</td>
<td>Perform for school? Strike?</td>
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<td>Workshop #5 3:10-4:30p.m.</td>
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# December

**Alice in Wonderland JR Rehearsal Calendar**

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Final Rehearsal Calendar
# September

**Alice in Wonderland JR Rehearsal Calendar**

**Northside MS Theatre**

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**GENERAL AUDITIONS**

3:10-5:30p.m.

**First Rehearsal:**
- Cast Bonding!
- ALL CAST & TECH
  - 3:10-5:00p.m.

**Read-Through**
- ALL CAST & TECH
  - 3:10-5:00p.m.

**Music:**
- Dodgsonland Pt. 1 & 2
  - 3:10-5:00p.m.

**Blocking:**
- Prologue & Sc. 1
  - 3:10-5:00p.m.

**Workshop #1**
- 3:10-4:30p.m.

**Dance:**
- Dodgsonland Pt. 1 & 2
  - 3:10-5:00p.m.
- Parent Meeting
  - 5:00-5:30p.m.
- Review
  - Dodgsonland Pt. 1 & 2/Prologue/Sc. 1
  - 3:10-5:00p.m.
- Music & Dance: I'm Late
  - 3:10-5:00p.m.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<th>Saturday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Review Very Good Advice, Ocean of Tears, Caucus Race / Sc. 2</td>
<td>I’m Late Reprise / Review Day ALL CAST</td>
<td>Music/Dance: How D’Ye Do / Sc. 3</td>
<td>Review: all previous 3:10-5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Workshop #2 3:10-4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Saturday Rehearsal / Build Day ALL CAST &amp; TECH 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.</td>
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<td>3:10-5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>FALL BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Music/Dance: Golden Afternoon / Sc. 4</td>
<td>Review Golden Afternoon / Sc. 4</td>
<td>Music &amp; Dance: Zip-a-dee-doo-dah</td>
<td>Zip, Unbirthday Pts. 1&amp;2, I’m Late Rpr. / Sc.5 ALL CAST</td>
<td>Workshop #3 3:10-4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Saturday Rehearsal/Build Day: 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Zip, Unbirthday Pts. 1&amp;2, I’m Late Rpr. / Sc.5 ALL CAST &amp; TECH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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# November

## Alice in Wonderland JR Rehearsal Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Review Unbirthday Repr., Who Are You, Finale</td>
<td>Act I ALL CAST &amp; TECH</td>
<td>Act II ALL CAST &amp; TECH</td>
<td>FULL SHOW ALL CAST &amp; TECH</td>
<td>FULL SHOW ALL CAST &amp; TECH</td>
<td>Saturday Rehearsal / Build Day 9a.m.-12 p.m. ALL CAST &amp; TECH</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>TECH WEEK ALL CAST &amp; TECH</td>
<td>TECH WEEK ALL CAST &amp; TECH</td>
<td>TECH WEEK ALL CAST &amp; TECH</td>
<td>TECH WEEK ALL CAST &amp; TECH</td>
<td>OPENING NIGHT! Call time: 5:00p.m Show: 7:00p.m</td>
<td>SHOW #2! Call time: 5:00p.m Show: 7:00p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Strike ALL CAST &amp; TECH</td>
<td>Cast Party! ALL CAST &amp; TECH</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Workshop #5 3:10-4:30 p.m.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you are unable to attend a rehearsal, you MUST contact Miss Akers at least 1 week in advance at 765-252-8794 OR dsakers@bsu.edu.
| 29 | 30 | Thanksgiving Break | THANKSGIVING Break | Thanksgiving Break | Thanksgiving Break |
# December Alice in Wonderland JR Rehearsal Calendar

**Northside MS Theatre**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

If you are unable to attend a rehearsal, you MUST contact Miss Akers at least 1 week in advance at 765-252-8794 OR dsakers@bsu.edu.

- **Workshop #6** 3:10-4:30p.m.
- **Workshop #7** 3:10-4:30p.m.
- Last Day of Semester
Audition Flyer
Northside Middle School Theatre presents...

**Disney's Alice in Wonderland JR.**

Calling all actors, singers, dancers, technicians, painters, artists, & costumers:

We want YOU to join the Cast & Crew for this year's musical!

**General Auditions:**
September 14 & 16 from 3:10-5:30 p.m.
Callback Auditions:
September 18 from 3:10-5:30 p.m.
***Students wishing to audition for singing roles MAY prepare 16 bars of a song of their choosing, but this is not required.***

---

Audition Workshop

Interested in learning how to be awesome at your audition?

Join the Drama Club on Wednesday Sept. 9 from 3:10-4:30 p.m.
General Audition Sides*
Group Scene #1
5: Cheshire Cat 1, 2, 3; Alice, Doorknob

CHESHIRE CAT 1: With one gulp of that drink, Alice shrank to three inches tall!

CHESHIRE CAT 2: You mean three inches short.

CHESHIRE CAT 3: It was a very tall three inches.

ALICE: Oh, look at me. I’m the right size!

DOORKNOB: I believe someone forgot about the key waaaaaay up there on that shelf.

ALICE: Now I’m too small to reach the key! Oh no, no, no. *(Alice starts to cry)*

DOORKNOB: Please *try* to suppress your emotional outbursts. Have a cookie.

ALICE: Well, it looks delicious. But how do I know what’s in it? Don’t be silly, Alice – what harm can one cookie do?

*(Alice takes a bite and starts to grow)*

CHESHIRE CAT 1: Alice grew so big with just one tiny bite...

CHESHIRE CAT 2: That she filled the entire room.

ALICE: Now I’m too big!

DOORKNOB: Sorry kid, you’ll never fit in Wonderland now. Try Pittsburgh.

ALICE: But I want to see the White Rabbit.

CHESHIRE CAT 1: Alice cried and cried and cried and cried –

CHESHIRE CAT 2: And cried and cried and cried and cried –

CHESHIRE CAT 3: And cried and cried and cried and cried –

CHESHIRE CAT 1, 2, 3: Until the entire room was filled with an ocean of tears!
"It's a Huge Confidence Booster:” Middle School Theatre and Why It’s Important

An Honors Thesis (HONR 499)

By

Danielle S. Akers

Thesis Advisor
Michael Daehn

Signed

Ball State University
Muncie, Indiana

December 2015

Expected Date of Graduation
December 19, 2015
ALICE: Oh look, another cookie. I really shouldn’t, but he’ll never even notice.

CHESHIRE CAT 2: Famous last words.

CHESHIRE CAT 3: Alice took one bite and grew as big as a house.

CHESHIRE CAT 1: The White Rabbit’s house to be exact.

CHESHIRE CAT 2: Her arms and legs stuck out the windows and doors –

CHESHIRE CAT 1: And the roof sat on top of her head!

ALICE: Oh no, I can’t go out in public in this house dress. I’ve got to do something.

WHITE RABBIT: Help help there’s a monster in my house! And I’m late!

ALICE: I’m not a monster, I’m a little girl. Okay, a very big little girl.

WHITE RABBIT: Help help there’s a very big little girl in my house. And I’m still late!

DODO BIRD: Whoa! Love the hat.

WHITE RABBIT: I’m late! Help me! Help me!

DODO BIRD: I have the answer!

CHESHIRE CAT 1, 2, 3: And there was much rejoicing!

ALL: Yay!

DODO BIRD: We’ll burn the house down!

WHITE RABBIT & ALICE: Noooooo!

DODO BIRD: Hurry up now, gather the wood. Anybody got a light? I’m all out.

WHITE RABBIT: Just hurry!!! Pleeese!!! I’m –

ALL: Late. We know.
ALICE: Up, down, big, small – no matter how hard I try, I never seem to fit in!

ROSE: *(making fun of Alice)* Up, down –

LILY: *(making fun of Alice)* Big, small –

PETUNIA, DAISY, VIOLET: *(making fun of Alice)* I never seem to fit in.

ALL FLOWERS: Eeuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuu!

*(Flowers laugh with major attitude)*

ALICE: Oh how pretty you all are!

ROSE: *(snottily)* We know! Right, Daisy?

DAISY: That’s right, Rosey.

VIOLET: Everybody loves us because we’re…


ALICE: The Golden Afternoon? What’s that?

LILY: It’s the name of our very exclusive garden club, right Petunia?

PETUNIA: Totally affirmative, Lily. If you want to be cool, you have to be one of us!

ROSE: No one gets in unless we say.

VIOLET: And we don’t let in just anyone.
Callback Sides*
Callback Scene: Cheshire Cats
Characters: Cheshire Cat 1, Cheshire Cat 2, Cheshire Cat 3

CHESHIRE CAT 1: Alice is about to discover that Wonderland is nothing like she expected!

CHESHIRE CAT 2: It’s a land filled with racing Lobsters, singing Flowers, painting Cards, and even a Cheshire Cat, that’s me!

CHESHIRE CAT 3: He means us. But I –

CHESHIRE CAT 1: Meaning me –

CHESHIRE CAT 3: That is, we –

CHESHIRE CAT 1: Come in later. First –

CHESHIRE CAT 2: Alice meets a pallid, long-eared, carrot-munching quadruped known only as…

CHESHIRE CAT 1, 2, 3: The White Rabbit!

CHESHIRE CAT 1: Ahem, I said, first she meets…

CHESHIRE CAT 1, 2, 3: The White Rabbit!

(nothing. We hear crickets chirping)

CHESHIRE CAT 2: Oh, he’s always late.

CHESHIRE CAT 3: Hey, White Rabbit, you’re on!
Callback Scene: Cheshire Cats / Alice
Characters: Cheshire Cat 1, Cheshire Cat 2, Cheshire Cat 3, Alice

CHESHIRE CAT 1: Hello, Alice. I – We are the Cheshire Cat.

ALICE: Oh how do you do? I have a cat named Dinah just like you.

CHESHIRE CAT 2: Oh, really?

CHESHIRE CAT 3: Just like us, huh?

CHESHIRE CAT 1: Are you sure?

ALICE: I’m not sure of anything anymore. I’m not even sure of who I am. I thought Wonderland would be everything I always dreamed about, but everyone wants me to be something else!

CHESHIRE CAT 1: Somebody having a bad day?

ALICE: Maybe the White Rabbit can help me, but I can’t find him anywhere.

CHESHIRE CAT 1: You might ask the Mad Hatter.

CHESHIRE CAT 2: He knows where everything is.

CHESHIRE CAT 3: Trouble is, he keeps it all under his hat.

ALICE: A Mad Hatter? I don’t want to make anyone mad.

CHESHIRE CAT 2: Haven’t you noticed we’re all a little mad?

CHESHIRE CAT 3: Why, I myself am not all here!
(Alice is at the edge of the Rabbit Hole)

ALICE: Should I or shouldn’t I? You know what they say: “If you don’t explore, you’ll never discover.” But my sister Mathilda always says, “Look before you leap.” Well, I’m looking and it looks pretty deep and dark and I can’t see the bottom and maybe it goes all the way to the center of the earth and I’ll be burnt to a crisp in the molten core like the bad marshmallow we’ve all heard so much about!

(Pause)

Or not.

(Pause)

Okay, I looked. Now it’s time to leap!
ALICE: Oh excuse me, I didn’t mean to crash your birthday party.

MAD HATTER: It’s not a birthday party, it’s an unbirthday party.

ALICE: An unbirthday party?

MAD HATTER: Well, you only have one birthday each year, but you have 364 unbirthdays!

(They play musical chairs, and everyone cheats except Alice)

ALICE: Say, where I come from we play by the rules!

MAD HATTER: Yes, but rules can be so limiting. It’s so much more fun to make up your own rules.

ALICE: But if everyone makes up their own rules, how do you know if you’re playing the game right?

MAD HATTER: Well, that’s part of the game, I guess.
Callback Scene: Queen of Hearts
Characters: Queen of Hearts, Alice

QUEEN OF HEARTS: And just what do we have here, hmmmmmm?

ALICE: I believe you mean “whom do we have here.”

QUEEN OF HEARTS: (yelling) Silence! We speak the Queen’s English here, you nameless little whelp!

ALICE: Yes, your loudness. I mean your Largeness. I mean your Highness! And my name is Alice, I think. At least it was when I got here.

QUEEN OF HEARTS: That’s impossible, everyone knows Alice doesn’t live here anymore!

ALICE: All I want to do is get out of here and find my way back home.

QUEEN OF HEARTS: Your way home? You’ll find my way home or we’ll cut off your head! You’ll be who I say you are and no one else, do you understand?

ALICE: Oh, nothing makes sense here!

QUEEN OF HEARTS: And don’t you forget it. Now, before you go anywhere, you’ll have to beat me in Wonderland’s favorite pastime. I want to play Simon Says!
Callback Scene: Tweedles
Characters: Tweedle Dee, Tweedle Dum, Alice

ALICE: Don’t you know who you are?

TWEEDLE DUM: Well, there’s no need to attack us!

TWEEDLE DEE: Yes, we’ve only just met!

ALICE: I thought you knew each other, I’m sorry.

TWEEDLE DUM: Oh, how do you do? I’m Tweedle Dum.

TWEEDLE DEE: And I’m Tweedle Dee.

ALICE: And I’m out of here! It’s been fun, but I have to find the White Rabbit.

TWEEDLE DUM: Meeting and running ain’t very polite! There’s a right way –

TWEEDLE DEE: And a wrong way –

TWEEDLES: To do things!
callback scene: white rabbit
characters: white rabbit, alice

white rabbit: i’m late, i’m late, for a very important date! no time to say hello – goodbye! – i’m late, i’m late, i’m late!

alice: (runs after him) mr. rabbit!

white rabbit: mary anne, mary anne, hurry. i can’t find my gloves –

alice: but my name isn’t –

white rabbit: mary anne, ginger, gilligan, i don’t care what your name is, don’t argue with me, yu’re making me later than i already am. hurry hurry my gloves, somewhere in my house, i’m late!!!
Callback Scene: King of Hearts / Queen of Hearts
Characters: King of Hearts, Queen of Hearts, White Rabbit, Alice

KING: I’m afraid Alice has won the match!

QUEEN: You may have won the match, but you’ve just lost your head! Royal Cardsmen! Off with her –

KING: Wait my dearest, why don’t we have a trial. Just this once, you know, shake things up a bit.

QUEEN: Well, all right, but make it fast. I want to see her head rolling around like a bowling ball.

KING: All assemble for the high tribunal of Alice vs. Queen of Hearts! The prisoner is charged with enticing her majesty, the Queen of Hearts, into a game of Simon Says, and thereby willfully causing our beloved Queen to lose her royal temper!

ALICE: Don’t be silly, I just beat her at her own game.

QUEEN: She beat me, do you hear, she confesses, she beat me, beat me!
CALLBACK SCENE: MATHILDA
Characters: Mathilda, Alice

MATHILDA: *(she is lecturing Alice)* And during the American Revolution, King George the Third, or Old Mad George, as some have so called him...blah blah blah blah

...And he was so angry at George Washington that he made all his own royal soldiers dress in bright red uniforms that...blah blah blah blah

And of course those bright red uniforms made them look just like giant walking lobsters that went...

*(Alice sneaks up on her and scares her)*

EEEEKKK! Alice, honestly, when are you ever going to grow up?

ALICE: Look, Mathilda, I'm a lion! Roarrrr!

MATHILDA: Alice, you're just a silly little girl pretending to be a lion. Remember what the Immortal Bard said, "To thie own self be true." Oh, let me find that book and I'll show you...
**Callback Scene: Dodo**  
Characters: Dodo Bird, Alice

DODO: *(Yelling to the Lobsters who are rowing the boat)* Stroke! Stroke! Stroke! Stroke, you hard-shelled crustaceans! Stroke or I’ll boil some butter and eat you for brunch!

*(They land on shore, and Dodo Bird gets out of the boat)*

ALICE: Yuck, I’m all wet! Anybody got a towel? A blow dryer? An extra pinafore?

DODO: My dear young damsel, the only way to get yourself dry in Wonderland is to initiate an officially sanctioned Caucus Race!

*(Alice starts to leave)*

DODO: But, my dear, come back! You forgot your Gold Medal Flour winner’s cookie!
Parent Meeting Agenda
Alice Parent Meeting Agenda

1. As parents are walking in, have them check Spreadsheet to fill in/edit their contact info
2. Welcome & Introduce Directors
3. Why we think Theatre is important (distribute calendars at this time)
4. Rehearsal Calendar / Scheduling Conflicts / Absences
5. Student grades
6. Student conduct
7. Specific stuff:
   a. Dancing rehearsals
8. Request for supplies (Andrew’s list – can read aloud and email later)
9. Questions
Final Costume Plot
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>What You Need to Bring</th>
<th>What Will Be Provided for You</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alice</td>
<td>White tank top, black shorts, bright blue t-shirt, jeans</td>
<td>Dress, bloomers, petticoats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheshire Cat</td>
<td>Black flats</td>
<td>Cat ears, matching pants and shirts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathilda</td>
<td>Jeans, solid red t-shirt, sneakers</td>
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<tr>
<td>White Rabbit</td>
<td>Costume completed 😊</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doorknob</td>
<td>Black dress pants, black dress shoes, black long sleeved shirt</td>
<td>Gold face paint</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dodo Bird</td>
<td>Black dress pants, black dress shoes</td>
<td>Military jacket, captain hat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lobsters</td>
<td>Red pants, long sleeved red shirt, black shoes</td>
<td>Lobster antennae, claws</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fish</td>
<td>Blue pants, blue long sleeve shirt. Optional for girls: blue skirt (knee length at least) with blue tights/leggings</td>
<td>Fins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tweedle Dum/Tweedle Dee</td>
<td>Brown or black dress shoes, khaki pants</td>
<td>Matching yellow shirts, matching bowties, umbrella hats</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flowers</td>
<td>Long-sleeved, solid-colored shirt in your tutu color, black ballet flats</td>
<td>Tutus, green leggings, flower crowns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caterpillar</td>
<td>Black shorts and tank top to go under dress, black shoes</td>
<td>Dress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butterflies</td>
<td>Brightly colored long sleeved shirt that coordinates with your wings, black pants (leggings, dress pants, or sweat pants are all fine)</td>
<td>Wings, antennae headbands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plants</td>
<td>Long sleeved solid green shirt, brown or green pants, brown or green or black dress shoes (flats for girls, dress shoes for boys)</td>
<td>Leaf crowns, leaf hands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mad Hatter</td>
<td>Solid yellow short-sleeved shirt, brown or black dress shoes, patterned socks**</td>
<td>Bow tie, hat, patterned pants, jacket</td>
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<tr>
<td>March Hare</td>
<td>Brown pants rolled to the knees, knee-high white/cream socks, solid pink short sleeved shirt</td>
<td>Bow tie, rabbit ears, orange jacket</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doormouse</td>
<td>Brown pants, solid purple short sleeved shirt, bright colored shoes</td>
<td>Brown mouse ears, pink jacket</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tea Partiers</td>
<td>Colorful and/or patterned** pants (optional: pants rolled up to reveal bright/patterned** stockings), button-up colorful shirt w/ collar, bow tie or regular tie, Optional for Girls: colorful skirt (knee length at least)</td>
<td>Hair bows (for girls)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Outfit Details</td>
<td>Accessory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Card Soldiers</td>
<td>Black pants, solid black long sleeved shirt, black dress shoes</td>
<td>Cards to wear</td>
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<tr>
<td>Queen of Hearts</td>
<td>Black shorts and black tank top to wear under dress</td>
<td>Dress, crown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King of Hearts</td>
<td>Black dress pants, black long sleeved shirt, black dress shoes</td>
<td>Red cape, crown</td>
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</table>

**Patterns can only include: plaid, stripes, or polka dots. No other patterns, please!**
“Songs by Character” Plot for Choreographer
**Songs by Character**

**Dodgsonland 1 & 2:** Everyone

**I'm Late:** White Rabbit, Alice, Chess (x3)

**Very Good Advice:** Alice, Hatter, Queen, Dodo, Rose, White Rabbit, Caterpillar, Chess (x3)

**Ocean of Tears:** Dodo, Chorus 1 (about 18 students), Alice watching

**Caucus Race:** Dodo, Chorus 1 (about 18 students), Alice, Chess (x3)

**I'm Late Reprise (pg. 41):** White Rabbit, Chorus 1, Alice, Chess (x3)

**How Do Y'Do:** Tweedle Dum, Tweedle Dee, Alice

**How Do Y'Do Reprise (pg. 48):** Tweedle Dum, Tweedle Dee, Alice

**Golden Afternoon:** Flowers (5), Alice

**Zip-a-dee-doo-dah:** Chorus 2 (about 14 students)

**Unbirthday Song Pt. 1 & 2:** Chorus 1, Alice, Hatter, March Hare, Doormouse

**I'm Late Reprise (pg. 70):** Chorus 1, Alice, Hatter, March Hare, Doormouse

**Paint the Roses Red:** Chorus 2, Alice

**Painting the Roses Red Reprise:** Queen, Chorus 2, Alice

**Simon Says 1 & 2:** Queen, King, Chorus 2, Alice

**Unbirthday Song Reprise:** Queen, King, Chorus 2, Alice

**Who Are You?**?: Everyone

**Finale:** Everyone
Emails to Parents
Parent Email #9: 11/13/15
Opening Night!

Topics
- Call times & show times
- Snack amounts
- Parent volunteer arrival times

Dear Parents and Students of the Cast and Crew of Alice in Wonderland Jr.,

We made it!!! Here we are at opening night! The kids are so excited, and I hope you are too! Just a couple quick reminders about this upcoming weekend. I know it will be a huge success!

Call times: Please remember that your child must arrive at school at 5:00 on Friday and Saturday nights. On Sunday afternoon, your child must arrive at 1:30 p.m. Please help us ensure your child has enough time to get ready for the show by dropping them off on time!

Show times: Remember that our shows are at 7:00 on Friday and Saturday and 3:00 on Sunday.

Parent volunteer arrival times: If you are volunteering in for the show in concessions, tickets, or photos, remember to arrive by 6:30 p.m. to get your booth set up (we will show you what to do). If you are sending snacks, please remember to send them with your child at 5:00 so that the cast & crew can eat while getting ready. Also, if you are bringing snacks, please bring enough for 70 people.

See you all soon in Wonderland!
--Danielle Akers, 765-252-8794

Parent Email #8: 11/05/15
Flyer

Topics
- Attached is a show flyer that you can feel free to print and hang up at your workplace, church, etc.

Parents,

Attached to this message is a flyer for our show that lists the dates, times, location, and ticket cost of the show. Please feel free to print this flyer and hang it up at your workplace, church, or any place where people will see! These kids have worked extremely hard, and they deserve a packed house every night! Also, word of mouth is another important way of
spreading the message about our show, so make sure to be talking it up to your friends and family!

--Danielle Akers

**Parent Email #7: 11/05/15**

Makeup and etc.

Topics
- Makeup that kids need to bring
- Reminder to come to every rehearsal
- Reminder about this Saturday's rehearsal
- Reminder about tech week
- Reminder to stay healthy and come to school!

Dear Parents and Students of the Cast and Crew of Alice in Wonderland Jr.,

Several things for you and your child to keep in mind as we get very close to the show:

**Makeup:** Your child, whether girl or boy, will need certain items of makeup to wear during dress rehearsals and the actual show. Stage makeup is very important in theatre as it allows the audience to better see the actors' facial expressions. So, please send the following items with your child in a Ziploc baggie with his/her name written in Sharpie. Have them bring this in no later than **Wednesday, Nov. 11.** The items are:

**Girls**
- Foundation (liquid or powder is fine)
- Blush (try for a rosy color rather than hot pink)
- Eyeliner (black)
- Eye shadow (optional)
- Mascara (black)
- Lipstick (color that is only one or two shades darker/brighter than your natural color. Nothing hot pink or vibrantly red, please)

**Boys**
- Eyeliner (black)
- Lipstick (in a neutral shade that is approximately your natural lip color)

**Attendance:** The students are all aware of this, but *every* child needs to attend *every* rehearsal from now on. Because this is the week before the show, we really cannot have a single student gone as that will negatively affect the rest of the cast and crew.

**Saturday, 11/7:** Please remember our last Saturday rehearsal, this coming Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
**General Healthiness:** Students need to work hard to keep themselves healthy over this next week. Obviously, if a student is unable to come to rehearsal because they are ill, they are missing valuable information and also negatively affecting the rest of the cast and crew. Also, if a student misses school on the Friday of the show (Nov. 14), that student will not be allowed to perform in the show that night! So *please* make sure your students are taking care of themselves and staying healthy!

That’s all for now. As always, let us know if you have questions/comments!

Danielle Akers, Director | 765-252-8794 | dsakers@bsu.edu
Shelby Myers, Assistant Director | smmyers@bsu.edu
Danny Jackson, Music Director | drjackson2@bsu.edu
Andrew Walker, Technical Director | acwalker@bsu.edu
Rebecca Craig, Choreography Director | rkcraig@bsu.edu

**Parent Email #6: 11/04/15**
Volunteer sign-up

Topics
- Need volunteers to fill slots for:
  - Concessions
  - Photos
  - Tickets
  - Makeup application
  - Snacks

Dear Parents and Students of the Cast and Crew of *Alice in Wonderland Jr.*,

We are T-minus 10 days out from the show! As such, I want to go ahead and send out the volunteer sign-up list as usual. Below is a link for a Google Doc that has a table showing our needs for volunteers during the performances on Nov. 13, 14, and 15. Volunteers can be parents, grandparents, guardians, older siblings, etc. (if any high school siblings need volunteer hours for National Honor Society, they are welcome to volunteer for us!).

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1N1jiGq3yJDhmOha1xgUgfo7cVXD6wMk2wMAK34EqiQ/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1N1jiGq3yJDhmOha1xgUgfo7cVXD6wMk2wMAK34EqiQ/edit?usp=sharing)

If you are able to sign up for any of these areas, please just fill in your name in the appropriate box. Please make sure to sign up **by Wednesday, Nov. 11th**, so that we can ensure that all slots are filled. Thank you in advance for your help – we couldn’t do this show without you, parents!

Also, by tomorrow I will send out information regarding stage makeup and what kids need to bring.
WE ARE SO CLOSE!!!

Gratefully,
Danielle Akers, Director | 765-252-8794 | dsakers@bsu.edu
Shelby Myers, Assistant Director | smmyers@bsu.edu
Danny Jackson, Music Director | drjackson2@bsu.edu
Andrew Walker, Technical Director | acwalker@bsu.edu
Rebecca Craig, Choreography Director | rkcraig@bsu.edu

Parent Email #5: 10/26/15
T-Shirt Deadline & This Saturday’s Rehearsal

Topics:
• T-shirt money is due this Saturday (10/31) if at all possible
• Rehearsal on Halloween

Dear Parents and Students of the Cast and Crew of Alice in Wonderland Jr.,

Two things I want to update everyone on:

T-shirt/pizza money is due by rehearsal this Saturday, 10/31. If your child would like a shirt, please send $10 (cash or check made out to Northside Middle School) along with the size desired (adult sizes only) as soon as possible. This price includes the cost of the shirt as well as the pizza for our cast party. If your child does not want a shirt but would still like to come to the cast party (and they totally should, because cast parties are tons of fun), please just send $3.

Rehearsal on Saturday, 10/31: Of course, this rehearsal falls on Halloween, and so we’ve decided to have a little fun and allow kids to wear Halloween costumes to rehearsal. However, there are some requirements if your child wants to wear his/her costume to rehearsal:
• Costumes must follow school dress code
• Costumes cannot be scary, bloody, gory, etc. School appropriate only.
• NO MASKS. None.
• Costumes should still allow students to move freely as we will be dancing and moving during this rehearsal!

We are excited for this upcoming week of hard work and getting lots done! Please continue checking your calendar to see when you need to be at rehearsal!

Thanks,

Danielle Akers, Director | 765-252-8794 | dsakers@bsu.edu
Shelby Myers, Assistant Director | smmyers@bsu.edu
Danny Jackson, Music Director | drjackson2@bsu.edu
Andrew Walker, Technical Director | acwalker@bsu.edu
Rebecca Craig, Choreography Director | rkcraig@bsu.edu
Post-Fall Break Update

Topics:
- Itemized costume needs
- Request for supplies still needed
- T-shirt / pizza money
- Line memorization deadline

Dear Parents and Students of the Cast and Crew of *Alice in Wonderland Jr.*,

Well, I hope everyone had a Fall Break that was just as wonderful, relaxing, and fun as mine was! Just judging by rehearsals so far, the kids seem well-rested and beyond excited to get back working on the show. We directors are happy to be back as well! The show is about three and a half weeks away, so we are definitely kicking in gear and working really hard to get this show ready for opening night! Since we are getting closer and closer to the show, you can expect to hear more frequent communication from the directors (read: more emails).

As of right now, here are all the things you need to know:

We are still in great need of several items to use as props and costumes for the show. If you have any of these items lying around and would be willing to let us either have the item forever or just borrow it, that would be fantastic. Please let me know ASAP if you are able to donate/loan any of the following items:

**Supplies Needed:**
- Artificial flowers
- Umbrellas (that still open and close)
- Plastic cookie jar (or any jar that is about the size of a cookie jar)
- Extra-large bottle or bottle-shaped container. Must be larger than a 2-liter bottle.
- Free-standing clothing racks (we are in desperate need of more hanging space for our costumes!)
- Old oversized shirts to use as paint smocks
- Paint:
  - Gallons - bright colors preferred, esp. red
  - Spray paint (any color)
- Nails, screws, screwdrivers, any other types of hardware

**Line Memorization Deadline:** All Cast members must have all their lines memorized by **Monday, Nov. 2nd**. On this date, students will no longer be permitted to carry scripts onstage.

**T-Shirt and Pizza Money:** We will be ordering our show shirts within the next week or so, and we are going to start collecting money for the shirts as usual. If your child would like a
shirt, please send $10 (cash or check made out to Northside Middle School) **along with the size desired (adult sizes only)** as soon as possible. This price includes the cost of the shirt as well as the pizza for our cast party. If your child does not want a shirt but would still like to come to the cast party (and they totally should, because cast parties are tons of fun), please just send $3.

**Costumes:** As you can probably guess, the costumes for this show are fairly elaborate, definitely more elaborate than any show we've done before at Northside. As always, at Northside we simply don't have enough money to purchase every single piece of every single costume. Thus, we ask parents to help us out by finding the required pieces at home, at a thrift store, etc. All of the items we are asking students to bring should be easy to find either at home or at a thrift store. To help all of us be more organized, I have created a chart (below) that details the items that each student needs to bring in as part of their costume. The chart also shows which items we are willing to provide for each student. Please read below and **send the required costume pieces in by Wednesday, Nov. 4.** You can either send them to school with your child or drop them off during rehearsal anytime.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>What You Need to Bring</th>
<th>What Will Be Provided for You</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alice</td>
<td>White tank top, black shorts, bright blue t-shirt, jeans</td>
<td>Dress, bloomers, petticoats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheshire Cat</td>
<td>Black flats</td>
<td>Cat ears, matching pants and shirts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathilda</td>
<td>Jeans, solid red t-shirt, sneakers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Rabbit</td>
<td>Costume completed 😊</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doorknob</td>
<td>Black dress pants, black dress shoes, black long sleeved shirt</td>
<td>Gold face paint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dodo Bird</td>
<td>Black dress pants, black dress shoes</td>
<td>Military jacket, captain hat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lobsters</td>
<td>Red pants, long sleeved red shirt, black shoes</td>
<td>Lobster antennae, claws</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish</td>
<td>Blue pants, blue long sleeve shirt. Optional for girls: blue skirt (knee length at least) with blue tights/leggings</td>
<td>Fins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tweedle Dum/Tweedle Dee</td>
<td>Brown or black dress shoes, khaki pants</td>
<td>Matching yellow shirts, matching bowties, umbrella hats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flowers</td>
<td>Long-sleeved, solid-colored shirt in your tutu color, black ballet flats</td>
<td>Tutus, green leggings, flower crowns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caterpillar</td>
<td>Black shorts and tank top to go under dress, black shoes</td>
<td>Dress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butterflies</td>
<td>Brightly colored long sleeved shirt that coordinates with your wings, black pants (leggings, dress pants, or sweat pants are all fine)</td>
<td>Wings, antennae headbands</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Plants
Long sleeved solid green shirt, brown or green pants, brown or green or black dress shoes (flats for girls, dress shoes for boys)  Leaf crowns, leaf hands

Mad Hatter
Solid yellow short-sleeved shirt, brown or black dress shoes, patterned socks**  Bow tie, hat, patterned pants, jacket

March Hare
Brown pants rolled to the knees, knee-high white/cream socks, solid pink short sleeved shirt  Bow tie, rabbit ears, orange jacket

Doormouse
Brown pants, solid purple short sleeved shirt, bright colored shoes  Brown mouse ears, pink jacket

Tea Partiers
Colorful and/or patterned** pants (optional: pants rolled up to reveal bright/patterned** stockings), button-up colorful shirt w/ collar, bow tie or regular tie, Optional for Girls: colorful skirt (knee length at least) with patterned** or colorful tights  Hair bows (for girls)

Card Soldiers
Black pants, solid black long sleeved shirt, black dress shoes  Cards to wear

Queen of Hearts
Black shorts and black tank top to wear under dress  Dress, crown

King of Hearts
Black dress pants, black long sleeved shirt, black dress shoes  Red cape, crown

**Patterns can only include: plaid, stripes, or polka dots. No other patterns, please!

That's all the info you need to know for now...although I will definitely be getting back with you soon as the show approaches! Thank you all for supporting your child's participation in an activity that is helping them grow as an artist and as a person 😊

As always, email/call/text with any questions!

Danielle Akers, Director | 765-252-8794 | dsakers@bsu.edu
Shelby Myers, Assistant Director | smmyers@bsu.edu
Danny Jackson, Music Director | drjackson2@bsu.edu
Andrew Walker, Technical Director | acwalker@bsu.edu
Rebecca Craig, Choreography Director | rkcraig@bsu.edu
**Small Parent Email #1: 10/02/15**
Asking if 9 students who appear in song “Very Good Advice” could come to rehearsal Wednesday 10/07 (although the Calendar says they do not need to come)

Topics
- Ask if students can attend
- Will not be punished if not able to come (since less than 1 week notice)

To:
lillysmom6064@att.com; amycoop1973@gmail.com; Joanna.Robertson@woofboom.com; Jo.Robertson@att.net; tigger123.ab@gmail.com; lbennett307@gmail.com; griffyn9210@gmail.com; ejones2703@gmail.com; destinydroberts@yahoo.com; yvonnerbrtssns@gmail.com; lerogers01@comcast.net; hrogers65@comcast.net; teddibishop12@gmail.com; mbishop@muncie.k12.in.us; ptturner292@gmail.com; tiffanyturner@outlook.com; pete_dd77@hotmail.com

Dear Parents,

In the midst of our first full week of rehearsals, we have made lots of very wonderful progress. However, the cast as a whole is taking a bit longer to learn the first few songs than I had anticipated. Thus, although I had hoped for your students to learn the song “Very Good Advice” (there are 9 of them in this song) on Saturday, I do not think we will have time to do so. To remedy this situation, I would like to ask that your child attend rehearsal this coming Wednesday, Oct. 7. On the Calendar it currently says that we are only rehearsing “How D’Ye Do,” so I understand if you were not planning on your child attending that day. However, if it is possible, I would greatly appreciate their attendance so that we can learn the music and choreo to this song.

I do not often make changes to the Calendar, so I am sorry about this change and will strive not to do it often again. I truly appreciate all of your dedication to your child’s participation in this program. Please let me know whether or not Wednesday will work for you.

Gratefully,
Danielle Akers, 765-252-8794, dsakers@bsu.edu

**Parent Email #3: 9/29/15**
Post-Parent Meeting Update

Topics
- Restate old business from previous email (for newly added addresses)
- New business brought up at meeting:
  - Supply list to come out soon, would appreciate donations
  - Clothing for dance rehearsals
  - Saturday rehearsals
Dear Parents and Students of the Cast and Crew of Alice in Wonderland Jr.,

Thank you so much to those parents who were able to make it to the Parent Meeting last night. It was a very productive time for all of us, and we directors truly appreciated the opportunity to meet many of you.

The following information is basically a re-statement of what was discussed at the meeting last night, staring with “new business” brought up last night and ending with “old business” that was discussed in the previous email. If you were not at the meeting, I encourage you to keep reading so that you are up-to-date with us in the rehearsal process. If you WERE at the meeting, feel free to read on, but again you will have heard this information before.

**New Business Brought up at the Meeting:**

**Workshops:** Our program holds Theatre workshops every Friday afternoon until 4:30 in the auditorium, and we invite all Northside students to participate. These workshops are on various Theatre-related topics (past workshops have included sessions on rhythm, tap dancing, scenic painting, basics of lighting design, improv, etc.) and are highly educational for the students. While attendance is not required at these workshops, we highly recommend that students attend if possible so that they can learn more about Theatre.

**Supply list:** Supplies Needed for Alice in Wonderland
- Gently used, wearable clothing (for costumes in future)
- Old oversized shirts to use as paint smocks
- Paint:
  - Gallons - bright colors preferred, esp. red
  - Spray paint
- Nails, screws, screwdrivers, any other types of hardware
- Fabric
- Old (cheap) jewelry
- Lengths of tulle
- Artificial flowers, esp. roses
- Umbrellas (that still open and close)
- Any extra anything you would like to donate

**Proper clothing for dance rehearsals:** Several of our rehearsals are marked on the Rehearsal Calendar as “Dance.” On these days in particular, we highly encourage students to bring a change of gym/workout clothes to put on before rehearsal. Dancing is obviously a physical activity that requires a full range of movement, which is simply not possible in, say, skinny jeans. Please encourage your child to pack a change of clothes for these days so that he/she is comfortable, cool, and can capable of movement.
**Saturday Rehearsals:** As the Calendar indicates, we do have rehearsal on 4 Saturdays throughout October and November. No, Saturdays mornings are not the directors’ favorite times to be awake either, but these rehearsals are absolutely essential to our process. Please make every effort to bring your child to these rehearsals, because (as always) when one student is gone, it affects every other student.

**Importance of Scripts & CD's:** We strongly encourage each student to listen to his/her show CD and read his/her script as often as possible. A thorough knowledge of the music and dialogue of this show will help us tremendously in the rehearsal process. Please help us out by encouraging your child to listen to their CD (perhaps in the car), assist them in memorizing dialogue, etc. We couldn’t do this without your help!

**Old Business from Previous Email** (for those who did not receive previous email)

1. **Rehearsal Calendar:** The Rehearsal Calendar is attached to this email, and printed copies will be available at the Parent Meeting. Each day’s box contains information on which scenes and songs will be rehearsed that day. It is your student’s responsibility to know when he/she should attend rehearsals based on the Calendar. See our attendance policy below for more information on absences.

2. **Regarding student grades:** To participate in this production, students (including Cast and Tech Crew) must be achieving acceptable grades in all classes. For us directors, school work always comes first. If a student is failing any class, he/she must talk with the directors to work out a system that will allow the student to bring the grade up as soon as possible. If no system can be worked out or if the student continues to have a failing grade, the directors will be forced to cut him/her from the show.

3. **Regarding student conduct:** As an organization within Northside, we expect all of our students to represent the school and themselves well at all times. Our program is not for students who want to sit around and “hang out” after school. We certainly have a lot of fun at rehearsals, but our enjoyment comes from the hard work we put into our show. If it is apparent that any student is coming to rehearsals to hang out with friends and is disinterested or disobedient of instructions, we will ask that student to leave immediately. If the problem continues more than once, we will ask that student to leave the show entirely. Student behavior has rarely been an issue for our program in the past, and we expect it will stay that way.

4. **Scheduling conflicts:** We completely understand that your child is likely involved in other extracurricular activities. In fact, we love that middle school students are involved in multiple areas of interest! We are very flexible with working around your child’s conflicts. If your child is on a sports team, has piano lessons once a week, etc., please contact us to let us know, and we will work with you to develop a schedule that works with both activities.

5. **Absences:** As educators, we understand that kids get sick or have to miss school for one reason or the other. However, since none of us are official teachers at the school, we do not have access to knowing whether your child was present or not at school that day. If your child will not be at rehearsal due to sickness or any other reason, please let us know as early as possible on that day so that we can plan our rehearsal time accordingly. If you do not let us know, then we have no way of
knowing if your child is simply “playing hooky” or if he/she has a legitimate absence. If a student misses more than 2 rehearsals without informing us of the cause (an “unexcused absence), then we will have a talk with him/her and the parents as well. If the student misses yet another rehearsal, we will be forced to cut him/her from the show.

6. **Request for help during performances:** Looking ahead to the nights of our performances, we will need parent assistance in selling tickets, concessions, photos, and providing snacks. While I won’t release our official sign-up sheet until closer to the show, please be aware that we could really use your help as volunteers during the performances.

Thank you so much for all you do! As always, email/call/text with questions!

Danielle Akers, Director | 765-252-8794 | dsakers@bsu.edu
Shelby Myers, Assistant Director | smmyers@bsu.edu
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Rebecca Craig, Choreographer | rkcraig@bsu.edu

**Parent Email #2: 9/27/15**
Oops, I Forgot to Attach the Calendar

Topics:
- Forgot to attach calendar to previous email
- Reminder about Parent Meeting

Parents,

I seem to have forgotten to attach the Rehearsal Calendar on my previous email. My apologies, and please find it attached to this email! The Calendar is subject to change, but we try to stick to it as closely as possible and will always let you know well in advance of any changes.

Hope to see many of you at the Parent Meeting tomorrow (Monday) from 5:00-5:30!

--Danielle Akers

**Parent Email #1: 9/25/15**
Introductory Parent Letter

Topics to be covered:
- Welcome, thanks, introduction of directors
- Parent meeting on 9/28
- Expectations for student grades and conduct
• Expectations for attendance
• Preliminary request for supplies (general list for now; more specifics to come later when Andrew makes the list)
• Preliminary request for help with show: concessions, tickets, snacks

Dear Parents and Students of the Cast & Crew of Disney’s Alice in Wonderland Jr.,

Welcome to the show! It is my pleasure as your director to welcome you to the show, to this process of creating, learning, and working that we call theatre. We, the directors, are extremely excited to be working here at Northside this semester with a fabulously talented cast and crew made up entirely of middle school students. Many people would say we are ridiculous for trying to put on a middle school musical – that there is no way such a thing could be done. Well, we proved those people wrong last year, and we are on our way to doing it again! Alice is the second musical that Northside has put on in the span of two years (last fall’s production of Once on This Island Jr. was the first musical the school had done in nearly 10 years), and with Northside’s partnership with the Ball State Theatre Education program, we look forward to many more years of successful musicals and plays put on by college directors and middle school students.

Parents, the first thing I always mention in my letters is our appreciation of your support, and in this letter I feel that thanking you is especially important. Without you, parents, who are committed to bringing your student to rehearsals, helping them memorize their lines, putting up with listening to their show CD over and over in the car, helping the directors out by selling tickets and concessions, providing costume pieces, etc. etc. etc., THIS SHOW COULD NOT HAPPEN. Parents, we directors appreciate your support so, so much. We firmly believe that when your child is involved with theatre, he/she is growing and learning not only as an artist but as a person as well, and your support in this activity that provides a safe place for the growth of your child is irreplaceable. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for supporting your child as they explore theatre as an art.

With all that said, I must get down to a few items of important business relating to our policies as a theatre program at Northside. Please read the following information carefully, and please let us know if you have any questions!

7. Rehearsal Calendar: The Rehearsal Calendar is attached to this email, and printed copies will be available at the Parent Meeting. Each day’s box contains information on which scenes and songs will be rehearsed that day. It is your student’s responsibility to know when he/she should attend rehearsals based on the Calendar. See our attendance policy below for more information on absences.

8. Parent Meeting on Monday, 9/28: The directors are hosting a meeting for all parents of Cast and Tech that will be this Monday, Sept. 28, from 5:00-5:30 in the auditorium. Since rehearsal gets over at 5:00 as usual, you can just come at the normal pickup time and then stay for the meeting. I will email the information that we discuss in the meeting in case you are unable to attend, but please do attend if it is possible.
9. **Regarding student grades:** To participate in this production, students (including Cast and Tech Crew) must be achieving acceptable grades in all classes. For us directors, school work always comes first. If a student is failing any class, he/she must talk with the directors to work out a system that will allow the student to bring the grade up as soon as possible. If no system can be worked out or if the student continues to have a failing grade, the directors will be forced to cut him/her from the show.

10. **Regarding student conduct:** As an organization within Northside, we expect all of our students to represent the school and themselves well at all times. Our program is not for students who want to sit around and “hang out” after school. We certainly have a lot of fun at rehearsals, but our enjoyment comes from the hard work we put into our show. If it is apparent that any student is coming to rehearsals to hang out with friends and is disinterested or disobedient of instructions, we will ask that student to leave immediately. If the problem continues more than once, we will ask that student to leave the show entirely. Student behavior has rarely been an issue for our program in the past, and we expect it will stay that way.

11. **Scheduling conflicts:** We completely understand that your child is likely involved in other extracurricular activities. In fact, we love that middle school students are involved in multiple areas of interest! We are very flexible with working around your child’s conflicts. If your child is on a sports team, has piano lessons once a week, etc., please contact us to let us know, and we will work with you to develop a schedule that works with both activities.

12. **Absences:** As educators, we understand that kids get sick or have to miss school for one reason or the other. However, since none of us are official teachers at the school, we do not have access to knowing whether your child was present or not at school that day. If your child will not be at rehearsal due to sickness or any other reason, please let us know as early as possible on that day so that we can plan our rehearsal time accordingly. If you do not let us know, then we have no way of knowing if your child is simply “playing hooky” or if he/she has a legitimate absence. If a student misses more than 2 rehearsals without informing us of the cause (an “unexcused absence”), then we will have a talk with him/her and the parents as well. If the student misses yet another rehearsal, we will be forced to cut him/her from the show.

13. **Request for supplies:** Alice in Wonderland is, by nature, a show that requires a lot of set, costume, and prop supplies in order to create the world of Wonderland. At the Parent Meeting, we will hand out a complete list of supplies for this show that we are interested in borrowing or receiving donations for. This list will also be emailed on Monday evening after the meeting. In addition, we are accepting donations of any old clothing, small items, or any objects around your house that you are looking to get rid of. A theatre program could always use a bigger stock of costume, prop, and set materials, and we will accept any donations you have!

14. **Request for help during performances:** Looking ahead to the nights of our performances, we will need parent assistance in selling tickets, concessions, photos, and providing snacks. While I won’t release our official sign-up sheet until closer to the show, please be aware that we could really use your help as volunteers during the performances.
Again, parents, thank you so very much for your support of this program and of your child’s ongoing success and growth as an artist. We look forward to meeting you this Monday at the Parent Meeting!

Very sincerely,

Danielle Akers, Director | 765-252-8794 | dsakers@bsu.edu
Shelby Myers, Assistant Director | smmyers@bsu.edu
Danny Jackson, Music Director |
Andrew Walker, Technical Director | acwalker@bsu.edu
Rebecca Craig, Choreographer | rkcraig@bsu.edu
Show Flyer
Northside Middle School Theatre presents

Alice in Wonderland Jr.

Friday, November 13 & Saturday, November 14 at 7:00 pm
Sunday, November 15 at 3:00 pm
Northside Middle School Auditorium
Copy of Playbill
Please turn off all cell phones, handheld games, and all other electronic devices, as they interfere with our microphone and sound systems.

Please refrain from any photography or video during the production. We will be selling professional photos during intermission and after the show, for a very low price so there is no need.

Food and drink are strictly prohibited within the theatre, with the exception of water. Concessions will be sold in the lobby during intermission and we ask that you please keep the concessions in the lobby.

The cast and crew would like to take the time to thank the following people for their dedication to this production. While there are many more that have helped us, the following have gone above and beyond to make this show special:

First and foremost, we’d like to thank the parents of the students of all parents. There would literally be no show without you. You give your time, your energy, and your support to the students, and we are eternally grateful for that.

In addition, each of the following have made their own contributions, both big and small to making this show a success.

Mr. Tim Heller
Mrs. Jackie Samuels
Mr. Mike Schuck
Dr. Sandra Whitaker
Mrs. Vicki Jeffers
Mr. Todd Vardaman
Ms. Kay Brown
Northwestern High School Theatre
Shoe Department Encore of Muncie

When I first picked up the script for this musical, my initial thought was, “This is way too crazy for me.” With a constantly-twisting plot and nonsensical characters, I had no clue how to best tell this story. Who is Alice? What’s her story? I had no answers. Even Walt Disney, when trying to take on a movie adaptation in the late ’40’s, nearly backed out of the project because he couldn’t find an angle to give the story meaning and heart. It wasn’t until late this past summer when I came to a realization about the convoluted plot: Wonderland is like life. Alice wanders around with no clear destination in mind, but the point of the story isn’t her end destination — it’s the adventures she has on the way. Alice makes decisions about which path to take throughout the show, and she makes all these decisions with no knowledge of how they will affect her afterward. She just decides and goes, and isn’t that what we all do in life? We make a decision, and most of the time we have no idea what will happen afterward — and then we go. Just like Wonderland, life is full of decisions to make. And we are all Alice, choosing and going. The adventures we have along the way are what matter.

On a more personal note, Northside has been my home for the past 3 years. The faculty and the students here have taught me so much about being a better educator and a better human. I want to deeply thank all involved in this school, especially the kids. I will no longer be working here next semester, and this fact pains my heart greatly. Just like Alice, it’s time for me to start my next adventure — but that doesn’t mean that leaving is easy. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart.

-- Danielle Akers, Director
Northside Middle School

PRESENTS

Alice in Wonderland Jr.
A Musical

Music and Lyrics by
Sammy Fain and Bob Hilliard, Oliver Wallace and Cy Coban, Allie Wrubel and Ray Gilbert, Mack David, Al Hoffman and Jerry Livingston

Music Adapted and Arranged and Additional Music and Lyrics by
Bryan Louiselle

Book Adapted and Additional Lyrics by
David Simpatico

Based on the 1951 Disney film "Alice in Wonderland" and the novels "The Adventures of Alice in Wonderland" and "Through the Looking Glass" by Lewis Carroll

Director
Danielle Akers

Assistant Director
Shelby Myers

Music Director
Danny Jackson

Technical Director
Andrew Walker

Choreography Director
Rebecca Craig

Faculty Advisor
Michael Daehn

Stage Manager
Constance Tipton

Chorus

Cast and Crew

Alice
Mathilda
Cheshire Cats
White Rabbit
Door knob
Dodo Bird
Tweedle Dee
Tweedle Dum
Rose
Lily
Petunia
Violet
Daisy
Caterpillar
Mad Hatter
March Hare
Queen of Hearts
King of Hearts
Door Mouse

Makayla Butler, Emeline Thygerson, Jordan Murphy, Mylasia Kirtz, Izak Chadwick, Baylea Collins, Alexis Davis, Duncan Kinsey-Sherrill, Preson Long, Bailey Brown-Pugsley, Ellyana Robertson, Will Wright, Mary Williams, Andrew Privett, Annika Waggoner, Sydney Harris, Andrew Piche, Drake Robbins, Blair Miles, Bryce Smalley, Gabby Merkel, Constance Tipton, Asia Wyatt, Geordan Frantz

Tonight’s performance will run approximately 75 minutes. There will be a 10 minute intermission.
Director’s Note
When I first picked up the script for this musical, my initial thought was, “This is way too crazy for me.” With a constantly-twisting plot and nonsensical characters, I had no clue how to best tell this story. Who is Alice? What’s her story? I had no answers. Even Walt Disney, when trying to take on a movie adaptation in the late ‘40’s, nearly backed out of the project because he couldn’t find an angle to give the story meaning and heart. It wasn’t until late this past summer when I came to a realization about the convoluted plot: Wonderland is like life. Alice wanders around with no clear destination in mind, but the point of the story isn’t her end destination – it’s the adventures she has on the way. Alice makes decisions about which path to take throughout the show, and she makes all these decisions with no knowledge of how they will affect her afterward. She just decides and goes, and isn’t that what we all do in life? We make a decision, and most of the time we have no idea what will happen afterward – and then we go. Just like Wonderland, life is full of decisions to make. And we are all Alice, choosing and going. The adventures we have along the way are what matter.

On a more personal note, Northside has been my home for the past 3 years. The faculty and the students here have taught me so much about being a better educator and a better human. I want to deeply thank all involved in this school, especially the kids. I will no longer be working here next semester, and this fact pains my heart greatly. Just like Alice, it’s time for me to start my next adventure – but that doesn’t mean that leaving is easy. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart.

--Danielle Akers

Thank-You List

Mrs. Samuels
Mr. Schuck
Dr. Whitaker
Vicki Jeffers
Kay Brown
Deena Lucy
Debbie Mizelle
Karen Huff
Rebekah Smith
Michelle Davis
Melissa Kennedy
Joann Robertson
Marnelle Bishop
Northwestern High School Theatre
Mr. Todd Vardaman & the entire custodial staff
Shoe Department Encore of Muncie
WLBC

All the parents of our students who have made this show possible
Strike Chores
GROUP 1 STRIKE

Your Assignment: Boys’ Dressing Room

Your checklist:

➤ Remove all personal items (form a pile at the front of the stage of items you believe belong to someone)
➤ Clear counter
➤ Wipe counter with all-purpose cleaner
➤ Wipe mirror with glass cleaner
➤ Hang all clothes that need hanging (find hangers outside the dressing room)
➤ Organize clothes – pants in one place, shirts in one place, robes in one place, etc.
➤ Put hats, wigs, etc. in a box
➤ Throw away trash and anything yucky
➤ Sweep floor with broom and dustpan
➤ Mop floor with mop
➤ Organize the paint shelf
  o Open and check all paint. If it is old and nasty, throw it away in dumpster. If it is still good, put it back on shelf in organized fashion
  o Wipe the paint shelves with all-purpose cleaner so they look nice

**When you have completed all these tasks, see a director for a check-through. You will then move on to another area to help everyone get done!
GROUP 2 STRIKE

Your Assignment: Girls’ Dressing Room

Your checklist:

➢ Remove all personal items (form a pile at the front of the stage of items you believe belong to someone)
➢ Clear counter
➢ Wipe counter with all-purpose cleaner
➢ Wipe mirror with glass cleaner
➢ Hang all clothes that need hanging (find hangers outside the dressing room)
➢ Organize clothes – pants in one place, shirts in one place, skirts in one place, dresses in one place, etc.
➢ Put hats, wigs, etc. in a box
➢ Throw away trash and anything yucky
➢ Sweep floor with broom and dustpan (remove rack first)
➢ Mop floor with mop (remove moveable rack first)

**When you have completed all these tasks, see a director for a check-through. You will then move on to another area to help everyone get done!**
GROUP 3 STRIKE

Your Assignment: Booth, Seating Area, Hallway, Lobby, & Backstage Left

Your checklist:

➢ Booth
  o Wipe table with all-purpose cleaner
  o Wipe chairs with all-purpose cleaner
  o Sweep floor with brooms/dustpans
  o Mop floor with mop

➢ Seating Area
  o Pick up trash

➢ Hallway and Lobby
  o Take down Bio papers and set them on front of stage for everyone to pick up
  o Pick up trash

➢ Backstage Left
  o Pick up and organize all loose items – put anything you think belongs to someone in that pile CS
  o Throw away trash
  o Move all 3 laundry baskets and the craft box to CS

**When you have completed all these tasks, see a director for a check-through. You will then move on to another area to help everyone get done!**
GROUP 4 STRIKE

Your Assignment: Stage

Your checklist:

- Move big clothing racks that are SL out to the middle of the stage so cast can get their costumes
- Sweep whole stage (every piece of floor you can possibly get to) with brooms and dustpans
- Pick up trash
- Pick up personal items (form a pile at the front of the stage of items you believe belong to someone)
- Clean off prop table: Put props away in dressing rooms that belong to the school
- If you believe a prop belongs to someone in the cast, put it in that pile of items in front of the stage
- Move (cleared-off) prop table out to the hallway
- Take chairs with silver legs back to band room in the tuba closet
- Organize stools, etc. that are SR – make the area look nice and neat

**When you have completed all these tasks, see a director for a check-through. You will then move on to another area to help everyone get done!**
Making a Difference: Student Interviews
I conducted the following interviews with students during Success period on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at Northside Middle School in Muncie, IN. I recorded these interviews with my iPhone, and what follows are the transposed records of the interviews. My voice is denoted by a traditional “Q,” while the students’ voices are represented by the traditional “A.” All student names are pseudonyms in the interest of protecting the privacy of my students.
Student Interview: Bryce
December 9, 2015

Q: Before Alice, had you participated in a play/show before?
A: Yes.

Q: Think back to the beginning of the semester, like before we had auditions for Alice. On a scale of 1 to 10, how comfortable do you feel that you were with speaking in front of a group of people or being on stage?
A: A ten.

Q: Okay awesome. And would you say that now you’re still a 10?
A: Yeah.

Q: At the beginning of the semester, on a scale of 1 to 10, how well did you feel that you “belonged” somewhere in school, that you had a group of friends you could rely on?
A: About a ten.

Q: Awesome, and do you still feel that way?
A: Yeah.

Q: Think back to the beginning of the semester, before auditions. On a scale of 1 to 10, how much confidence do you feel that you had in yourself?
A: About a seven.

Q: Okay. Do you feel that it’s changed now?
A: Yeah. About a nine.

Q: What would you say are some reasons?
A: Just getting up on stage helps with that whole confidence, you’re like, people are watching you and you’re doing great and then to see everyone stand up at the end and clap and it’s just awesome, it’s a huge confidence booster.

Q: Cool. Is there anything else you would like to tell me about how Theatre has influenced your life?
A: Um, it’s definitely helped me if my grade has dropped, it’s the fact of the next play is coming up, I’ve got to try harder so I can be in it, and that’s just always been a definite like, goal to set is to get my grades up so I can be in the next play.
Q: Before Alice in Wonderland, had you participated in a play/show before?
A: No.

Q: Think back for me, back to the beginning of the semester, before we had auditions. On a scale of 1 to 10, how comfortable do you feel like you were with speaking in front of a group of people or being on stage?
A: A seven.

Q: Okay. And do you feel like that has changed, throughout being in Alice in Wonderland and like now, do you feel like you are more comfortable with being in front of a group of people?
A: Yeah.

Q: Okay, awesome. Think back to the beginning of the semester, before auditions again. On a scale of 1 to 10, how well did you feel that you “belonged” somewhere in school, that you had a group of friends you could rely on?
A: A nine.

Q: Awesome. Do you like that’s changed now, at the end of the semester?
A: Yeah.

Q: How do you feel like it’s changed?
A: Because you meet a lot more people in drama, and they’ll always be there for you.

Q: Again, back at the beginning of the semester, before auditions. On a scale of 1 to 10, how much confidence do you feel that you had in yourself?
A: A eight.

Q: And do you feel like that’s changed now, at the end?
A: Yeah.

Q: In what way has it changed?
A: Because I feel like I can do a lot more, like speak in front of people without stuttering, and like, sing more in front of people.
Q: Is there anything else you would like to tell me about how Theatre has influenced you?

A: No.
Student Interview: Ellie  
December 9, 2015

Q: Before Alice in Wonderland, had you participated in a play/show before?

A: Yes.

Q: Think back for me to the beginning of the semester, before auditions. On a scale of 1 to 10, how comfortable do you feel that you were with speaking in front of a group of people or being on stage?

A: Seven.

Q: Okay, and why do you say seven?

A: Because, I’m loud and I don’t, I’m very confident, so…

Q: Do you feel like your level of being comfortable onstage or in front of people has changed now, at the end of the semester?

A: Yes.

Q: Why, what makes you say that?

A: Because, I got like some speaking parts in the play, and I thought I was going to be scared, but then I wasn’t, so that just made me think that I could say anything.

Q: Okay, back at the beginning of the semester, before auditions. On a scale of 1 to 10, how well did you feel that you “belonged” kind of in the school, or that you had a group of friends you could rely on?

A: Five.

Q: And do you feel like that number has changed now at the end of the semester?

A: Yes.

Q: How’s it changed?

A: Because people from the play were my friends, and a lot of people stopped being mean and stuff.

Q: Think back again one more time to the beginning of the semester. On a scale of 1 to 10, how much confidence do you feel that you had in yourself?

A: Six.
Q: And do you feel like that has changed now at the end of the semester?

A: Yes.

Q: How?

A: Well, before like, people would say stuff that I didn’t want to say anything or go, and I’d just sit there and let the talk about me, but after the play, I felt like I could just say it and go to people and ask and feel comfortable.

Q: Okay, awesome. Is there anything else you would like to tell me or talk about how Theatre has influenced you?

A: Theatre has influenced me to like, be nice to other people, because a lot of people in Theatre, I feel like I wouldn’t be nice to them, I thought they was mean, but they were actually really cool, and so I just started hanging out with them.