Subject: 🎭 SJS Drama Club 2026–2027 — Cinderella Auditions & Important Information

Dear Junior High Families,

We are excited to begin another year of **SJS Drama Club!** This year, our 6th–8th grade students will bring the magic of **Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella: Youth Edition*** to the St. Jude stage! Performances will be **Friday, April 16 and Saturday, April 17, 2027**. Cinderella show dates sign

Whether your student is eager to step into the spotlight or is considering joining our crew later this year, we are looking forward to another fun and memorable production!

✨ Meet the Drama Committee

We are excited to welcome back our Drama Committee:

Director: Viola Takacs
Music Director: Maureen Berney
Assistant Director: April Batkiewicz
Production Manager: Traci Shaw
Choreographer: Sarah Durham
Assistant Manager: Christine Desrochers

🎭 Interested in Being Part of the Cast?

We had a **wonderful amount of interest** in Drama Club this year, and we are thrilled that so many students want to participate!

With that excitement, however, we want to be transparent with students and families from the beginning: **roles in this year's production are limited.** Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee that every student who auditions will receive a role in the production, and not every student who is cast will receive a large or featured role.

Casting decisions are made carefully by the Drama Committee based on the needs of the entire production. Auditions allow us to consider students for the roles where we believe they will be most successful and where they best fit the needs of the show. We ask families to discuss this with students before auditions so they understand that every role is important to creating a successful production.

🎤 Auditions

Students interested in **CAST** must attend **both audition days**:

Acting Auditions — Tuesday, October 13 | 3:00–4:30 PM
Students will participate in acting auditions with the Drama Committee.

Music Auditions — Thursday, October 15 | 3:00–4:30 PM
Students should prepare **45–60 seconds of a school-appropriate song** to perform for the Drama Committee.

Callbacks — Tuesday, October 20 | 3:00–4:30 PM
Callbacks are only for students the Drama Committee would like to see or hear more from. **Receiving—or not receiving—a callback does not tell a student whether or not they have been cast.** There is no reason to be nervous about callbacks!

Roles Announced — Friday, October 30 at 2:30 PM
Roles will be posted on the Drama Board, and students will receive additional information and paperwork. Cinderella show dates sign

📥 Parent Action Required BEFORE Auditions

Every student interested in auditioning for CAST must have a parent/guardian complete the Cast Interest & Audition Google Form by Sunday, October 11.

➡ **https://forms.gle/JQDV1s5skQxPWSmf8**

Please complete **one form per student.** If you have more than one child interested in auditioning, submit the form again for each child.

Completion of this form acknowledges that families have reviewed the Drama Club information, expectations, audition process, schedule, and commitment involved before their child auditions.

📆 Please Review the Commitment Before Auditioning

A complete Drama Club schedule is attached. **Please review it carefully as a family before committing to Drama Club, especially the mandatory dates in April.**

Regular cast rehearsals are generally held Tuesdays and Thursdays, with additional rehearsals as we get closer to the production. During **Tech Week, April 12–16, all cast and crew are required to attend**, with rehearsals running later than our regular schedule.

Attendance is critical to putting together a successful production. Our Drama Club contract explains expectations regarding rehearsals, academics, behavior, attendance, technology, and care of Drama property.

The **Drama Club Contract and Permission/Information Sheet are attached for REVIEW ONLY at this time. Please do not complete or return them yet.** Students who are cast will receive instructions following the October 30 cast announcement.

There is also a **$10 Drama Club participation fee**, which helps cover the Drama Club shirt and script for cast members. The fee is **not due now**; it will be submitted with the required paperwork after casting.

🔨 Interested in Crew Instead?

Crew does NOT need to complete the Cast Google Form or attend auditions.

One of our biggest changes this year is that crew members will have a **shorter Drama Club season.** Students interested in crew will attend a **Crew Introduction on Monday, November 30 from 3:00–3:45 PM**. This is an opportunity to learn more, ask questions, and see who is interested in joining.

Regular crew participation will begin in **January**. Crew will generally be divided into a **Tuesday Group and Thursday Group**, rather than requiring every crew member to attend both days. Families will indicate their preferred day on the Crew Google Form, and we will do our best to accommodate preferences while keeping the groups balanced.

Some crew positions may require a student to attend **both Tuesday and Thursday rehearsals**. If that applies to your child, the Drama Committee will communicate directly with the student and family based on their specific role.

No action is needed from Crew families right now. A separate parent Google Form and additional information will be sent closer to the Crew Introduction.

📱 Join Us on BAND!

This year, Drama Club will use **BAND** rather than Google Classroom.

Parents and students are welcome and encouraged to join! We understand that many students do not have their own device on which to download the app and that a parent may need to join for them. That is completely fine.

BAND will primarily give **students** access to Drama Club communication, videos, music files, announcements, subgroup information, calendar reminders, and other materials. We ask families to help students take ownership of their role in Drama Club by regularly checking the information posted there.

Parents: When joining, please put your **student's name in your profile bio** so that we can place your account in the appropriate subgroups and calendar reminders.

For individual parent questions or concerns, **email remains the preferred method of communication with Mrs. Batkiewicz and/or Miss Takacs.**

BAND Invite:
Join “SJS Drama Club 26’-27’” on BAND
Invite Code: 25V-2S0-EA

🏰 Let the Magic Begin!

Attached to this email you will find the **Cinderella Show Dates Flyer, Audition/Important Dates Flyer, Full Drama Schedule, Drama Club Contract, and Drama Club Permission/Information Letter.** Please take some time to review these materials together, particularly if your child plans to audition.

We are incredibly excited to see what our Junior High students bring to *Cinderella* this year. Drama Club takes a great deal of commitment from our students, families, and committee, but watching everything come together on opening night makes it worth it!

Thank you for supporting SJS Drama Club. We cannot wait to get started and **see the magic come to life!** ✨👠🏰

The SJS Drama Committee
Rodgers & Hammerstein’s Cinderella: Youth Edition
April 16 & 17, 2027