



Valley High School Drama Club

703 Stevenson Boulevard, New Kensington, PA 15068

www.vhsdrama.org

Monday, April 13, 2020

To our amazing cast and crew:

Our 'intermission' continues. Just a few weeks ago, we were preparing to welcome the New Kensington-Arnold community into our theatre once again to tell the story of the New York City Newsies and the children's labor movement through our presentation of Disney's **Newsies**. Then, Corona hit.

Since the announcement from Gov. Tom Wolf that schools in Pennsylvania would be closed in the interest of public safety and health, it had been the intention of the VHS Drama Club staff to reschedule our performances to a date later in the year. To that end, we booked a weekend in May to attempt to make this happen. Unfortunately, with the recent announcement that schools would remain closed for the rest of the 2019-20 school year, once again the curtain dates for our show are up in the air.

As a staff, we have been in discussions to formulate a plan that would allow our cast on stage again this year. With the ongoing COVID-19 crisis that our school community, state, nation and world are currently dealing with, we have made the extremely difficult decision to cancel this year's production of **Newsies**.

I cannot express to you all how hard a decision this was for our staff to make — but with no clear end to the current stay-at-home environment and no timetable to return to a place in society where large group gatherings are not only permissible, but also safe, there is no way for us to book a date and schedule our show to go up.

To our seniors, we are extremely sorry to have to make this decision. There is nothing more we would like to do to close out this year than to give you the opportunity to take that final senior bow. We hope you can join us next year for the opportunity to take the stage with our cast for that bow (more on that to come).

For everyone else — we are not closing out the book on **Newsies**. The VHS Drama Club will present this story next year — March 25-28, 2021, and we will discuss our plans for moving forward with you on a group call in the near future (keep an eye on the Facebook page for details).

Information regarding ticket and ad refunds will be posted in the near future, as well as details on when you may be able to pick up your T-shirts.

As always, we hope you are all staying safe and healthy, and we will see you all on stage again soon!

Thank you,

Brian Krugle
Sponsor, Valley High School Drama Club