

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Sept. 2019

Hello! I am Mrs. Youngsmith the theatre teacher at Davenport A+ School, and I am very excited to be able to inform you about our upcoming production of *The Lion King, JR*. The Connect team and I are excited to announce that your child has the opportunity this year to perform/participate in Davenport's 5<sup>th</sup> grade play. As part of the creative process, your child will read about the play in class and audition for the different roles in the play. Casting the parts is always a difficult, but exciting task, and soon we will move forward with rehearsals. ALL students will be working on the songs, and specific character parts will be rehearsed during Connect time.

There will be many costumes and roles in the show this year, and I am already beginning the hunt for costumes and props. We try very hard not to ask parents to buy expensive costumes or props, but if you can help, it would be truly appreciated. A list will be sent home with your student for you to review!

This is also the time we need to inform you of our rehearsal policy for student behavior. Participation during daytime school rehearsals is not optional. Rehearsals, both acting and singing, are the most important part of this process. Without them, students will not know what to do during the performance. It is imperative that students pay attention during this time and not cause disruptions. If a child is having discipline problems during classroom rehearsals, they will receive a verbal warning. If it continues, they will go to time-out. With a third warning, we will be contacting you and ask for your assistance to help your student regain their focus. During the weeks we rehearse here at Davenport and once we get into the final week of rehearsals, a student may be pulled from the practice and asked to sit in the audience to do class work for a full rehearsal day.

Homeroom class behavior and work ethic are also factors. If your child cannot complete work on a consistent basis and a timely manner, or if they continually disrupt their regular classroom time, their teacher may determine loss of some play privileges as well. We do not anticipate any problems, but we want all parents to be fully aware of our expectations and possible consequences. We want everyone to be involved, and have a very successful, confident show, and it takes everyone to make that happen.

The daytime performances are required, and we would love to see everyone come back for the evening show as well. If a student cannot make it back, **please let us know**. Also, if you have an obligation that takes your child away from school on the performance dates (ex. Cruise, Disney World trip, etc.), please let us know now. If they have a speaking part, they will need to be replaced. We are privileged to use the Lenoir High School Auditorium for the performances, which will be on **Tuesday, April 7th and Wednesday, April 8th**. There will be a day show on the 7th for students and one **evening show** for parents and the community. Wednesday's show will be for the remaining students during the day. **Video recording is not allowed** for this show due to copyright. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Youngsmith at [jyoungsmith@caldwellschools.com](mailto:jyoungsmith@caldwellschools.com). We are very excited about this show, and we hope you share your student's enthusiasm and support them throughout this process. It's a very special event!!

Sincerely,  
Davenport Connect Team

**Please sign below and return this letter to acknowledge you have read it and agree. Thanks!**

**Child's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_