



2019-2020

LONGHORN

THEATRE

HANDBOOK

With Mrs. Sykes-Assadi

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The Box

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A Note to Parents:

Why Theatre Arts is a Great Choice for Your Child

In our Theatre Arts classes this year, your student will develop a wide range of skills which will transfer in any career he/she chooses. Theatre Arts addresses all of the following:

Skills Needed by Workers in the New Millennium

- Ability to Communicate.
- Ability to work independently and with a temporary group.
- Ability to think, question, innovate, and take risks.
- Ability to access and manipulate information and quickly.
- Ability to think globally.
- Ability to be flexible.
- Ability to solve semi-structured problem, create a hypothesis, test.
- Ability to read and write.
- Ability to use computers and other technology.

Theatre Arts is less of a class directed by the teacher and more:

- Experimental - Hands-on
- Active learning
- Demonstration, coaching, mentoring
- Developing higher order thinking
- Heterogeneous classes

The goal is for each student to succeed in this class and in his/her future. Please get in touch with me if you ever have any questions or concerns. I will always be eager to work with you in any way I can.

The Longhorn Theatre Department is very excited to offer a wide range of learning opportunities in Theatre Arts! At Nolan Ryan Junior High expectations are high for our students because they are capable of great things and great work. Our Theatre classes are no different. As such, I ask all of our students to follow four simple standards for behavior.

- 1. Respect Ourselves**
- 2. Respect Each Other**
- 3. Respect Our Space**
- 4. Respect Our Time**

These Standards are taken very seriously inside and out of class time. Every student enrolled in theatre has had many opportunities to learn about these Standards and what they mean in their classes.

Some basic rules for the classroom (The Box) and stage are:

1. Listen to Direction
2. No Foul Language
3. Have a Positive Attitude
4. No Eating, Drinking, or Chewing gum in class
5. Keep our space organized
6. Do not interrupt others while speaking or performing
7. Be on Time
8. Be prepared for class with materials
9. Participation is ALWAYS required

10. Use of Devices is NOT allowed in our classrooms
11. Mind each other's personal space

BYOD Policy

We will rarely use cell phones and other devices in my theatre classes. Therefore, use of phones and devices are not allowed unless I specifically state it is needed at the beginning of class. Phones and devices should be turned off or on silent and placed in the student's bag at the beginning of class.

Using a phone when not permitted will result in:

First week of school: Warning, Taken by teacher until the end of class.

Second week of school: Taken by teacher and sent to the office for student to retrieve by the end of the day.

Administrative Warning.

Third week of school and beyond: Taken by the teacher to the office at the end of the day. Parents must pay \$15 to retrieve it.

Again, unless explicitly told they may use their devices, students will be held to the above stated rules.

Disciplinary Policy

I believe that working together with parents/ guardians is the best way to keep our students on the path to success. I love to inform you of the amazing accomplishments our students have in class. However, sometimes I may reach out about finding solutions to help us make sure your student stays on the right path in class and the school community.

I Will:

Talk with your student one on one first.

Every student will have the opportunity to correct any behavior issues on their own before I reach out . There will be a verbal warning.

Give a Written Warning.

If the behavior persists after a verbal warning they will be asked to fill out a Behavior Acknowledgement form. This is usually given to be filled out in the “Take A Moment” room or with a buddy teacher. At this time I will contact you via email or phone call.

Give a Detention (After School or Lunch Time).

If the behavior still persists they will be written up in Skyward for a Classroom Detention. You will be notified and the detention will be served in class.

Give an Office Referral.

After 2 Classroom Detentions they will be issued an office referral. Administration will handle discipline at this point and may contact you about after school detention, ISS, or even suspension depending on the offense.

EXPECTATIONS

All students must be passing **every class** at their Nine Weeks Reports in order to participate in After School Activities such as UIL One Act Play, Spring Show, Fundraisers etc.

If they have persistent disciplinary issues in class, they will also not be considered to participate in after school activities.

We expect all extracurricular students to be in good academic and behavioral standing. **We have high expectations for our students because we think they ROCK!**

Our Classes

6th Grade Theatre Arts - General Overview of Theatre Concepts and History with some practical application. Will spend one semester exploring multiple aspects of theatre. Each class will perform in their own class production.

Theatre I - A year long course, students will participate in a more in-depth study of the topics covered in 6th grade theatre, and will have the opportunity to study technical theatre and participate in more Practical hands on projects.

Theatre II – Year long course. Students in Theatre II will be taking the knowledge gained in Theatre I and explore dynamics in practical terms through character, scene and script development as well as theatre etiquette and critique.

Production/ Tech (ProTech) - Year long course. Advanced Theatre Course. Students in ProTech will be working in a project based scenario all year long. They will have many opportunities to work in every aspect of theatre, acting, designing, crew, directing, stage managing, etc. These students will gain a hands on experience in the practices of theatre as a career as students actively engage with the production aspects of the Longhorn Theatre Performances.

Grading Policy

Theatre Arts is a performance based class with many hands on activities.

Daily Grades

This grade reflects the daily effort and performance the student puts forth in class. If a student is punctual, participates fully and enthusiastically, brings all supplies to class, is prepared, and knows the material, he/she will receive a 100 for the week.

This grade can decline if a student does not demonstrate our Standards or does not participate in daily activities*. This grade counts as 30% of the students' average.

Quizzes and Tests

Quizzes may be given periodically to ensure that the students are familiar with repertoire and to show comprehension of lessons.

Students will know what content they are to be quizzed on in advance. Quizzes are a tool to encourage students to actively

rehearse, and participate in class activities. This grade counts as 20% of the students' average.

Performances and Projects

Your student will participate in In-Class and Out of Class productions. They will be working with technical elements of theatre as well and will have projects to go along with this and other aspects of theatre. Being prepared for projects and performances, and giving 100% effort is very important to the structure of our classes. These are the best indicator that your student is retaining the material they have learned and that they are growing in our classes. These will count as 40% of their average.

Daily Grades and Quizzes : 50%
Performances and Projects: 50%

* Point Deductions for Daily Grade

Lack of Materials - 10 points

Out of seat/ area/ group without permission - 10 points

Chewing gum. It's a safety issue! -10 Points

Refusal to Participate - 10 points

Talking out of turn - 5 points

Misc. Classroom disturbances – 5-10 points

Required Materials

These materials are requested for class assignments and classroom supplies throughout the year.

Theatre Arts (6th Grade): Composition Notebook, Box of Pencils, Black or Blue Pens, Pencil Sharpener, Red Ink pen, Hand Sanitizer, Kleenex, *Personal Blindfold or Sleeping Mask and labeled ziplock bag.

Theatre I: Composition Notebook, Box of Pencils, Black or Blue Pens, Pencil Sharpener, Red Ink pen, Hand Sanitizer, Kleenex, *Personal Blindfold or Sleeping Mask and labeled ziplock bag.

Theatre II: Composition Notebook, Box of Pencils, Black or Blue Pens, Pencil Sharpener, Red Ink pen, Hand Sanitizer, Kleenex, *Personal Blindfold or Sleeping Mask and labeled ziplock bag. One pack of Makeup remover wipes.

ProTech: Composition Notebook, Pencils, Black or Blue Pens, Pencil Sharpener, Red Ink Pen, 1/2" or 1" Binder for organizing handouts. One pack of Makeup remover wipes.

This year I am asking for fees from all of the theatre classes. This fee is to offset some of the materials and costs that will incur with these classes during the year.

We will be working on many hands on projects requiring a wide variety of consumable materials. There are also some outside events and clinicians coming in this year in order to give your students the best opportunity for learning possible.

Fees are as follows:

Theatre II and ProTech: \$30/ Year

Theatre I: \$10/Semester or \$20/Year

Theatre Arts (6th Grade): \$10/Semester

Materials and/or Fees are due:

1st Semester: Monday, September 2nd, 2019

2nd Semester: Friday, January 17th, 2020

NRJH Longhorn Theatre Calendar

OCTOBER

5th- Pearland ISD Drama Festival

12th-Chavez H S Junior Thespians
Regional South Conference &
Festival

25th – Longhorn Theatre presents
“ *Nightmare Town*” @NRJH as
part of the Fall Dance

29th-30th Halloween Tales @ The
Box

NOVEMBER

6th- Longhorn Theatre UIL OAP
Clinic @ SCHS 6pm- 9pm

11th, 12th, 14th- Longhorn Theatre
UIL OAP Tech Rehearsal @ NRJH
4:30- 6:30pm

13th- Longhorn Theatre UIL OAP
Tech Rehearsal @ MHS 9am-11am

15th- Longhorn Theatre UIL OAP

Invited Dress Rehearsal @ NRJH

4:30pm

16th– Jr. High UIL One Act Play
Contest @ MHS 7am Meet up@
MHS

DECEMBER

16th- 18th- Longhorn Theatre
Finals Week

FEBRUARY/ MARCH

6th- 7th- Longhorn Theatre Spring
Show *Wonka Jr.*

TBA - West Side Stories @ SCHS

APRIL/ MAY

TBA- Longhorn Theatre Finals
Week including Theatre II/

ProTech Saturday

Lock-In Finals.

We encourage all of our students to see as many productions outside of school as possible!

Extra Credit will be given to any student who sees shows outside of Nolan Ryan. Bring in a program to receive credit!

PARENT VOLUNTEERS FOR DRAMA ACTIVITIES:

Please sign below if you would like to help Longhorn Theatre in one or more of the following ways:

1. Chaperone for field trips (plays, etc.)
2. Play production (set building, costumes, etc.)
3. Clerical assistance (Script preparation, programs, etc.)
4. Food/refreshments
5. Fund raising projects
6. Other special abilities or interests (please note)

If you are available to help us out, please sign below let us know what you're interested in from the list above in the right-hand column. Write me a note at your convenience if your information won't fit the little space!

Thank you for your support.

Adult name(s) and phone:

Student:

Type of assistance:

Get Connected!



Follow us for updates and pictures from
NRJH Longhorn Theatre Classes,
Productions & Events

Remind 101:

Parents and Students, stay in touch with us;
get updates, homework and reminders! **Join**
Remind 101 Classes for a FREE 100 WEEKLY
GRADE

Mrs. Sykes-Assadi

Theatre Arts 6th : TEXT @box6 to 81010

Theatre I : TEXT @boxthtr1 to 81010

Theatre II: TEXT @boxthtr2 to 81010

ProTech: TEXT @thprotech to 81010

Instagram:

@Longhorn_Theatre

Video Consent



From time to time show videos or movies in class may be shown to enhance a particular unit. These movies will not have a rating exceeding PG unless prior consent is obtained.

Movies could include but are not limited to the following:

Various Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton Silent Films, Oklahoma!, Guys and Dolls, Gnomeo and Juliet, West Side Story, As You Like It, Twelfth Night, Raisin In The Sun and Elements of Theatre

I, _____ Consent to my child (student name) _____ watching videos adhering to the above policy.

Parent Signature _____

Date _____



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Acknowledgment

I, _____
(Parent/Guardian

of _____ (Student) have received, read, and understand the content of the Longhorn Theatre handbook. We agree to adhere to all the policies, procedures, rules, and fees described therein. These include, but are not limited to: required materials, and expenses, grading and discipline policy, student responsibilities and expectations, and all performances and contests.

I, the student, understand that my failure to abide by this agreement may result in appropriate actions including but not limited to; teacher/student conferences, teacher/parent conferences, grade penalization (as stated in the grading and conduct policy), discipline referrals, and dismissal from Longhorn Theatre Extracurricular Activities.

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____