

Thespian Troupe 8151 Constitution

Troupe 8151

Mooreville High School, Mooreville, NC 28115

Adopted: _____

Article I: Name, Purpose, and Governance

Section 1. Name: The organization shall be called Troupe 8151. Mooreville High School has chartered the troupe. The charter affiliates it with the International Thespian Society (ITS).

Section 2. Purpose: The troupe is a leadership component of the Mooreville High School Theater program. Its purpose shall be the advancement of standards of excellence in theater. More specifically, the troupe will encourage students to attain a better mastery of theatre arts and will reward those who achieve it with induction into the troupe.

Section 3. Governance. This troupe's constitution and its bylaws are two components of a hierarchy of documents that govern members of the International Thespian Society and its parent organization, the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA). The documents affecting this troupe, in order of authority, are the EdTA code of regulations, the EdTA membership policy, the EdTA troupe handbook, this constitution, and Troupe 8151 bylaws. This constitution may not be altered in any way that conflicts with a superseding document or school policies and procedures.

Article II: Organization and Officers

Section 1. Membership: Membership is achieved by complying with all induction criteria as defined in the troupe bylaws. The Thespian point system is the official guideline for awarding induction points. Any changes to induction criteria, including the Thespian point system, must be adopted as a troupe bylaw.

Section 2. Officers: The Thespian troupe shall have the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Publicist. Duties shall be defined in the troupe's bylaws.

Section 3. Elections: The troupe shall elect officers for the school year by the first meeting of that school year, or at the first meeting of that school year. The term for officers shall be for one year only. Elections shall be held annually.

Article III: Meetings and Participation

Section 1. Meetings: Thespian troupe meetings shall be held monthly throughout the school year. Special meetings may be called by the troupe director or by a quorum of Thespians.

Section 2. Quorum: A quorum shall be a majority of the troupe's active membership.

Section 3. Denial of participation:

1. Attendance:

1. Absence from two meetings per school year without an excuse is considered valid by the Troupe Director or an officer of the troupe.
2. Missing two rehearsals during a current production, unless an excuse is considered valid by the Troupe Director or an officer of the troupe.
3. Prompt communication in writing regarding attendance is mandatory for the Troupe Director or an officer of the troupe.

2. Behavior

1. Any member who causes deliberate dissension that would disrupt the workings of any production and/or the Mooresville High School Theatre Department as determined by the Troupe Director (i.e. quitting productions, dropping out of a Theatre class, being asked to leave a production, discrediting Mooresville High School students, directors, and Theatre Department, etc.), shall be dropped from active membership by the consent of the sponsor/director. Students who are forced to leave productions due to grade ineligibility or for medical reasons are exempt from losing their active status.
2. In extreme cases, a Thespian's status as a member in good standing of the troupe may be suspended or withdrawn by the Troupe Director for just cause. Such decisions are subject to oversight by the school administration. This may affect any or all participation rights and benefits that require the Troupe Director's authorization (such as graduation cords) and is at the Troupe Director's discretion.

Section 4: Just Cause: Just cause is sustained deliberate dissension, disciplinary action such as suspension, or sustained lack of participation in troupe or theatre activities.

Section 5: Any member requesting reinstatement of participation rights may have them restored with the consent of the Troupe Director and at least two-thirds of the troupe's membership.

Article IV: Dues and Fees

Section 1. Dues: There shall be no mandatory dues for Thespians after induction (except as provided by the EdTA Board of Directors).

Section 2. Fees: Troupes may approve additional fees for Thespian troupe activities. This requires the consent of the Troupe Director and at least a two-thirds vote of the active troupe members at a regular troupe meeting.

Article V: Bylaws

Section 1. Purpose: Bylaws provide additional guidance for the governance and operations of the troupe. No bylaw may be in conflict with the EdTA Code of Regulations, membership policy, troupe handbook, troupe constitution, or school policy or procedures.

Section 2. Additions and amendments: Bylaws may be added or amended by approval of at least three-fourths of the troupe's active membership and the consent of the Troupe Director. Bylaws should be reviewed annually at the first meeting of active troupe members at the beginning of the school year or at the end of the previous school year.

Article VI: Constitutional Amendments

Section 1. Exclusions: Article I may not be amended.

Section 2. Procedure: Articles other than Article I may be amended by approval of at least three-fourths of the troupe's active membership with the consent of the Troupe Director. This constitution and its amendments shall be subject to change according to any or all requirements of the International Thespian Society.

Section 3. A printed and signed copy of this constitution shall be retained by the Troupe Director. Printed copies are available for members upon request.

Troupe Director: _____

Troupe Members: _____

Reviewed, approved, and adopted: _____