



Welcome back to another wonderful year at Cassell Elementary! I am so excited to see all of my shining stars as well as welcoming a new star cluster of students to our school. As our world is growing accustomed to our new normal, I am hopeful for a return to LIVE theater in the school. Your students set the bar in my classroom. They are the ones who set the stage and overall atmosphere of the theater space. As long as they are staying true to themselves, embracing mistakes and willing to try again to put their best performance forward, we will have an amazing adventure together.

Our younger artists will start off with the basic tools of the theater artist. Understanding the importance and utilizing the actor's toolbox (mind, body, and voice). This quarter we will discover what it means to be a performer. Students will work together to create an ensemble, performing in groups and working as a collective group to tell a story. My intermediate grade levels will be testing the waters of theater adaptation. Discussing some of their favorite books and how we can bring the adventures they read to life. And my junior high students will be learning about the Theater Hierarchy. Exploring all areas of theater and what it means to be a universal theater artist. This year the students will be asked to bring a notebook to use as a journal for our class. They will on occasion be asked to use their crayons/colored pencils. I will let them know the class period prior and remind their homeroom teachers of these days so they are prepared for class.

The rubric I will be using to grade your students can be found below. I encourage my students to be creative, confident, and to strive to put their best selves out into the world. They will be graded off their involvement, accountability, listening skills, attitude, and social interactions. Each of these elements are key for the success of not only a performer, but a growing individual. Below you will find the detailed rubric I will be grading by this year.

Sincerely,
Miss Marie Lynch

	Excellent	Great	Good	Poor
Theatre Participation	Fully engaged in Activity. Willing to try.	Participates in activity often	Needs to be reminded to stay on task and participate	Never engaged in classroom activity.
Attitude	Role model for other students. Always positive toward activity. Respectful of teacher and others	Positive attitude toward activity. Respects others	Student shares both positive and negative feelings during class.	Student has a negative attitude and distracts others from activity.
Journals/Classwork	Turned in on time. Followed all directions. Unique	Turned in on time. Hit most directions. Creative	Turned in late. Missing some elements.	Never turned in. Completely different project. Copied Material.
Performance	Unique, committed, cooperative and concentrated.	Semi-committed, cooperative and concentrated.	Almost committed, cooperative and concentrated	No commitment, cooperation, or concentration.

Email questions to melynch@cps.edu