About the School

Somerset County Vocational Technical High School
Bridgewater, NJ

Type: Countywide performing arts program/Vocational high school

Students: 60 (24 Acting, 15 Musical Theatre, and 21 Dance)

Very mixed socio-economic status

About the Performing Arts Program

Faculty: 2 full-time and 9 part-time

Students: 60

Audition: Students throughout the county audition in March for acceptance in the following academic year. Acceptance is based on faculty assessment of two rounds of auditions.

Facilities: Above Average in the Area
- 600-seat performance hall
- Performance studio
- Three offices
- On-site and off-site storage
- 2 classroom spaces
- Expanded offices (under construction)
- Dressing rooms (under construction)
- Student locker space (under construction)

Required Courses:
- Dance major: Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Composition, Choreography, Dance History, and Technical Theatre

About the Featured Classes

Acting I:
Students explore concepts of self-awareness and communication and attempt to break down conventional notions of the actor's process.

Student Motivation: High. Students exhibit a strong sense of purpose.

Student Level: Novice, intermediate, and advanced

Acting II:
Students build the foundation on which to create a theatrically viable, free, and inspired actor.

Student Motivation: High

Skill Level: Advanced

Typical Subsequent Courses:
This is a full program of study. Once completed, students who wish to remain in theatre after high school are encouraged to further their training in select BFA programs throughout the country. Those who wish to explore other careers are guided to appropriate college programs.

In the Teacher’s Words

What are the main skills that must be developed in Acting I before a student moves on to Acting II?

Joseph Mancuso: Students are expected to have a strong sense of self-awareness and maturity and a basic knowledge and application of the acting process.