

NOTES

A female or a male may perform this Humorous Interpretation. Its humor comes from its universal theme. We have all seen or participated in a talent show of sorts. Often times, the professionalism is sparse at best. The inspiration for the principal, Mrs. Jones, came after watching an old *Mary Tyler Moore* rerun. The soft-spoken character, Georgette, epitomized the sweetness of the stereotypical elementary principal. Ms. Hooch (perhaps a drinking problem) was inspired by the character, Karen, from the television series, *Will and Grace*. Mrs. Belcher should be performed as a large woman. Think hairnet. Think white uniform. Think deep voice. Mr. Yield, the bus driver, is, of course, spoofing the Pulitzer Prize winning drama, *'Night, Mother,* by Marsha Norman. Mr. Bates should be wiry, a little scary, and intense. Feel free to experiment with these off-the-wall characters. If a male is performing this selection, he has permission to change Mrs. Jones to Mr. Jones. That should balance the ratio of male to female characters. None of the above is required, but simply options for the performer.

Time: The present

Location: The cafeteria stage of
Malcolm X. Jefferson Elementary

Cast of Characters

Mrs. Jones, the principal

Man in Audience, a parent

Miss Hooch, the school secretary

Mrs. Belcher, the cafeteria lady

Mr. Yield, the school bus driver

Mr. Bates, the school janitor

Mrs. Jones: *(Looking out into the crowd)* Well, it looks like a full house tonight. My name is Mrs. Jones. I am the principal here at Malcolm X. Jefferson Elementary, and I want to welcome all of you to our 17th Annual Talent Show. If I may, I'd like to make a few announcements before we begin tonight's festivities. As you know, each year we put on this little fundraiser to purchase something useful to enhance the learning environment here at Malcolm X. Jefferson, and this year the funds raised will be used to purchase a new mascot uniform. Before I continue, I would like to thank all of you who sent cards and attended the funeral of Mr. Armand, our late, great, assistant principal. For those of you who are unaware, at this year's Homecoming Parade, which...unfortunately coincided with the opening of deer season, Mr. Armand was kind enough to wear our school mascot costume... a six-point antlered buck. Sadly, an unsuspecting hunter, traveling to his deer lease in another county, shot Mr. Armand to death during the parade. The hunter, a Mr. Charlton Heston, not related to the famous actor, said he was confused by what looked like...the largest trophy buck in history... walking on two legs...throwing assorted Hershey miniatures from a sack full of candy to smiling children on the sidewalk...but decided to...and I quote, "Bag the prancing 'Rudolph' before he had a chance to get away." We have asked the company, who will be designing our new mascot uniform, to not make it look...too realistic this time. So *(For lack of anything else to say, Mrs. Jones puts one hand in the air quickly as though she were doing a cheer.)* go Bucks! For those of you who have ever attended one of our talent shows before, you will notice that we will be doing things a little differently this year. Mrs. Highnote, our Choral Director, who is officially in charge of the talent show, suggested we have an all-faculty talent show this year, because as she put it, there simply weren't any talented children audition. So, before we begin our little talent show, our school secretary, Miss Hooch, has a quick announcement. Miss Hooch?

Man in Audience: Whoo-hoo! Hoochie Mama!

Miss Hooch: Thank you, Mrs. Jones. *(Points to man in audience)* And thank you for noticing the new implants! Well, I just wanted to remind everyone that we do have refreshments on sale outside the cafeteria, and all proceeds will be donated to the Armand family in