

Annie TECH CREW

Grades 5 – 8

Hi everyone. This document is what is referred to in the registration as "Terms of Registration." These aren't terms, exactly, but all the information that I want you to know as we wade into this together. It's a lot of info but most of it applies to everyone. Your "agreement" at registration means you've read and understand the following. If you have concerns, of course, please let me know.

Welcome, and thank you for considering joining the Tech Crew of *Annie*. We rely on our tech crews to make the show run without a hitch. The kids will learn to take ownership of their tasks and feel the importance of their contributions. This is truly one of our most successful programs.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory unless your child is sick. Putting a play together is all about interaction, timing, and trust. And particularly in the crew, we need all hands on deck to assemble, strike and assemble our sets. It's a lot of work and moves fast; missing persons make it difficult.

SCHEDULE AND SHOWS

We'll call your kids for tech crew beginning the week of May 2. We'll have rehearsals every weekday afternoon up until our shows that open May 19. On Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, we rehearse after school until 5:30 (6:30 in the second week) and on Fridays, after school until 4:30 (5:30 in the second week). We need our crew there the full time!

If your child can commit to 2-3 days each week, it'll work out fine.

Sometime in mid-April, I'll circulate a Google Sheet for each family to check the dates that your child is available to work.

Shows are

Thursday, May 19 • 6:30 show time, 6:00pm crew call time

Friday, May 20 • 6:30 show time, 6:00pm crew call time

Saturday, May 21 • 1:30 show time, 1:00pm crew call time

Saturday, May 21 • 6:30 show time, 6:00pm crew call time

REGISTRATION

Registration is open now for tech crew. We will sell 16 crew spots only and they do sell out.

REFUNDS

There are no refunds after May 2! Refunds will be given before May 2 or if your family is suddenly relocated overseas, but because we make big financial commitments to our staff, we ask that once you're in, you're really in.

CHECK-IN, SNACKS, NO LEAVING CAMPUS

Tech Crew will meet in the cafeteria after school for check-in and a quick snack. We no longer provide snacks. Because of many kids' specific dietary requirements, we've decided we need to leave the nutrition of your kids to you. Please send food, it's a long time from your child's lunch to 5:30pm!

Students should report to the cafeteria immediately after school for check-in and should NOT leave campus for Starbucks, Walgreens, CVS, etc. We do not check students out at the end of class, they are free to leave campus as they would at any other time, with the following exceptions:

1. Kids in PSED (5th grade only) must check in to PSED before coming to us and must return to PSED afterwards, *even if* the parent is there, ready to take them home.
2. Kids who need special assistance, assuming we can accommodate them.

We put our tech crew to work right after they've had a snack, there is a lot to do!

CAST SUPERVISORS

In addition to the director, there will be a Cast Supervisor present at each rehearsal to check in actors and manage behavior, social distancing and emergency responses should that ever be necessary. Our Cast Supervisors are CPR-Certified, have a first aid kit, and are trained in threat response in these specific spaces. They are all young adults. Their primary job is to have an eye on students' whereabouts and help maintain a productive environment while the director works.

BEHAVIOR AND MEDICAL CONCERNS

Behavior and discipline: Sometimes, kids have a bad day and act out. When this happens, our first response is to pull the student aside for reminders and redirection. Our second response

will be to remove the student from the room for a "time out." If the situation warrants, the cast supervisor or director will dismiss the child immediately and contact the parent to discuss the situation, and the child may be released for the day. We have a zero-tolerance policy for verbal or physical abuse that violates anyone's safety; should those occur, your child will be sent home immediately and may be asked to leave the program; a refund will not be offered. As this is a PTO program, any extreme behavior will be reported to the Pierce Vice Principals.

Medical issues: We receive no information from the school about your child's health. You'll be asked at registration to disclose any medical or non-medical issues that may impact your child's participation as well as your instructions for treatment, if any. It is crucial that you provide us with any relevant information so that we can make appropriate decisions for your child's care. Any disclosures and instructions will be shared with the director and cast supervisors so that we can recognize a problem before it escalates and respond according to your instructions.

Our emergency response protocols are as follows:

- In the event of a real medical emergency, our first response is to call 911, then the parent.
- In the event of a minor emergency (stomachache, onset of illness), we'll contact the parent and/or send the child home.
- Of course, if a child demonstrates any Covid symptoms, they will be sent to the nurse's office (if open) or home.

Non-medical considerations: If your child has a special circumstance such as ADHD, which needs more attention than is typically offered in this setting, please notify us in advance and we'll work with you to create a plan for successful participation. If your child is prone to less-manageable outbursts, including physical altercations, we do not have the resources (and the school will not provide them) to create a successful and safe experience for everyone.

Covid specific: As per current mandates in Brookline, we are in masks and will continue to be for the foreseeable future. Students will maintain appropriate distancing during rehearsals when onstage and off; they must sit apart from each other in the auditorium when waiting offstage. Onstage, we'll have no one singing directly at another person and no physical touching. Please see more on this topic at the end of this document.

You will be asked to check a waiver absolving us of liability in the event of medical emergencies, as is typical for programs like ours, Town sports, Art Barn and more.

REGISTRATION/FEES

Pierce School Musical is a PTO program taught by paid, non-parent instructors who are qualified to teach drama, visual arts, and work with children.

The registration fee for Tech Crew is \$150. We are budgeting with a "zero ticket sales" revenue model this year because there is no assurance that we can have performances of a predictable size. The registration fees will cover directors, technical personnel, assistants, printing, materials and more and we'll still operate at a small loss without ticket sales.

Fees are collected via credit card at time of registration. If you prefer to pay by check, need scholarship support or structured payments, please contact Phil at piercemusictracks@gmail.com.

Pierce School Musical/PTO offers these programs to any child who requires financial support on a "no questions asked" basis. We want your kids, regardless of your ability to pay.

COVID CONSIDERATIONS

Please get your kids vaccinated! This is our single best way out of this mess. We understand the importance of keeping the kids safe and will stage the show with no close contact. Actors will be masked. No one will sing into another's face, even masked. We don't want to put anyone at risk or lose any actors.

If we are unable to continue offering the musical because of state or school district restrictions around Covid or similar, we will wait two weeks before deciding to discontinue the program. If discontinued, we will process pro-rata refunds to all families after our financial obligations to staff have been met.

IMPORTANT! As of January 10, the state has different rules for after-school programs regarding "test-to-stay" protocols. In short, test-to-stay (or test-to-return) is not available to your child if they are found to be a close contact in an after-school program. Your close-contact child would be subject to quarantine of up to ten days. We take all the precautions that the school takes, including masks worn indoors, distancing and more. We do not direct kids to touch each other as part of their acting and there is no loud shouting or singing in proximity to others. We keep them six feet apart when they are sitting.