

De Soto High School
De Soto Unified School District #232
35000 W 91st St
De Soto, KS 66018
Phone: (913) 667-6250
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www.usd232.org/dhs



Dear Parent,

The DHS Thespian Troupe will be attending the state Thespian conference in Wichita, Kansas from January 9th through January 11th, 2020. This conference is attended by thespian troupes from high schools across the state of Kansas. While attending this conference, students have the opportunity to take part in workshops led by theater educators and professionals in a variety of topics related to dramatic arts and technical theater. The students also get to attend performances of plays and musicals performed by high schools from across the state. Additionally, seniors have the opportunity to audition for scholarships and college theater departments from around the Midwest who are represented at the conference. Last year we took thirty students and it was very beneficial. You can find out more information about this conference by visiting www.kansasthespians.com and clicking on the state conference tab near the top.

Attending this conference is optional and involves the students paying for their conference fee as well as for their hotel rooms and transportation cost. The total cost for the conference is \$300 per student, but in order to cover the costs we must have a certain number of students who wish to attend. At this point, there seems to be enough interest to go, and judging from the students who have already expressed an interest, we may need to limit the number of students who go based on what is the most economical transportation option for our trip. (Currently, we are hoping to take all who are interested. If it turns out that we need to limit the number, then I will work with the administration to come up with an application process to decide who will go to the conference.) .

If your child is a senior who is taking part in the **OPTIONAL** scholarship and college auditions there would be a \$45 fee in addition to the enrollment fee. This fee would be paid with the student or parent's credit card when completing the online registration. If your child is planning on entering one of the competitive Individual Events (I.E.'s) there would be a \$25 fee due per event in addition to the enrollment fee due on September 25th. (See the Kansasthespians.com website or contact me for more information on the Individual Events.)

(over)

Important information:

1. The trip would last from 7:15am on Thursday, January 9th to approximately 9:30pm on Saturday, January 11th. **Students who attend this conference will miss classes on Thurs. Jan. 9 and Friday Jan. 10th and are responsible to communicate with their teachers ahead of time and make-up any assignments they miss.**
2. The total cost of the trip would be \$300. Of this amount \$160 is for the conference enrollment and is **non-refundable**. [**Please be aware that even in the event that we are not able to attend due to inclement weather this amount would be non-refundable.** The conference has to pre-pay for the convention space, the included meals, and clinicians and therefore, refunds of conference enrollment are not possible. The hotel and transportation portion of the fees **would** be refundable.]
3. Students would travel by school bus and stay at the Downtown Fairfield Inn and Suites in Wichita, Kansas (subject to availability. If this hotel is booked we would stay at a comparable hotel in Wichita).
4. Lunches on Friday and Saturday would be included in the conference enrollment. Students would need to bring enough money for fast food meals for lunch on Thursday, supper on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The Fairfield Inn had a complimentary breakfast last year and if we stay there then breakfast would be included in the lodging costs.

If you would like for your student to attend the conference, I would need the form attached to this letter signed and returned by **THURSDAY, September 19th** with an installment payment of \$80 payable by check made out to "DHS THESPIANS". (Optional Individual Event fees also due September 19th.) **Also due on the 19th of September is the attached "Emergency Medical Release Form" and the "Security Rules for Kansas Thespians" form.** Enrollments must be completed online by the end of that week and enrollments turned in late **are subject to a \$50 late fee**. Your signature on the form and down payment by Thursday the 19th will allow me to complete the online enrollment. The \$80 is half of the \$160 non-refundable conference fee. **The payment for the second portion of the conference costs would be due on Wednesday, October 16th payable by check for \$80**, also made out to "DHS Thespians". This would allow us to complete our full payment with the Kansas chapter of the International Thespian Society by their due date. **The additional \$140 for lodging and transportation would be due on Tuesday, December 10th.**

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me either by phone at (913) 667-6250 ext. 3013, or by e-mail (scronkletonkidd@usd232.org)

Sincerely,

Sarah Cronkleton-Kidd
DHS Drama Teacher

“By signing below, I give permission for my child to travel with the De Soto Thespian troupe to Wichita on January 9th through January 11th, 2020 for the Kansas Thespian Conference. By signing below I also acknowledge:

1. I have read and understand the contents of this informational letter.
2. I am hereby expressing my **DEFINITE COMMITMENT** to enrolling my child in the Thespian conference and to making the payments listed below.
3. I agree to pay \$80 now (no later than Sept. 19th) and \$80 to the DHS Thespians for conference enrollment by October 16th, 2019.
4. If applicable, I am also paying the optional Individual Event fees (\$25 per event) at this time.
5. I agree to pay \$140 to DHS Thespians by December 10th, 2019 to cover lodging and transportation.

Student name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Emergency contact phone number: _____

Student's Cell phone number: _____

Student's T-shirt size (circle one): S M L XL XXL XXXL

Student would like to sign up for: (circle all that apply): I.E. (\$25 per Event)

Audition and Scholarship (\$45)

This form along with the first installment payment is due to Ms. CK by Thursday, Sept. 19th. Enrollment forms turned in after that date are subject to a \$50 late fee. Please only return this form if you are absolutely certain of your intent to enroll your student in the Thespian State conference as the conference fees are non-refundable. Thanks!