

## **Drama I Syllabus 2011-2012**

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Room B-143  
355-7946  
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### I. Course Description

Students will have an introduction into theater with a basic understanding of pantomime, vocal usage, stage directions, improvisation, acting, theater etiquette, and script writing.

### II. Course Objectives

Student will become more confident speaking and acting in front of others.  
Student will become more aware of self and the world around him/her.  
Student will develop concentration and observation skills.

### III. Assessments

Student's grade will be determined as follows:

Minor Assignments 50% (includes daily work, skits)  
Major Assignments 50% (includes quizzes, Drama folder, large presentations)

Students will be graded on effort, ability to work with others and participation.

### IV. Grading Scale

93—100 A  
85—92 B  
77—84 C  
70—76 D  
69 and below F

### V. Class Text Book

Theatre Arts: The Dynamics of Acting, Dennis Caltagirone, National Textbook Company, 1997.

### VI. Rules for Student Behavior

Respect others  
Participate fully in class  
Pay attention and follow directions  
No food, drinks or gum in class  
All other school rules are outlined in RMS handbook

## VII. Consequences for Violating Rules

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense—Verbal warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense—Phone call or email to parents
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense—Teacher detention
- 4<sup>th</sup> offense—Teacher detention
- 5<sup>th</sup> offense—Disciplinary referral

## VIII. Student Procedures

- Student must have Drama Folder (pocket folder), paper and pencil.
- Student must be on time to class.
- Student must participate fully in all assignments, activities and assessments.

## IX. Communicating with Parents

- Teacher will communicate with parents by email, phone, or letter.
- Student will receive progress reports and report cards.
- Parent will be notified if significant drop in average.
- Parents can contact me at 355-7946 or [hkurtz@greenville.k12.sc.us](mailto:hkurtz@greenville.k12.sc.us)

## X. Units of Instruction

- Introduction to an Audience—Getting comfortable in front of people
- Individual and Group Pantomime—Utilizes creative thinking/problem solving, improvisation and characterization
- Voice and Diction—Using pace, clarity, breathing techniques to improve projection
- Warm-ups—Exercises created to loosen up the body and voice for stage
- Understanding the Power of Observation—Seeing objects in a new light and learning to use imagination
- Stage Directions and Terms—Knowing where to go on stage and terms frequently used on stage
- Introduction to Improvisation—A combination of quick thinking, adjusting and building confidence
- Monologues—Students will write 2-3 monologues and present it to the class
- Descriptive Storytelling—Using given elements to create a unique story and learning to convert these elements into a play
- Theater Etiquette—Understanding the value of cooperative participation
- Acting—Setting the scene, getting on stage, use of blocking, vocal acting, and use of characterization
- Script Writing—Learning to convert a children's book into a script or create from class theme, then memorizing and acting it out in front of class
- Critiquing—Learning to observe and give positive and constructive feedback on performances
- History of Theater—Learning the origins of Western drama, the Renaissance impact on drama, and drama in America

\*Syllabus subject to change.