Dear Annie Parents,

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for all of the encouragement and support that you have given the cast and myself throughout these many weeks of rehearsal. I know that much time has been spent practicing lines, music, and dancing at home. I am incredibly grateful for that! Our preparation shows! I also realize that there have been many long evenings away from home. I appreciate your understanding as we work to make the best show possible! I am so happy to have had the chance to work with these students! Many of them are former students, and some of them are newer faces. All of them are hardworking and dedicated young men and women! We have had so much fun! I go home each night with my sides hurting from laughing so much. We have grown close and learned so much from each other. I am a lucky person to know them!

Sunday, March 1st, is Tech Sunday. We LOVE Tech Sunday! Our rehearsal is scheduled to run from 2pm-9pm. This is the first time we will be rehearsing with all tech components. It's a critical day. It is important that the cast has a good dinner that evening. Dinner will be provided by the Drama Department. Andrea Burkhardt has graciously agreed to help coordinate this event. We are asking for parent help with donations of desserts, water, and paper products. **Please contact Andi (815-370-7334) as soon as possible to help out!** All parent donations can be dropped off at the high school on Sunday, November 3rd, at 4:00pm. Thank you!

As we head into Tech Week, March 2nd-5th, rehearsals will be 4-5 hours each evening. We will be spending lots of time refining and perfecting the show to make it the best that it can be. Any donations of light snacks and water would be greatly appreciated! We will be in full costume, so non-messy snacks are necessary. (Please, no chocolate!!!) Please contact Andi to let her know which day you can help.

As stated before, during Tech Week, the days get very long. I have scheduled us until 9pm each night so that we have the time to work as needed, but if we are able to finish up earlier than that, **I WILL** let the kids go early so they can rest and do homework, etc. This will have to be on a day to day basis.

This is our week to polish and fine tune the show so we will just take things one day at a time. Thank you for your understanding!!

It is important that we all work to stay rested and healthy! Get your sleep!!!! Eat right! Do your homework! Take care of your voice!

Each year, the Drama Department holds a Bake Sale in conjunction with the show. Again this year, Kathleen Gettinger has graciously volunteered to coordinate this event. We are asking families to help out by donating baked goods. Many hands make light work! You are free to make whatever you like. In the past, a mixture of salty and sweet choices seemed popular. Please package items individually or in small amounts for sale. Please drop off any baked goods in the DTHS cafeteria any time on Friday, March 6th. We expect large crowds at each of the three shows, so your help is greatly appreciated. Friday is usually the biggest show, so we will need LOTS of treats the first night. We will let you know if we need more goodies as the weekend progresses. Thank you!

This year, the Cast Party will be held at my house (510 N. Clinton St.) on Sunday, March 8th, following our clean-up session. Any donations of chips, dips, soda, water, snacks, cookies, munchies, etc. would be greatly appreciated. We will celebrate until 9:00pm. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Please tell everyone to come see the show! Showtimes are, Friday, March 6th at 7pm, Saturday, March 7th at 7pm, and Sunday, March 8th at 2pm. **Tickets will NOT be sold at the door.** Pre-sale tickets will be available in the DTHS office starting February 24th. The cost will be \$5 for Students and Senior Citizens, \$7 for Adults. There is no reserved seating. First come, etc...

Thank you once again for all that you have done! The kids have worked hard and it shows! We love you!!

Love, Mrs. Stewart