



# OFFICIAL MEMO

To: Board of Education  
From: Dr. Diallo Brown  
Date: 1/21/2025  
Subject: Illinois High School Theatre Festival 2026

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Please accept the recommendation to advance the following items of business for the year 2026—Illinois High School Theatre Festival (IHSTF).

Memo For the District 126 Board of Education  
Illinois High School Theatre Festival  
January 2026

*We would like to offer a small group of our students the ability to attend the Illinois High School Theatre Festival (IHSTF) on January 8-10, 2026. The IHSTF is put on by the Illinois Theatre Association in conjunction with the University of Illinois and Illinois State University. This festival offers students the opportunity to attend “master classes” with theatre professionals, see plays performed by high schools around the state of Illinois, and meet with/audition for college theatre programs. It is a three-day event and will require travel and a two-night stay in Bloomington-Normal. Eighteen ZB students attended the 2025 IHSTF and found it to be an exemplary event that our students should continue to attend.*

*We have set the following standards for students to be eligible for this field trip because they will need to miss a day and a half of school (at least). We will take up to 28 students, depending on interest and eligibility.*

- *Must pass ALL Fall Semester 2025 classes or the student shall forfeit their spot on the trip without refund UNLESS they can arrange for a substitute attendee.*
- *Must put in AT LEAST 30 hours on either crew or cast during Fall Semester 2025*

*As we build our program, we will continue with a small group and take a spirit bus(es). These are our **projected** costs:*

- *Festival Registration:*  
\$75/person
- *Hotel Fees:* 4 students/room @ approx. \$200/night x 2 nights \$100/person
- *Festival Lunch Ticket:*  
\$25/person
- *Food & Miscellaneous* (Group Dinner Thursday--Breakfast included w/room) \$50/person
- *Spending Money* (Suggested: For Lunches, Dinners & Souvenirs) \$100/person
- **TOTAL COST** up to \$350 per student (perhaps more, depending on transportation)

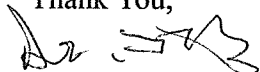
*I anticipate three (3) chaperones for next year who will be certified staff members.*

*Fundraisers:*

- *We would like to fundraise as parents/students are able. Some thoughts we have include summer car washes and restaurant fundraisers.*

I am available to answer any questions as needed: [kelly.regnier@zb126.org](mailto:kelly.regnier@zb126.org).

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Diallo Brown". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "D" and a trailing flourish.

Dr. Diallo Brown

CC:

Dr. James Woell

Ms. Cynthia Moreno

Mr. Chris Pawelczyk

Mrs. Kelly Regnier