April 10, 2015

Dear 3rd Grade Parent,

As you may know, your third grader is in the process of learning the music for our upcoming musical, *I Need a Vacation*, which will be presented on Friday, May 8 at 2:30 p.m. and **Monday, May 11** at the PTA meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Costumes will be as follows:

Smith’s class – “Hit the Beach” people - Swim suits with covering, shorts, hats, sunglasses, beach balls, bright colors

Troost’s class - “Are We There Yet?” people shorts, bright colored solid T-shirts

Grundy’s class – “A Letter from Camp” - Camp clothes, solid bright colored T-shirt (can get at Michael’s, Walmart, CVS) and khaki bottoms

Johnson’s class – “Gone Fishin’ “ - denim overalls or jeans, straw hats, fishing poles (no hooks, or hooks taped down to the pole), large plastic worms

Seay’s class – “Way Out in Left Field” - Baseball uniforms, baseball hats, if possible

Gomez’s class – “I Need a Vacation” - solid bright colored T-shirt (can get at Michael’s, Walmart) and khaki bottoms

I will need volunteers to do the following:

_____________ Make, put up and take down sign “I Need a Vacation”
_____________ Make background vacation scenery

If you can help out, please complete the following form and return it to me.

We are getting very excited! I know you will enjoy the show!

Sincerely,
Debbie McKinney, Music Specialist
debra.mckinney@humble.k12.tx.us
Bear Branch Elementary
AUDITIONS:

Your child may want to audition for a special singing/speaking part. Below is a list of the various parts he/she may choose. A student can audition for only one part. If a student auditions for a specific part, he/she may not necessarily get that part; however, they could get another part.

Auditions will be held before school. Please see the table below to know when to come to audition for a specific part.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPEAKING PARTS:</th>
<th>AUDITION TIME – 7:30 – 8:00:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teacher (in “I Need a Vacation”)</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Father (in “Are We There Yet?”)</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mother (in “Are We There Yet?”)</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child 1 (in “Are We There Yet?”)</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 14</td>
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<td>Tuesday, April 14</td>
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<td>Sister 1 (in “Are We There Yet?”)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bobby Joe (in “Are We There Yet?”)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joey (in “Are We There Yet?”)</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speaker 1</td>
<td>Wednesday, April 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speaker 1</td>
<td>Wednesday, April 15</td>
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<td>Speaker 2</td>
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<td>Speaker 3</td>
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<td>Speaker 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speaker 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fisherman 1 (Fred)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fisherman 1 (Ernie)</td>
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<td>Surfer Dude 1</td>
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<td>Surfer Dude 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent (in “A Letter from Camp”)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Announcer (in Baseball Scene)</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Umpire (in Baseball Scene)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Off Stage Voice (in Baseball Scene)</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SINGING PARTS:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camper 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camper 2</td>
<td>Wednesday, April 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camper 3</td>
<td>Wednesday, April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball Player – Left Fielder</td>
<td>Wednesday, April 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please return to:  Debbie McKinney
Bear Branch Elementary

I can volunteer to do the following:

____________ Make, put up and take down sign “I Need a Vacation”

Name of Parent: ____________________________________________

Name of Child: _____________________________________________

Email address: _____________________________________________

Name:_____________________________________________________

Part auditioning for:_________________________________________

**SPEAKING AUDITION**

On a scale from 1 – 5 while listening to the student speaks:

* Vocal Quality (focused, pure, energetic tone)
  
  1  2  3  4  5
  
  _________

* Dramatic Awareness
  
  1  2  3  4  5
  
  _________

* Diction and Enunciation (sings with open vowels and articulates)
  
  1  2  3  4  5
  
  _________

* Stage Presence (good posture, poised and confident)
  
  1  2  3  4  5
  
  _________

* Memorization accuracy (if applicable)
  
  1  2  3  4  5
  
  _________

* Rehearsal attendance
  
  1  2  3  4  5
  
  _________

Total: _______
Name: ____________________________

Part auditioning for: _______________________

VOCAL (SINGING) AUDITION

On a scale from 1 – 5 while listening to the student sing:

- Vocal Quality (focused, pure, energetic tone)
  
  1  2  3  4  5  
  
- Pitch Awareness (sings notes in tune)
  
  1  2  3  4  5  
  
- Diction and Enunciation (sings with open vowels and articulates)
  
  1  2  3  4  5  
  
- Stage Presence (good posture, poised and confident)
  
  1  2  3  4  5  
  
- Rhythm accuracy
  
  1  2  3  4  5  
  
- Rehearsal attendance
  
  1  2  3  4  5  
  
Total: ________
SCENE 1

THE SETTING: An ordinary classroom with desks in rows, the seated students are
facing the audience.
Decorate with a flag, a chalk board, the teacher’s desk, etc.

THE ACTION: A school bell rings, the curtain opens to reveal students already at
their desks, or they could be just entering the classroom and
taking their seats. They are watching the clock, falling asleep,
looking traumatized, all of the normal feelings of a class that
seems like it will never end. The teacher (played either by a
student or a teacher) is standing in front of the class giving them
a list of what they have in store for them. As he or she speaks, the
students sink lower and lower into their seats, gradually looking
more tense, distraught, exhausted and in need of a major holiday.

TEACHER: Students! Students! Now pay attention students, so I won’t have
to repeat this again! Remember that your reports are due on
Wednesday. On Thursday you’ll need five carefully sharpened
number 2 pencils for the two-day-long tests of basic skills. There
will be a pop quiz this afternoon in New Math For A New World
an oral examination in social studies and detention for anyone
who is late for the assembly program on toxic waste immediately!
after hot lunch, which by the way, will be cut from 13 to nine
minutes today because nobody needs 13 whole minutes to eat
hamburger gravy over rice and we don’t want to waste any of ou
valuable classroom time now, do we? (Music begins, teacher
continues talking) Following the assembly program there will be
a written exam on the environment and don’t forget to put your
name on your papers... (The teacher gradually fades out as
everyone freezes in a distressed pose. The teacher could continu
to gesture as if she were listing more assignments. The soloist
stands and sings to the audience.)

SONG 1: I NEED A VACATION
1. I Need A Vacation

Words and Music by
MAC HUFF and JOHN JACOBSON

Steadily (♩ = 65) Solo

Soloists sings to audience.

Please some-bod-y help me, I don’t know where to turn.

Reading, writ-ing, ’rith-me-tic, there’s just so much to learn.

The tension is still mount-ing. I think I’m gon-na crack. Got-ta

take a long re-cess, and nev-er, ev-er, ev-er turn back!

13 Fast Rock (♩ = 155) Students slam books on desks.

I need a vacation!

They stand up next to or even on desk chairs. (Make sure they are safe)
SCENE 2

Music starts. (The stage is cleared of desks, etc.) The Scene 2 cast is moving onto the stage with luggage, etc. talking about leaving for the road trip. These lines should pop out of the noise and bustling crowd.

FATHER: O.K. O.K. It’s 5 A.M.! Everybody into the car!
MOTHER: Did somebody lock the back door?
CHILD 1: We don’t have a back door!
MOTHER: Don’t contradict me, Dear. Just lock the door.
CHILD 1: Yes, Mother...
FATHER: Where’s Bobby Joe?
SISTER 2: Maybe we’ll get away without him this year!
MOTHER: Now girls be nice to your little brother. Did anybody feed the dog?
CHILD 1: We don’t have a...
(Mother gives CHILD 1 a stern look)
CHILD 1: Yes, Mother. I’ll feed the dog.
FATHER: Come on, Bobby Joe! It’s time to go!
(Bobby Joe runs on stage)
(Music begins)

SISTER 2: Where have you been anyway, Bobby Joe? It’s time to hit the road!

BOBBY JOE: I was just getting a drink of water!

ALL: (Ad lib., with horrified looks to the audience) WATER! NOT BEFORE A ROAD TRIP!

Bustle continues as a cast gets onto risers and the “family” gets into the car. (The car could be a one dimensional cut-out of an automobile or more elaborate if you desire.)

SONG 2: ARE WE THERE YET?

I NEED A VACATION – Singer’s Edition
ARE WE THERE YET?

(1st time) PARENT: Now kids, I want you asleep in 10 seconds. Don't make
me pull this car over. I'm pulling over, I'm pulling over.

(2nd time) CHILD: Mom, he's touching me.
PARENT: Now Joey, stay on your side!
JOEY: But Momoooo!
SCENE 3

As the cast from Scene 2 is exiting they are talking about all of the things they are going to see on their vacation. The leader is holding a pennant like a tour guide. These lines are spoken by the exiting cast members.

SPEAKER 1: I’ve got fifty-three brochures on the Corn Palace alone!
SPEAKER 2: Do you think that the Crazy Horse Monument is finished yet?
SPEAKER 3: Let’s try to see the Grand Canyon, Hoover Dam, and Las Vegas all in one day!
SPEAKER 4: Four museums, three theme parks and The Wall Drug! We better keep a move on!
SPEAKER 5: Has anybody seen Bobby Joe?
SPEAKER 6: I think he went to get a soda...
ALL: Oh, no!!

Music begins while the cast for Scene 3 is moving on from the other side of the stage. They are carrying fishing poles. They could be dressed like Tom Sawyers or with yellow slickers, rain hats and big boots. They take their places all over the stage and pretend to try to catch fish. Some could have their feet dangling over the front of the stage. Others could be fishing off the backs of the risers. One could have his line caught in a tree or in someone else’s clothing.

SONG 3: GONe FIShIN’
Scene Change Music

SCENE 4

All of the fishermen and women leave except two who remain downstage, feet hanging the front of the stage. Two “surfer dudes” enter and watch the fishermen from behind. The two fishermen talk very slowly and in a very laid back manner. They are never excited.

FISHERMAN 1 (ERNIE):
So Fred. Do you think we’ll catch our limit today?

FISHERMAN 2 (FRED):
I doubt it, Ernie.

ERNIE:
Why not, Fred? This is supposed to be a great fishin’ hole.

FRED:
Well Ernie, ‘cause I’m not using any bait.

ERNIE:
No bait? Isn’t that kind of a strange way to try to catch fish, Fred?

FRED:
Could be, Ernie. But I don’t want anything to get in the way of my thinking and relaxing time.

ERNIE:
But Fred, catching a fish can be awfully exciting you know.

FRED:
I know it can, Ernie. I did it once.

ERNIE:
Well...? Fred...?

FRED:
Well what, Ernie?

ERNIE:
Don’t you want to catch an exciting fish, Fred?

FRED:
I’m on vacation, Ernie.
ERNIE: Hmmm. (He considers Fred's point of view. There is a long pause in which Ernie thinks about what Fred has said, takes his own pole out of the "water", removes his bait and casts the line back into the "water." Then, he and Fred nod to each other, pull their hats over their eyes and lay back for a nap.)

SURFER DUDE 1: Hey Dude! I'm like totally amped out! It's spring break! Hang ten dudette, time to "hit the beach" and check out some babes!

TOGETHER: Party!

SURFER DUDE 2: The surf's killer. The sun is awesome! Time to bake at our favorite hang, dude.

SURFER DUDE 1: Of course, we could all go home and do school work.

ALL: NOT!!

The music starts and the entire "surf" cast runs on carrying beach balls, towels, surfboards, hula hoops, etc.

SONG 4: HIT THE BEACH
SCENE 5

During the thunder and lightening the surfers and the fishermen run off as if it's raining on them. During the mayhem the "campers" get on stage. They strike poses of sadness and boredom. Some could have sleeping bags, boy scout and girl scout uniforms, camping gear, etc. All freeze as the soloist, who is writing the letter home, begins to sing.

SONG 5: A LETTER FROM CAMP

5. A Letter From Camp

Words and Music by
MAC HUFF and JOHN JACOBSON

Rubato

Steadily ( \( J = 72 \) )

Solo (increasingly frustrated)

1. Dear Mom and Dad, I wish I felt better.
2. Dear Mom and Dad, I'm still not feeling better.
3. Dear Mom and Dad, I'm still not feeling better.

Just one day away from home and I'm writing you this letter. It's

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not that I am home-sick, or not thank-ful for what you've done, but

you said sum-mer camp would be a lot of fun.

But you didn't say hey! Hey!

1st x: All pretend to type
2nd x: Shrug
3rd x: All do exercises like toe touchers and jumping jacks

How 'bout go-ing to com-puter camp
How 'bout go-ing to a space camp
How 'bout go-ing to a health camp

2nd x: Point to outer space

a pret-ty ner-dy com-puter camp
a way out in outer space camp
a health-ly kind of health camp

I NEED A VACATION — Singer's Ekston
(1st time) PARENT: Dearest child of ours:
(off-stage or 2 people could play the parents on one side of the stage) Due to your obvious unhappiness, and that unfortunate incident with a floppy disk, we think that maybe you should try another camp. Yours lovingly...

(2nd time) SPEAKER: (announcing) Incoming FAX for the child, Incoming FAX for the child!

PARENT: Dear child of ours: Too bad you're sad. Stamp out new campout. Must explore one camp more. Lovingly yours...

Repeat as needed for dialog.

(Both times) The Parents Steadily (d = 72) 2nd time D.S. at Coda
(to m. 8)

CODA Floating (space) actions

I'm not happy at space camp

Type

I'm not happy at computer camp.

Beg (some could crawl toward audience on both knees)

I just wanna come home!

Freeze Solo (spoken) Hands on knees and/or palms on cheeks in pose of frustration

Yours truly, the child.

I NEED A VACATION – Singer's Edition
SCENE 6

As the campers exit, the fans and baseball players enter. The players come on as a team and begin warming up, playing catch, etc. downstage. The fans make the risers become the bleachers from which to watch the game. There could be peanut and popcorn sellers, pennant wavers, mascots, etc. in the stands. There is a lot of noise with all of the activity, while the announcer's voice is heard over a loudspeaker or through a megaphone.

ANNOUNCER: Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls! Baseball is indeed the very best way to spend your summer vacation. Yes! it's the great American past time! The action! The drama! The hotdogs! Yes sir! This is the place to be for excitement! Eight games a week and sometimes more! Sara Jane Mantle will be pitching for the home team, batting first and leading us all in the singing of our national anthem! We'd all like to thank her mother for the use of their minivan and her father for providing the equipment and coaching the team! It's a great day for baseball!

(The music starts.)

UMPIRE: O.K. O.K. Let's get going! Visiting team to the dug out! Boys and girls of the home team take your positions in the field! Where are my glasses? Where are my glasses? Has anybody seen...? Oh well...never mind. Pitcher ready? Batter up! Play Ball!!

SONG 6: WAY OUT IN LEFT FIELD

I NEED A VACATION - Singer's Edition
1st x: As the soloist begins the action of the game and the crowd goes to slow motion
2nd x: Soloists (or choir) repeats, fans sway, baseball players return to regular time play
1st time Opt. Solo
Sing both times

Take me out to the ball-game, take me out to the

me.

Buy me some peanuts andcracker jack.

me and my glove and no one else around. It's lonely way

I don't care if I ever get back for it's root, root, root for the

out in left field, the coach doesn't even know my name. And when the

home team, if they don't win, it's a shame for it's

stands begin to clear, I'll yell "Hey, I'm still out here!" at the old ball

one two three strikes you're out, at the old ball

I NEED A VACATION - Singer's Edition
OFF STAGE VOICE: And the batter is up and here's the pitch. (crack!) It's a long fly ball to left-field, it's way back, near the warning track, and it's caught! The left-fielder saves the game!
The cast watches the imaginary fly ball. The soloist backs up as if to catch it and backs right into the wings of the stage so he's out of sight when he/she catches it.

Solost is carried on the shoulders of his teammates to center stage
Crowd surrounds soloist, patting

stands begins to clear, I'll be player of the year, at the old ball -
one two three strikes you're out at the old ball -
his/her back, waving pennants, etc.

After applause, all leave stage as the next cast comes on.

I NEED A VACATION - Singer's Edition
SCENE 8

The school bell rings again. There is a mad scramble to get the desks (at least a few of them) back into place and the room in the order it was in Scene 1. The teacher speaks and gets progressively more stressed out with each phrase until she finally cracks.

TEACHER: Now students, like I was saying, I'll need your term papers in by Tuesday so that I can correct them by Thursday morning. On Wednesday night I'll correct your pop quizzes sometime between community chorus rehearsal and the PTA meeting. I'll need your desks cleared out by 3:00 so that I can sweep the floors before the janitors show up and I'll need volunteers to help me clean the erasers and cut out the ninety-seven letters needed to complete one of the seventeen bulletin boards our class is in charge of. ARGHHHH! Help! I NEED A VACATION!!

STUDENTS: (ad lib) YEAH!

REPRISE: I NEED A VACATION