A Word on Support…

Nobody cares about music unless it is expressive. Nobody sings expressively if they do not feel safe. Nobody feels safe if everyone in their environment does not support them. Nobody can truly show support without understanding the differences between supportive and unsupportive behaviors…

Examples of supportive behavior

-*Remaining silent, making eye contact, and showing that you’re listening*

*-Raising your hand when you’d like to speak*

*-Encouraging a classmate to audition for a solo, and congratulating him/or*

*-Offering to help someone who appears to be struggling*

*-Following all classroom policies*

*-Remaining mentally present during rehearsal*

*-Keeping an open mind and a positive attitude about the class*

*-Offering thoughtful questions/comments that help the group*

Examples of UNsupportive behavior

*-Talking to your peers during rehearsal or during someone else’s turn to talk*

*-Calling out without raising your hand*

*-Laughing or making negative faces directed toward or about others*

*-Ignoring someone who may be in need of help*

*-Arriving late to class and/or abusing bathroom time*

*-Abusing your classroom materials*

*-Eating, drinking, chewing gum, or leaving trash in the classroom*

*-Thinking about something else during rehearsal*

*-Making negative comments about a piece of music or classroom activity*

*-Offering attention-seeking questions/comments (irrelevant/inappropriate)*

\*Can you think of other examples of supportive and UNsupportive behaviors?