

MR MOONEYHAM (CONT'D)

He needs all the studying he can get! Now he says when he grows up he wants to be a musician!

DEWEY

I don't think that would be so -

But they are talking together and over each other, now.

MR WILLIAMS

Tomika's the same! I don't get it! Singing and listening and singing some more? But what's she learning?

MRS TURNER

Lawrence's head is stuffed with keyboards! He won't talk or think about anything else!

MRS HATHAWAY

Summer tells me they don't work! They never work! They just sit around and play music!

MARCY

Mr Schneebly, don't you think you should just tell them about the Battle of the Bands.

MR SPENCER

What Battle of the Bands?

DEWEY

OK OK. Everybody sit down, I will explain everything. Sit down in the chairs provided! Welcome to Parent's Night! Hello, I am Ned Schneebly, Mrs Dunham's substitute.

Before it hits the fan, there's something Dewey needs to say.

DEWEY (CONT'D)

Look. Over the last few weeks I've gotten to know your kids. Your kids. Zack. You say that he isn't smart? Are you crazy? He's an incredible guitarist and mind. You should hear him play. He's the next Hendrix. Freddy and Katie can jam with the best of them.

(MORE)

DEWEY (CONT'D)

But more importantly, since they picked up these instruments, they have grown so much. I've seen it! They're great, great kids.

(to Mrs Turner)

You! You say Lawrence plays keyboards all day. Well why shouldn't he? He's insane! He's going to go down in the rock record books. He is a sex god. Look at him!

Marcy and Shonelle have the voices of angels. I worship every note that comes out of their mouths. And Tomika? Tomika is a star. And don't even get me started on Summer. Summer will be the first woman President of the United States. She could run later this year and I'd vote for her.

The truth is, they are all really cool kids. If they were mine, I'd be so proud. I am proud.

Patty bursts into the room with Ned.

PATTY

He's an imposter!

DEWEY

Ned? You told Patty?

NED

She got it out of me. Sorry.

PATTY

Don't apologize!

NED

Sorry.

MRS TRAVIS

Who is this?

MR MOONEYHAM

What the hell is going on?

PATTY

I'll tell you what is going on. This is the real Ned Schneebly. And this loser is Dewey Finn! He is not even a teacher! *He can barely read!*