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Dear Eighth Grade Parents,

Attached you will find the handouts that were provided at the December 5th Parent Meeting for the Eighth Grade Variety Show. This year, the show will be March 23rd & 24th. The only **WHOLE CLASS after school meeting will be on January 4th, from 3:10 - 4:15 PM. All students will be expected to attend to contribute their ideas and sign up for their roles in the show.**

Please review the attached *Information Packet* carefully. All important dates are clearly outlined and explained in the packet. Pay extra attention to the section that outlines the variety of ways in which your child can choose to participate. Guide your child in making a choice that works with their schedule and availability. Students are only allowed to be in **ONE group act. Group acts require the largest commitment.**

All students will be part of the *Opening and Closing Acts*. More information about this will be coming soon, but you will find the schedule for these rehearsals within the packet.

In the parent meeting, we also discussed ways in which parents can help out with the show. Please let me know how you would like to help out (backstage, chaperone, tech crew). We currently need chaperones for the Opening and Closing Rehearsal on **Saturday, March 10th, as well as the Full Rehearsal on **Thursday, March 21st** and the nights of the show **March 23rd and 24th**. In order to have the show, all Chaperone and Backstage positions need to be filled.**

Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to volunteer on one of the committees. You can reach me at iostrov@milltownps.org.

Thank you,

Ilana Ostrov, Supervisor

Eighth Grade Variety Show

Important VARIETY SHOW Information

Wednesday, November 29th - Theme Suggestions are due to homeroom teachers.

Tuesday, December 5th, 7:00 PM, JK APR – 8th Grade Parent Meeting
Parents receive all important dates and times; sign-up for committees

Wednesday, December 13th - Top 3 themes have been determined, and a ballot will be distributed in homeroom for voting. Theme will be announced once tallied.

Tuesday, December 19th, Lunch, JK APR, 8th Grade Student Meeting:
Discuss possible ways students can be involved in show. Encourage students to generate ideas.

Students will choose how they will participate in the show. Please review the choices carefully, and make the choice that works best for you. Think of acts that fit well with the chosen theme and/or that showcase any special talents you may have. Each student will choose one of the following options for participation: ONE group act

- ONE group act & ONE solo or duet (musical or instrumental act)
- ONE group act & an ONE announcer spot
- ONE solo or duet (musical or instrumental act)
- ONE solo or duet & ONE announcer spot
- ONE announcer spot
- Set Design & ONE group act
- Set Design & ONE solo or duet (musical or instrumental act)
- Set Design & ONE announcer spot
- ONLY Back Stage/Tech Crew
- Back Stage/Tech Crew & Set Design

Everyone is allowed to be in **ONLY ONE group act**. All 8th graders are expected to participate in the opening and closing acts. Dates for rehearsals are listed in this schedule.

Thursday, January 4th, 3:10 – 4:15 PM, JK APR – 8th Grade Student Meeting: We will be creating a list of acts for the show. **Students must come with their ideas for acts.**

- ALL 8th GRADERS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND. If a student cannot attend, he or she must see Mrs. Ostrov (room 130) no later than Tuesday, January 2nd. We will be taking attendance.
- Athletes are typically permitted to go late to practice in order to attend the first part of the meeting. We will get approval from the coaches.
- Students with an academic responsibility after school must let Mrs. Ostrov know and may come late to the meeting.
- All acts need a Student and Adult Skit Leader.

Wednesday, January 17th, 7:00 – 8:00 PM, JK Room 130 – Adult Skit Leader Meeting:

For all parents who volunteer to be an Adult Skit Leader. No students attend.

- We will review the expectations and responsibilities.
- Leaders will sign up for a time to come and present their acts ideas.

Between January 4th and January 31st: Skit Leaders meet with their groups/acts, on their own, and begin to develop their ideas.

- All acts are limited to 2 ½ minutes.
- Meet with group members to develop the plan/scripts for your act.

Tuesday, January 23rd, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, JK Room 130 – Committee Chair Meeting

– All parents who are chairpersons for *Program, Tickets, Candy Grams, Kick-Off Breakfast, Video/Slide Show* attend

Tuesday, January 30th & Wednesday, January 31st, 6:00 – 8:00 pm (10 minute time slots), JK room 130 – Adult & Student Skit Leader Act Presentations

- Adult and/or Student Skit Leaders come with completed Skit Information Form and overview of what the act will include. **All dialogue and music must be submitted by February 9th.**

Late January- February: Skit leaders are expected to rehearse their acts at home.

- Two or three rehearsals should be scheduled at your home, or another student's home, with the Adult Skit Leader supervising.
- The goal is to complete dialogue and any choreography/staging that is needed, as well as run through the act to ensure the students are ready for a stage rehearsal.
- If your group is large, your initial meetings should be with a core group of 3 or 4 students to prepare and learn the material well. Then begin to include the other students.
- If you have a larger group (7 or more) you will be allowed to schedule 3 rehearsals (throughout February) on the stage, in place of rehearsals at home. Supervisors will determine if an additional rehearsal is needed.
- Teacher Supervisors and/or Parent Chairperson will be attending stage rehearsals to ensure groups have some direction on how to use the stage most effectively.

From February 6th – March 17th: Skit Leaders schedule stage rehearsals for GROUP acts. Solos & duets will be scheduled after school at some time in February.

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- Days available will be Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday & Saturday for on stage rehearsals. Time slots during the week will be 30 minutes and Saturday time slots will be 45 minutes. (Please check the calendars provided and posted outside of Mrs. Ostrov's room as the rehearsal days vary based on the week).
- Smaller groups (3-6 students) should begin with 2 stage rehearsals in February.
- Larger groups (7 or more students) should have 3 stage rehearsals in February.
- If additional rehearsals are needed, they must be approved by the Teacher Supervisors.
- Students will need to provide their Skit Leaders with their evening & Saturday schedules so that they can plan appropriately.

Group Rehearsals for Opening & Closing Acts – 3:00 – 4:30 PM

**Group 1 – Thurs., February 15th
Thurs., March 1st**

Group 2 – Thurs., February 22th

Group 3 –

Groups will be assigned a group prior to the meeting dates. Lists will be emailed and posted in the hallway.

Tuesday, March 6th, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, JK APR – TECH NIGHT

- Skit leaders will be assigned a time and will rotate through technical stations which will include: props & costumes check, lighting, music, microphones, stage props.
- Usually takes about 20 minutes
- Tech Crews, Adult Skit Leaders and the Student Skit Leaders attend.

FULL CLASS Opening & Closing Act Rehearsal,

Saturday, March 10th, 10:30 – 12:30 PM, JK APR

Tuesday & Thursday, March 13th & 15th, 6:15–8:30 PM, JK APR – **HALF-SHOW REHEARSALS**

- **No costumes**
- **Props** need to be on stage for the back stage crew to rehearse.
- **Tuesday, March 13th** – First ½ of show only; all back stage crew and tech crews attend. Adult Skit Leaders chaperone their groups.
- **Thursday, March 15th** – Second ½ of show only; all back stage crew and tech crews attend. Adult Skit Leaders chaperone their groups.
- **All parents who volunteer to assist with lighting, sound and back stage, must attend on both nights.**

***Wednesday, March 21th*, 7:45 AM, JK APR– KICK-OFF BREAKFAST**

- Breakfast is provided for all 8th grade students before school.

***Wednesday, March 21th*, 6:00 – 9:15 PM, JK APR - FULL SHOW REHEARSAL**

- **Full Dress Rehearsal** – Need all costumes and props
- All students need to have their **costumes and small carry-on** props in a box or bin labeled with their name.
- All parents who have signed up to be a chaperone for the full dress rehearsal need to arrive by 5:45 pm. Skit Leaders will stay in audience unless they have signed up as a Rehearsal chaperone.
- All students will arrive at 6:00 pm.
- All back stage and tech crews (adults & students) need to arrive by 5:45 pm.

***Friday & Saturday, March 23rd & 24th*, JK APR – 7:00 PM - SHOWS**

- Tickets will be sold in advance (to 8th grade first & then rest of student body). There will be a reserved seating section for an additional cost.
- All adult chaperones and adult crew members will arrive between 5:45 & 6:15 pm.
- Students arrive at 6:30 pm. **Show begins at 7:00 pm.**

Contact Information:

Supervisor: Ilana Ostrov iostrov@milltownps.org

Contact for all questions regarding committees and show

Assistant Supervisor: Megan Rademacher mrademacher@milltownps.org

Skit Leader contact and for any questions regarding rehearsals