

ROSALIE

I have no idea. Where are the parents?

MS SHEINKOPF

Still panicking and screaming that their children were in danger.

ROSALIE

You think I've been a fool.

MS SHEINKOPF

If you have to ask!! I think you need to pull yourself together and take charge. You can do it. You're a strong woman and a good Principal, and I don't want to hear any more self doubt today.

\*

Rosalie looks at her surprised.

MS SHEINKOPF (CONT'D)

Now, I'll see what I can do with the parents.

Rosalie nods and Sheinkopf leaves.  
A child runs in.

MS SHEINKOPF (CONT'D)

No running in the hall!

\*

She has spoken automatically and walked off. The child stops. It is Mason. He stares at Rosalie.

START SCENE

ROSALIE

Mason, where are the other children?

MASON

I can't stay! They're waiting! I forgot my computer and I'm running the lights from it!

ROSALIE

Wait. You are not going anywhere, Mason. What lighting? What computer? Keeping who waiting?

MASON

We've got the instruments but we have to pick up Mr Schneebly and then we'll compete in The Battle of the Bands!

He rattles this out, anxious to be gone.

ROSALIE

Mason, you do know he isn't really  
Mr Schneebly? He's Mr Finn.

MASON

What's the difference?

Rosalie is stumped. What is the  
difference?

MASON (CONT'D)

We're a good band, Ms Mullins.  
We've worked so hard for this show.

ROSALIE

But he's not who he says he is!

MASON

Who cares?! He taught us that rock  
can set us free. We can't fail him  
now!

END SCENE

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A beat.

**24A. ROS & MASON U/S**

As she looks at him, Ms  
Sheinkopf's voice rings out.

MS SHEINKOPF (V.O.)

Ms Mullins, the parents are back  
and they're demanding a meeting  
*right now!*

Rosalie Mullins makes her  
decision.

ROSALIE

Go! I'll handle this.

Mason runs out of the room, but  
then he comes back and gives her a  
giant hug in gratitude.

MASON

You're the best, Ms Mullins!

The child has gone. She takes a  
deep breath and squares her  
shoulders as she opens the door.  
The sound of shouting parents  
fills the air as she strides out  
to her fate...