

Musical Families

WELCOME Packet



- *General Information Reminders*
 - *Mandatory Rehearsal Days*
 - *Meet the Directors*

General Information Reminders

Congratulations and welcome to the “James and the Giant Peach Jr.” family!

Schedule Reminders

Remember that students will typically rehearse up to 3 days a week (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday) with select weekend rehearsals and some Thursdays for those not in 4th grade band or enrichment. (***NOTE: Most characters will not be requested at every scheduled rehearsal***). We will begin rehearsing until 4pm for the first few months of rehearsals. Starting in April, rehearsals will be extended until 5pm and later leading up to the performance dates.

Plan for your student to be at **tech rehearsals** in late April until 7pm. **Please take a close look at the mandatory dates that were also listed in the *Middleton Musical Contract* and mark them on your schedules.**

After School Pick-up

Pick-ups for rehearsals will take place at **St. Louis Garden doors on St. Louis Ave**. There will be a late bus available for students on weekday rehearsals that go until 4pm. When rehearsals end after 4pm, pick up arrangements will need to be made by musical families. Student pick up will always be at the St. Louis Garden Doors down by the cafeteria.

If you would like your student to walk home from school, you should have granted your permission on the online forms. Please let us know if you need to make a change to your permissions. If parents are not at the St. Louis Garden doors at the scheduled pick-up time, we will follow the district pick-up procedures as follows:

In the case of late pick-up, teachers will begin by calling parent/guardian contact numbers provided on the online *James and the Giant Peach Jr. Contact and Dismissal Form*. If parents/guardians have been contacted and 30 minutes after the scheduled pick-up time has elapsed, teachers will call the emergency contact number listed on that form. If a child still remains after the emergency contact call, an administrator will call the Skokie Police. The family will be notified that the child is not able to continue participation in the musical after a second incident where police have to be called or a third incident where a parent is more than 15 minutes late.

Musical Fees

Students participating in the musical will pay a **\$61.00 participation fee (paid online or checks made payable to District 73.5)**. After filling out the “James and the Giant Peach Jr. Participation Confirmation” form online, you will then pay online or **send payment to the front office in an envelope labeled “MD Musical Participation Fee” with your student’s full name.**

Most students will be asked to provide their own socks and shoes, and many roles will also provide a basic black base (black pants and long-sleeved shirt). We will provide more details on this as soon as we have them.

If cost is a concern, please contact Karen Hayes at the business office at 847.676.8317. Please note, the musical is included in fee waivers. If you have a fee waiver for this school year, please mark that on your online participation confirmation form.

Family Involvement

We understand how busy everyone is, but we also need your help to make your students’ show a success. You already selected three possible volunteer roles when you filled out our “Family Commitment and Involvement” form online. We will match families to volunteer roles once all students have confirmed their participation in early January and will email families with their volunteer roles soon after.

Mandatory Rehearsal Days

These are the dates that all cast members must be sure that they can attend.

Please mark these days on your calendars.

We rehearse up to three days a week (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday) until 4pm in January-March. Rehearsal length typically increases to two hours or more each rehearsal in April.

We have planned three Saturday rehearsals (one per month starting in January) at Middleton that **all cast members must attend**. These dates are as follows:

- **Saturday Jan 20th**, 9am-12pm (rehearsal & headshot photos)
- **Saturday Feb 24th**, 9am-12pm (rehearsal & costume fitting)
- **Saturday March 16th**, 9am-12am (rehearsal & costume fitting)

The weeks leading up to the show require more rehearsals and longer hours. During our tech rehearsals at McCracken, **all cast members must be in attendance**. On school days, students will be bussed to McCracken after school on Monday-Thursday, and family members will pick them up at McCracken. These dates are as follows:

- **Saturday, April 13th**, 9am-3pm
- **Monday, April 15th**, 3pm-7pm
- **Tuesday, April 16th**, 2pm-7pm
- **Wednesday, April 17th**, 3pm-7pm

All cast members must attend ALL musical performances at McCracken. These dates are as follows:

- **Thursday, April 18th** (student performance- timing & details TBD)
- **Friday, April 19th @ 7pm**, 5:45pm call time
- **Saturday, April 20th @ 2pm**, 12:45pm call time
- **Saturday, April 20th @ 7pm**, 5:45pm call time

Meet the Directors!



● ***Angela Sylvester - Director***

Ms. Sylvester is the music teacher at Middleton. She will fine tune all of your students' lovely singing voices and help with choreography as well.

● ***Stephanie Anderson - Director***

Mrs. Anderson is the drama teacher at Middleton. She will work with the students on honing their acting and dancing skills.



● ***Anne Lowery - Assistant Director***

Mrs. Lowery is a 5th grade teacher at Middleton. She will assist Ms. Sylvester & Mrs. Anderson on perfecting musical numbers and play organization.