

Mrs. Siegrist

Technology 3rd MP

This year I wanted to incorporate more technology into our spring musical. Last year we created a power point which we used to project images on our "TV SET" during *Schoolhouse Rock*. In this year's production, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, there is an actual "television show" that the audience sees during the second act. This is usually created on stage. The TV show is performed on one side of the stage, while the characters who watch the show are on another part of the stage. I thought it would be interesting if we created that TV show on video and played it during the performance. This saved us from many logistical nightmares that happen when the TV show is produced on stage (difficult music to play, costume changes, lighting, not enough cast members to cover the roles).

We prepared the entire TV show at the beginning of the rehearsal process. We used prerecorded music for the dance number. We chose the best dancers in the cast and put them in wigs so it didn't matter if they played a major role in the show, they could also perform in the video. We had a little problem finding a location that would work considering the set kept us from closing the curtain, but eventually we worked it out. Mr. Inciong came in to record the video. The dancers performed the piece multiple times and Mr. I set up multiple angles to get the look we wanted for a real television variety show. Mr. I also created graphics to use at the beginning and end of the show. He then edited the dance piece to focus on the specific choreographic elements we wanted to feature.

We then moved on to the acting elements. We had to film in such a way that the lines said on stage would fit into the correct breaks on the video. One of my favorite parts of the whole process was being able to use a student in the video who wanted to be a part of the musical but couldn't fit it into his schedule. He had gone through the audition process but had to back out. Since the video shoot only took one evening, he was able to participate.

Once the filming was done, Mr. I worked his technology magic to edit all the footage together. We then had an actor record the voiceover of the TV announcer and Mr. I put that into the video. My onstage actors then sat with the video and we timed out the dialogue so it would fit the video.

At the correct moment during the show, we brought down the big screen and showed the video as if the audience were watching it on the TV just as the actors were watching onstage.

