

Laraway School

DRAMA CLUB

Handbook



Dear Laraway Students and Parents,

We are extremely glad that you have chosen to join the Laraway Drama Club family. Your decision to become part of our program will ensure that the music tradition of pride, dedication and excellence will carry on for many years to come. It is a privilege to provide this opportunity! We look forward to a fantastic year of singing, dancing, and acting in the 2019 Spring Musical, 

As a member of the Laraway Drama Club you will:

- have the opportunity to develop the skills necessary for success.
- learn valuable life skills, such as literacy, reading, communication, teamwork, personal responsibility, and time management.
- face your fears, grow self-confidence, and show creativity.

Please read the detailed Drama Club Handbook and contact us at your earliest convenience with any questions, comments or concerns.

Warm Regards,

JOANNA JOLLY
KRISTEN KEMPIAK
CHERRELLE NEGRUSZ
KELLY THELEN

Co-Drama Directors

The best way to reach us is by
direct phone or text.

815-290-9424

Please save this number in your phone!

Student Expectations

Academics

Members of the Laraway Drama Club are expected to keep up with their schoolwork. If a student begins to fall behind, the student should talk to their teacher(s) to ask for help and to complete make-up work and/or extra credit whenever possible. Students who fall behind may also seek assistance from Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Negrusz, or Ms. Thelen.

Attendance

Each student's personal success and the overall success of the show are directly related to attendance! **Drama Club members are expected to attend all scheduled rehearsals.** Additionally, each Drama Club member contributes to the success of the group as a whole.

In case of an ***emergency, illness, family or religious conflicts, or school-sponsored activity or sport*** a parent/guardian should call, text, email or provide a written note to a musical director as soon as possible. If no effort is made to inform a musical director of a conflict a strike will be given. Drama Club teachers will assist in creating a schedule that allows attendance at both activities whenever possible.

NOTE

Students with **LEAD** roles **WILL NOT** be allowed to split their time between Drama Club and other activities.

Students with **ENSEMBLE** roles **WILL** be allowed to split their time between Drama Club and other activities.

If your child has plans to participate in any other clubs or sports, they **should not** audition for a lead role.

Behavior

Drama Club members are expected to follow all school and music classroom rules at all times. Your actions are a reflection of the Drama Club as a whole. Misbehavior resulting in a major referral, suspension, etc. is unacceptable.

Three Strike Policy

We will initiate a three strike policy. If your child has three strikes, they will be asked to step down from Drama Club. The strikes happen for the following reasons:

- unexcused absence
- academic ineligibility (2 D's or 1 F)
- poor behavior
- being picked up late if a car rider

Personal Responsibility and Practice

Students are responsible for keeping track of materials that have been given to them and should always bring their script and a pencil to rehearsals. Practice is an essential part of producing a musical.

NOTE

Students **MUST PRACTICE** music, speaking lines, and choreography outside of school. Students with speaking lines are expected to **MEMORIZE** their lines one month prior to the first performance or sooner.

The Audition Process

Audition Clinic: Tuesday, January 29

Callback Auditions: Thursday, January 31

Cast List Posted: Friday, February 1 (end of the day)

First Rehearsal: Monday, February 4

During the audition, students will recite a series of lines from the script, sing an excerpt from a song, and demonstrate basic choreography. Students who receive high scores during the general audition will be asked to participate in a "call back" audition. During "call back" auditions, students will recite additional lines and may be asked to sing by themselves and/or in small groups.

A cast list will be posted no later than 24 hours after the "call back" audition has concluded to notify students of the judges' final decisions. Students who complete an audition but are not assigned a specific part will be part of the ensemble.

Rehearsal Schedule

NOTE

Your child's role in the musical will determine which days he or she will rehearse. A detailed rehearsal calendar will be sent home. It is very important that your child **read the calendar carefully** each week and check the Drama Club bulletin board outside of the music classroom.

Drama Club will meet on **Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday**. Your child will take the Activity Bus home at 4:30pm.

Depending on the group's progress, we may meet during Spring Break to rehearse.

Tech Week & Performance Dates

All cast and crew members will meet after school from 3-6pm to run through the entire show and begin using microphones, lights and the soundboard one week before the first performance.

Parent Expectations

Encouraging your child to finish something they started teaches them a valuable lesson that they can carry with them throughout their lives! The experience of trying something new and challenging is more enjoyable for students when someone is in their corner cheering them on with words of encouragement.

You can show your support by...

- Helping your child stay organized and read the rehearsal calendar.
- Asking your child to sing songs from the show to you.
- Letting your child teach you choreography (dances and movements) from the show.
- Helping your child memorize lines by reading through the script with them.

Volunteer Opportunities

This year, we would like to extend an invitation for parents to volunteer in a variety of ways. Volunteering makes the preparation and performance process more efficient and demonstrates to your child that you support their ventures into the world of music and theatre. If you are interested in volunteering, fill out the form below and return it to Mrs. Jolly, Mrs. Negrusz or Ms. Thelen at your earliest convenience.