Frequently Asked Questions
2013 - Talent Show

Thank you for attending the Parent Informational Meeting held on Wednesday, February 27. As promised, below summarizes the discussed talking points in a Frequently Asked Question format. Click a link to be directed to a specific topic.

General Information                               Performance Time Limit                               Contact Information
Audition Information                               Rehearsal Information                                 
Kid's Country                                     Parent Volunteers

General Information:

Q: What are key dates for me to remember for the Talent Show (Auditions, Rehearsals, and Live Event)?
A: Auditions will be held the week of March 18. Rehearsals will be held the week of April 22. The Talent Show event will be held Friday Evening, April 26. Currently the schedule is:

Auditions:
- Tuesday, March 19 – auditions for TK through 5 graders
- Wednesday, March 20 – auditions for TK through 5 graders
- Thursday, March 21 – EMCEE auditions and Stage Crew meeting (5 graders only)

Rehearsals (schedules to be confirmed and distributed mid-April):
- Monday, April 22 – TK through 2 graders, EMCEEs and Stage Crew
- Tuesday, April 23 – 3 through 5 graders, EMCEEs and Stage Crew
- Wednesday, April 24 – Dress Rehearsal for TK through 5 graders, EMCEEs and Stage Crew

Talent Show Event (schedules to be confirmed and distributed mid-April):
- Friday (Day), April 26 - School Assemblies – 10 acts from each show will be randomly drawn and performed during the day assemblies. This event is not open to the parents.
- Friday (Evening), April 26 – 2 shows. TK through 2 graders will be the earlier show (typically starting at 5 pm ending around 6:15 pm). 3 through 5 graders will be later show (typically starting at 6:30 pm ending around 8:45 pm)

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Q: What grades are eligible to participate in the Talent Show?
A: The talent show is open to TK through 5 graders attending John Baldwin Elementary School.

Q: How many acts can my child perform in?
A: Your child may perform in the following scenarios:

1. 1 solo act
2. 1 group act
3. 1 solo and 1 group act
4. 2 group acts

Q: Will acts be cut from the talent show?
A: No. Each eligible act will perform in the evening talent show. Given this, we will be adhering to the 2 minute per act time limit.

Q: Will additional information be communicated to me about the talent show?
A: Yes. Below is the following communication schedule that you need to be aware of:

- Rehearsal & Actual Event Schedule and Delivery of Music – to be emailed the week of April 1
- Reminder of Rehearsal & Actual Event Schedule – to be emailed the week of April 15

In general, please review emails that mention the talent show to make sure you are aware of what is going on in a timely manner.

Audition Information:

Q: Do I need to have my child audition for the talent show?
A: Yes. Each act will need to audition. All acts will participate in the talent show therefore the purpose of the audition is to record who will be participating in the solo or group act, to see the type of talent that will be performed, to ensure the material is appropriate and most importantly to confirm the children are truly interested in participating in the talent show.

Q: My child is interested in the EMCEE role and/or assisting as a member of the Stage Crew. Do they need to audition for these roles?
A: For the EMCEE role, yes, the children need to audition. The EMCEE role is open to all 5th graders. For Stage Crew, the children do not need to audition, but they will be required to sign-up for the role and will be required to attend a short meeting. The Stage Crew role is open to all 5th graders.

Q: Are the EMCEE and Stage Crew roles available to all grade levels?
A: No. The EMCEE and Stage Crew role are open to 5th graders only.

Q: Can my child participate as an EMCEE and Stage Crew and perform in the talent show?
A: Yes. They will EMCEE or participate as Stage Crew in the TK-2 grade show. We will work out the details after audition week.
Q: When will auditions be held?
A: Auditions will be held the week of March 18.

- Tuesday, March 19 (after school starting at 2:20 pm) – auditions opened to TK through 5 graders
- Wednesday, March 20 (after school starting at 2:00 pm) – auditions opened to TK through 5 graders
- Thursday, March 21 (after school starting at 3:15 pm) – EMCEE auditions and Stage Crew meeting

Q: Does my child need to provide the music in advance of the audition?
A: No. Please have your child bring their music with them to the audition. They will be given the music back after their audition. We will be requesting the final edited piece a few weeks prior to the rehearsal dates. Further information will be provided in early April.

Q: Does my child need to dress up, bring their props, and/or musical equipment to the audition?
A: No, your child doesn’t need to wear their costume to the audition. They may bring props and/or musical equipment needed to perform their act. However, if the item is at risk of getting lost or damaged during the school day, and the item can’t be brought to the audition by a parent, then we will improvise.

Q: How do I signup my child’s act for an audition?
A: The scheduling will be facilitated through Signup Genius. Please click on the following link to be directed to the signup sheet. www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080C4CA9AE2D6-2013

IMPORTANT – one act per timeslot. Detailed instructions are located on the signup sheet.

Q: Where do I include my child’s act information when signing up via Signup Genius?
A: When you select a time slot, you will be directed to another page to complete the signup process. In the “My Comment” box please include the following information:

1. Name of all children in the act
2. Grade
3. Act description such as: “Guitar” or “Piano” or “Sing/Dance Routine” etc...
4. Name of piece such as: “Star Wars”

Example: Kai Sprague – 2nd Grade – Guitar - Star Wars
Kid’s Country:

Q: My child attends Kid’s Country. How will they get to and from the Kid’s Country site?
A: Kid’s Country will assist with bringing the children to and from the Kid’s Country site to the MPR where the auditions will be held. To streamline the process, children attending Kid’s Country will audition between 4:00 to 4:30 pm on Tuesday, March 19 and Wednesday, March 20. Please sign-up your child’s act during this timeframe within Signup Genius. These time slots are earmarked for children attending Kid’s Country.

Q: Do I need to notify Kid’s Country of my child’s audition time?
A: You will need to sign an “enrichment form” to authorize your child to attend their audition time. We will be sending Kid’s Country the list of children that signed up between 4:00 pm through 4:30 pm on Tuesday and Wednesday. IMPORTANT - If you fail to complete and return the enrichment form, Kid’s Country will not release your child to attend the audition timeslot.

Performance Time Limit:

Q: What is the time limit for each act?
A: Currently the time limit is 2 minutes. For the audition, each act will need to be cut to 2 minutes. If you are unable to cut the audition music to 2 minutes we will stop the act at 2 minutes. For the rehearsals, the music will need to be cut to 2 minutes. The final music is to be burned to a CD that will not be returned back after the talent show evening event.

Q: How do I edit the music to 2 minutes?
A: We are not music techie ourselves, but one of our parents provided some editing instructions that may be of help to you. Click here to be directed to the instructions.

Rehearsal Information:

Q: Are the rehearsals mandatory?
A: Yes. The rehearsals are mandatory.

Q: Will we have the option to sign-up for a specific rehearsal time?
A: No. We will run the rehearsal and the dress rehearsal in show order. The rehearsal schedules will be distributed in early April.

Parent Volunteers:

Q: I’m interested in volunteering to help out with the talent show. What type of help do you need?
A: Thanks for inquiring! We need volunteers for each of the following categories:

- Tech Manager (2 volunteers) – to oversee the Stage Crew running the audio and lighting portion of the event. You will need to attend the tech rehearsals, all rehearsals, and the evening event. You will be responsible for 1 show (TK-2 or 3-5).
- Performance Coordinator (2 volunteers) – to manage the performance line-up during all rehearsals and the evening event. You will be responsible for 1 show (TK-2 or 3-5).
- Audition Volunteer (1 volunteer for each day) – to assist with gathering the performance details and to ensure each performance is lined up ready to go. We will need help on:
  o Tuesday, March 19 from 2:15 till 5:00 ish
  o Wednesday, March 20 from 2:00 till 5:00 ish

Contact Information:

Q: Who do I contact if I have general questions regarding the talent show process?
A: Please contact Joycelyn Sprague at jkess2009@gmail.com or at 925-577-0285.

Step by Step Instruction on How to Edit Music – compliments of Ms. Bray:

Step by Step Editing Instructions:

1. Go to www.goldwave.com/release.php and select any one of the "Download" buttons. Follow instructions to install it on your computer.

2. Open the program, and click on "OK" below the "Buy Now" button.

3. Be sure the music is saved onto your computer. Then click on File, Open, and select your song. You'll see a beautiful red-and-green audio output track of your song.
4. Click on the far right end of the upper red-and-green lines, and hold the mouse button down while you drag it to the left until the line matches the 00:02:00 mark on the bottom. The left part of the screen should still be lit up, while the right half should now be dark.

5. The dark part of the song is what will be cut out, so if you have a precise ending point in mind, listen to the song first to see where the cut will be, and adjust the line accordingly. To hear the song, press the green arrow on the far-left just above the highlighted screen. The blue double-arrows let you fast-forward to the place you will be ending the song.

6. Once you have the cut line where you want it, click on Edit (at the very top of the screen), and click Cut. The dark portion of the song will be cut out, and just the highlighted part will remain.

7. Then click on File, Save As, and save the music onto your computer.

8. Insert a blank CD into your computer's CD drive, and follow the computer's instructions to copy the track onto the CD. Once it is done, label it with a Sharpie, indicating your child's name and the name of the song. Be sure it is an unused CD. If there is anything else on the disk, we won't know what to play for your child's performance.

9. Congratulations! You are now a music editor!!

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