MY LITTLE PONY
Season 8

School Daze Part II
Ep 802

Teleplay Final Draft V2

Premise:	Michael Vogel Nicole Dubuc
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Distribution:

<u>Production</u>
Devon Cody
Jim Miller
Denny Lu
Mike Myhre
Zoe Borroz
Jada McDermott

<u>Discovery Family</u>
Linda Shima Tsuno
Beth Mohammed

<u>Hasbro Studios</u>
Stephen Davis
Kathy Page
Meghan McCarthy
Eliza Hart
Gabriel Monje
Daniel Barnes
Finn Arnesen
Nina Scales
Graham Stephen
Tyla Bucher
Loretta Masters
Narae Song
Bill Cheungcp
Molly Shaffer
Emily Thompson
Rachelle Little
Kristen Riley
Emily Thompson
Michael Kelly

<u>Hasbro Brand</u>
Jamie Cipolla
Yusun Hwang
Kevin Evans
Andrea Ehret
Samantha Lomow
Gretchen Forrest
Kristen Riley
Katherine Padilla
Brian Chapman

TEASER

REUSE FOOTAGE TO RECAP PART ONE, EPISODE 801:

--The Map has gotten bigger!

--Twilight Sparkle is opening a Friendship School and gets EEA accreditation, as Neighsay puts it: “To protect Equestria.”

--Twilight is strict with the Mane 5 about sticking to her school rules.

--The new students, a Hippogriff (Silverstar), a Changeling (Gossamer), a Dragon (Blaze), a Yak (Yana), and a Griffin (Gallus) aren’t having fun in class - neither are their teachers (the Mane 5).

--The EEA unicorn Neighsay shows up to check on the school. Twilight can’t find the students!

--The students are having fun together, which ramps up into a disaster that’s witnessed by the EEA Pony, Celestia, and the visiting Delegates!

--The EEA Pony closes the school! Twilight is crushed.

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC.1 INT. TWILIGHT’S CASTLE - BEDROOM - DAY

The windows are covered and the room is dark. Strains of <EMO MUSIC> play from somewhere. Twilight is half-buried in a Pony-sized mound of pillows.

SPIKE opens the door, letting in a ray of light.

1 SPIKE
Twilight? You feeling okay?

No answer. Spike turns off the <BUMMER MUSIC>, moves to the pile of pillows and lifts one, revealing TWILIGHT SPARKLE. There are bags under her eyes; she’s over-the-top depressed.

2 TWILIGHT
MMMMMPHHHH!

Twilight pulls the pillow back over her head. Spike leans against the pillow pile, gets comfy.

3 SPIKE
Look on the bright side. Sure the EEA closed your Friendship School, but now you've got time to do other stuff! It's like being on vacation!

Twilight bursts out of the pillows, accidentally knocking Spike over in the process. A hysterical build:

4 TWILIGHT
A failure vacation! I'm supposed to be the Princess of Friendship. And all I did was make enemies with Equestria's allies, upset my friends, and get my school--
(shudder, eye twitch)
--unaccredited! THERE IS NO BRIGHT SIDE!

She falls dramatically back into the pillow pile.

5 SPIKE
Okay then. I'm gonna need backup.
(calls to door)
Operation Cheer Up is a go!

A ZOOM of color as RAINBOW DASH flies in, opening the drapes on all the windows as she whirls around the room.

6 RAINBOW DASH
C'mon, Twilight! You can't sit around in the boring dark all day!

APPLEJACK and FLUTTERSHY enter. Applejack has a big jar in a saddlebag. ANGEL BUNNY follows Fluttershy. *

7 APPLEJACK
Exactly. What you need is a double dose of Granny Smith's apple mash. *

Applejack sets the jar of thick goop next to Twilight, who doesn't look convinced. Fluttershy steps timidly forward-- *

8 FLUTTERSHY
Whenever I'm sad, a hug from Angel Bunny always makes me feel better.

Angel shoots her a "seriously?" look. Fluttershy gestures, "go on". Angel rolls his eyes and hops over to Twilight. Hugs her. Instantly gets incredibly depressed. He slumps.

Alarmed, Fluttershy puts a hoof around him, pulling him back.

9 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
Maybe it's just me.

RARITY has just entered, floating a FANCY DRESS with her. PINKIE PIE <BOINGS> in behind her with a TRAY OF CUPCAKES.

10 RARITY
Well I find that nothing brightens my mood like a new ensemblé!

She floats the pillow off Twilight and magics the dress onto her. Twilight looks down at herself, sighs:

11 TWILIGHT
Thanks, Rarity. It's a great dress... <SOBS> For someone who knows how to run a school.

Twilight magics the dress off herself, downcast. PINKIE PIE zips over to Spike and STAGE WHISPERS:

12 PINKIE PIE
You didn't tell me this was a <u>pity</u> party! I woulda brought ice cream!

Twilight addresses her worried friends--

13 TWILIGHT
I appreciate you trying to make me feel better. But not everything can be fixed with dresses and cupcakes.

Rarity and Pinkie Pie share a <GASP> of disbelief.

14 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
I just need some time to be alone and think.

Twilight walks out of the room, leaving her concerned friends behind. But Spike shrugs, cheerful--

15 SPIKE
Hey, at least we got her out of the pillows!

SC.2 EXT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - DAY, SOON

ON the magical EEA seal that blocks the entrance to the Friendship School. Twilight looks at it and <SIGHS>.

16 STARLIGHT (PARTIAL OS)
I wondered how long you'd take to get tired of pillow fort pouting.

REVEAL : STARLIGHT GLIMMER walks up. Twilight holds up a hoof in warning, then turns her back, depressed-

17 TWILIGHT
Everypony's already tried to cheer me up. It won't work.

18 STARLIGHT
Oh, I'm not gonna cheer you up. I'm gonna tell you what you did wrong.

The surprise of this snaps Twilight out of her funk.

19 TWILIGHT
What?!

20 STARLIGHT
You gave up too easily.
(off Twilight's look)
Hey, <u>you</u> made me a guidance counselor. That means tough love.

21 TWILIGHT
Neighsay was right. I failed. The school WAS a disaster.

22 STARLIGHT
So was I when you met me! But you showed me that when you know in your heart something is right, you stand up for it. You did that for me. (re: school) Why not for this?

23 TWILIGHT
I can't go against the EEA! They're in charge of all the schools in Equestria.

24 STARLIGHT
And <u>you're</u> in charge of all the Friendship in Equestria. Why should you let somepony else stop you from doing your job?

Twilight wavers, then magics a copy of the EEA TOME up from where Neighsay dropped it in part one.

25 TWILIGHT
But the EEA rule book--

26 STARLIGHT
Doesn't matter. You can write your <u>own</u> rules! Cause you're doing something <u>new</u>. Something important.

Twilight looks at her reflection in the water, the school behind her. A beat as she grows determined, full of purpose.

27 TWILIGHT
You're right! WHY we're doing this is way more important than HOW we're doing this. And we ARE doing this!

28 STARLIGHT
Now <u>that's</u> the Twilight I know. How can I help?

Twilight puts a grateful hoof on Starlight's shoulder.

29 TWILIGHT
You already have.

SC.3 EXT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - DAY, MOMENTS LATER

Twilight races up to Spike and the Mane 5, just leaving the castle. Over the top excited--

30 TWILIGHT
Guess what?! The School of Friendship is back in business!

The Mane 5 are shocked and clearly not thrilled.

31 RAINBOW DASH / RARITY / FLUTTERSHY / APPLEAJCK / PINKIE PIE
What?! / But, why? / Oh no. / Bad idea. / Do we still get to guess?

32 RAINBOW DASH
No offense, Twilight...But teaching at that school was the most boring, horrible, awful thing ever.

33 APPLEJACK
(aside)
Pretty sure she's gonna take offense to that.

34 TWILIGHT
No, Rainbow Dash is right. I owe you all an apology.

Twilight's friends exchange unsure looks.

35 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
I was so focused on doing things the EEA way, I didn't listen to any of you. I'm sorry. I promise this time, we'll run the school like friends should. Together.

36 RARITY
So we'd be allowed to teach however <u>we</u> want to?

37 FLUTTERSHY
No more scary pop quizzes?

38 PINKIE PIE
Confetti cannons for everyone?!

Pinkie produces a CONFETTI CANNON. Twilight nods.

39 TWILIGHT
Whatever you need to teach the elements of harmony.

Pinkie sets off the cannon.

40 PINKIE PIE
Yippppeeeeee!

41 APPLEJACK
In that case...We're behind you one hundred percent, Twilight.

The other Ponies nod and smile, surrounding their friend. Spike <COUGHS>, interrupting the moment.

42 SPIKE
Uh, just two small problems. The school is still unaccredited...

Twilight <SHUDDERS> at the word.

43 SPIKE (CONT'D)
And we don't have any students.

44 TWILIGHT
I'll take care of the first part, if you five can round up our class.

45 RAINBOW DASH
Totally! Uh... How?

46 APPLEJACK
Roundin' up the pony students ain't gonna be an issue but...

47 FLUTTERSHY
The creatures from the other kingdoms seemed pretty upset with us.

48 RARITY
Nonsense! I'm certain we can win them over with our charm and style!

SMASH TO:

SC.4 EXT. YAKYAKISTAN - PRINCE RUTHERFORD'S THRONE ROOM - DAY

TWO BURLY YAK GUARDS guard the doorway. Pinkie bounces up and the Yaks move to block the door.

49 PINKIE PIE
(sing-song)
Cupcake gram for Prince Rutherford!

The Yaks share a look... And move aside.

SC.5 INT. PRINCE RUTHERFORD'S THRONE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

PRINCE RUTHERFORD looks up to see Pinkie <BOING> in.

50 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Why Pink Pony here? Yaks mad at ponies.

51 PINKIE PIE
Becaaaaause, you don't have to be mad anymore! We're reopening Twilight Sparkle's School of Friendship and it's gonna be super-ooper-dooper better than before! We're...

I/C **INT. DRAGONLANDS - SAME TIME** - Rarity faces a fuming EMBER, continuing the apology/plea:

52 RARITY
... ever so sorry about the misunderstanding. All creatures are of course welcome! We...

I/C **INT. CHANGELING KINGDOM - HIVE - SAME TIME** - PRINCE THORAX listens as Fluttershy explains:

53 FLUTTERSHY
... would be really happy if you sent your student back to class. It...

I/C **EXT. MT. ARIS - SAME TIME** - Applejack speaks to GENERAL SEASPRAY, who frowns--

54 APPLEJACK
... won't be the same without 'em! We're open and ready to start teaching right...

I/C **EXT. GRIFFONSTONE - SAME TIME** - Rainbow Dash hovers in front of GRANDPA GRUFF, who sits, arms crossed, looking dour.

55 RAINBOW DASH
...now! So?! What are you waiting for? Get your student and let's go!

56 GRANDPA GRUFF
Not happening.

57 RAINBOW DASH
Aw, do you need me to do the whole apology and explanation thing again? Okay. <deep breath>

She inhales to start over, but Grandpa Gruff cuts her off.

58 GRANDPA GRUFF
Listen, missy. It's not happening because--

I/C **SPLIT SCREEN** OF Prince Rutherford / Ember / Prince Thorax / General Seaspray / Grandpa Gruff -- glaring as they say:

59 PRINCE RUTHERFORD / EMBER / PRINCE THORAX / GENERAL SEASPRAY / GRANDPA GRUFF
OUR STUDENT IS GONE!

I/C **SPLIT SCREEN** OF Pinkie / Rarity / Fluttershy/ Applejack / Rainbow Dash -- they all TAKE in shock!

60 PINKIE PIE / RARITY / FLUTTERSHY / APPLEJACK / RAINBOW DASH
WHAT?!?!

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC.6 EXT. CELESTIA'S CASTLE - THE NEXT DAY

Prince Rutherford, Ember, Thorax, Seaspray and Grandpa Gruff surround CELESTIA and Twilight, grumbling and accusing each other--

61 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
WHERE YANA! This all Ponies' fault!

62 EMBER
You're pretty quick to blame them. What are you hiding, Yak?

63 THORAX
Can we just focus on finding our lost students?

Grandpa Gruff eyes Thorax with his bad eye.

64 GRANDPA GRUFF
Nice try. You grubs are probably hiding the whole lot of 'em! Never trust a Changeling, I always say.

Celestia steps forward to try to calm everyone--

65 CELESTIA
Please, everycreature, if you can just explain what happened...

66 SEASPRAY
The students left us notes before they disappeared. When the school closed, they didn't want to say goodbye to each other. They claim they ran away to stay together.

Twilight is surprised/impressed at this loyalty. She blurts:

67 TWILIGHT
I can't believe it! They <u>did</u> learn friendship!

The delegates all turn their glares on her. She wilts.

68 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Sorry.

69 SEASPRAY
The students couldn't have done this by themselves. SOME creature is hiding them! If the nephew of our queen is not found soon, I promise there will be retribution!

70 EMBER
Yeah? Well my dragons will burn every kingdom until we find which of you is hiding Blaze.

71 GRANDPA GRUFF
Tell it to the Griffon Army.

Prince Rutherford stamps his hooves, <SHAKING THE GROUND>!

72 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Yaks fight griffons <u>and</u> dragons!

Thorax tries to get between them - the voice of reason.

73 THORAX
Our people cannot afford an international incident. If any creature blames the Changelings for this--

74 EMBER
What are you up to, shape-shifter?

The creatures square off menacingly. Tension is at a breaking point! Celestia leans to Twilight and whispers--

75 CELESTIA
Find the students, quickly. Or I fear our world will be at war.

Twilight nods determinedly.

CUT TO:

SC.7 EXT. SUGAR CUBE CORNER - LATER THAT DAY

PUSH IN as we hear the discussion inside--

76 TWILIGHT (O.S.)
Okay. Let's review what we know.

SC.8 INT. SUGAR CUBE CORNER - CONTINUOUS

The Mane 6 are gathered with Starlight. Nearby, Spike points to a chart with DRAWINGS of the students, then a "?".

77 SPIKE
Blaze, Gossamer, Silverstar, Yana, and Gallus disappeared together.

Twilight makes a "keep going" motion.

78 SPIKE (CONT'D)
That's all we know.

79 APPLEJACK
They're probably just off hidin' somewhere.

80 STARLIGHT
Unless they used some kind of spell to disappear.

81 RAINBOW DASH
Or went undercover!

Pinkie Pops up, hooves up like claws.

82 PINKIE PIE
Maybe they were attacked by a ferocious shrimp! Nopony EVER expects that.

Fluttershy leans away from Pinkie.

83 FLUTTERSHY
<gasp> Shrimps can attack?

84 PINKIE PIE
Nope. That's why nopony expects it!

SANDALWOOD walks in with an empty cart. He TAKES at seeing the pictures of the other students, but quickly starts loading cupcakes into his wagon as fast as he can.

Pinkie Pie pops up next to him, startling him.

85 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Hi, Sandalwood! Are you having a party?

She <BLOWS> a party favor. He startles again.

86 SANDALWOOD
No! I'm just, uh...Really hungry.

He starts loading the cupcakes even faster.

87 RARITY
We need to think like our students. If someone told us we'd never see each other again, what would <u>we</u> do?

Sandalwood hurries out with his wagonload of cupcakes. Pinkie holds the door for him as she answers--

88 PINKIE PIE
Go someplace we could all hang out and eat lots of cupcakes!

Everyone looks at her, their jaws dropping.

89 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
What?

90 FLUTTERSHY
Sandalwood was friends with all the missing students. And he just got plenty of cupcakes.

91 APPLEJACK
He was at the farm this morning, picking up a wagonload of apples.

92 RARITY
And I saw him in the shop buying pillows and blankets!

93 RAINBOW DASH
He must be taking all that stuff to the other students! We gotta follow him!

The gang races for the door...And naturally there's a pile up. As they sort themselves out--

SC.9 INT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS - NIGHT

Gallus flies around the huge hall. He snags a chandelier and uses it to do a mid-air flip.

94 GALLUS
Heh. This place is way cooler than I thought it would be.

Below, Blaze picks a gemstone out of the wall and eats it.

95 BLAZE
Even *I'm* impressed. What's it called again, Gossamer?

Gossamer smiles, relaxing in a throne near Yana.

96 GOSSAMER
The Castle of the Two Sisters. I remembered it from class: Princess Twilight's History of Pre-Equestrian Friendships.

Gallus swings from a light sconce.

97 GALLUS
Who knew? School <u>was</u> actually good for something!

98 YANA
Yana not really like school. But Yana like new friends.

Yana awkwardly hugs Blaze and Gossamer.

99 BLAZE
Blaze...Like...Breathing.

Silverstar, posted at a window, calls back to his friends.

100 SILVERSTAR
Hey you guys! Sandalwood is back!

SC.10 EXT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS - SOON

Sandalwood runs down the path, pulling a chain of three carts (linked together like a train behind him), holding cupcakes, apples, and pillows/throws. He doesn't see several tiny eyes staring after him from the forest.

Yana races out of the castle, barreling toward him.

101 YANA
Cupcakes are best cakes!

Sandalwood looks up in shock as Yana charges him!

But Gallus dives in at the last second and grabs on to her back, tugging and flapping so she slows down...

Just in front of Sandalwood. He grins.

102 SANDALWOOD
Thanks for the assist, Gallus.

103 GALLUS
(cool guy smile)
Pff. I was saving the cupcakes.

Gallus and Yana start devouring cupcakes as Blaze and Gossamer join Sandalwood. Gossamer smiles--

104 GOSSAMER
Pillows, how nice! The castle is going to be so much more comfy.

105 BLAZE
And fun! Pillow fight!

She whacks Sandalwood safely with a fluffy pillow (and not in the head). He <LAUGHS> and grabs his own pillow, joining in.

106 SILVERSTAR
YOU GUYS!!!

Everyone stops and turns to see Silverstar fly out of the castle, with a mind-blown look on his face.

107 SILVERSTAR (CONT'D)
I just found... STAIRS!

Gallus shares a "so?" look with Sandalwood.

108 GALLUS
Aaaand...We care because...

109 SILVERSTAR
Stairs are awesome! We don't have anything like 'em underwater. Cause you know...No way to climb 'em.

Gossamer CHANGES into a SEAPONY and flips her tail. The others get it.

110 YANA / SANDALWOOD / BLAZE / GALLUS
Ohhhh.

Gossamer changes back.

111 SILVERSTAR
This place has everything! If only my family back home could see it!

Silverstar bites into an apple. Gossamer looks wistful.

112 GOSSAMER
I wish the other Changelings could meet you all. You're not nearly as strange as the stories say.

113 BLAZE
Gee, <u>thanks</u>. (then, genuine) But yeah, hanging out with other creatures is actually...not bad.

There's a loud <GROWL/CHATTER> from the foliage nearby, and a PUCKWUDGIE - a creature bigger than a pony that looks like a cross between a PORCUPINE and an EVIL TEDDY BEAR leaps out.

114 SANDALWOOD
Um, MOST other creatures. What is that thing?

The Pukwudgie <SNARLS> menacingly, <CHATTERING> gutterally.

115 GOSSAMER
Am I the ONLY one who didn't sleep through Professor Fluttershy's Critters of Comfort and Conflict Class? It's a puckwudgie! (then) Maybe I can scare it away!

Gossamer transforms into an IDENTICAL PUCKWUDGIE. She <GROWLS> at it. The original creature <GROWLS BACK> and raises its claws as a signal.

FROM THE FOLIAGE, a FEW MORE PUCKWUDGIES join it.

116 GOSSAMER (CONT'D)
Oops.

Gossamer changes back to normal.

117 YANA
Yak plan better. YAAAA!

Yana charges the Puckwudgies. The Puckwudgies turn their backs to her.

Yana sees this and puts on the brakes, dropping her butt and sliding, still on a collision course!

The Puckwudgies fire their quills...

...Fortunately, Silverstar flips one of the carts in front of Yana. The quills strike it instead of her.

As the <GROWLING> Puckwudgies close in, we...

END ACT TWO

<u>ACT THREE</u>

SC.11 EXT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS - RESUME

The Puckwudgies continue to advance on Silverstar, Yana, Ember, Gallus, Sandalwood, and Gossamer, who hide behind the wagons. Blaze pops up to hurl a pillow at the Puckwudgies...

...And it's immediately shot through with quills.

Undaunted, she hurls an apple and a cupcake.

118 BLAZE
Think, Gossamer! Did Professor Fluttershy say anything about how to beat Puckwudgies in her lecture?

119 GOSSAMER
I'm sorry, I can't remember.

120 GALLUS
I'm gonna go ahead and guess it's not pillows, apples or cupcakes.

121 SILVERSTAR
Wouldn't class have been about how to make friends with them?

122 SANDALWOOD
Uh...Guys... They're getting really close.

123 YANA
Yana not scared. Yana have friends.

This unexpectedly rallies the group. They share a look and take courage, standing together... Just as the first Puckwudgie reaches their hideout!

He <GROWLS> as he peers over the overturned cart...

And then suddenly, a FLASH of RAINBOW spirals around him, spinning him silly! Finally the blur stops and is revealed to be Rainbow Dash! The dizzy Puckwudgie falls over with a <SPUN OUT GROAN>.

124 GALLUS
No. Way. Is that Professor Egghead?

Rarity, Starlight and Twilight race into the clearing behind her, their horns glowing with magic.

The students watch in awe as Twilight and Starlight levitate Puckwudgies away, while Rarity wraps the other Puckwudgie up in BOWS that bind his quills.

125 YANA
Not bad. For pony.

126 GOSSAMER
Wow. They're... amazing.

Applejack races in to lasso another Puckwudgie, allowing Pinkie Pie and Spike to shoot off a PIE CANNON at him!

THREE BIRDS fly in to harass a Puckwudgie, pulling out his quills and pecking at him.

Fluttershy calls to her friends:

127 FLUTTERSHY
Oh, don't hurt him. Just ask him to leave nicely!

The birds give her a look, but then <TWITTER> something. At that, the Puckwudgies all run for the cover of shrubbery.

The students gape.

128 GALLUS
I had no idea our teachers were actually cool.

129 SANDALWOOD
I've been trying to tell you!

Silverstar is beyond excited. He feels the need to act out everything they just saw.

130 SILVERSTAR
Did you see that? Rainbow Dash was like zooooom! And then whoooaa! The Puckwudgies went flying! And then the birds came and...

Blaze pats Silverstar's shoulder.

131 BLAZE
Yeah. We all just lived it. But you're right. That was pretty amazing...Even by dragon standards.

Twilight rushes to the students.

132 TWILIGHT
Is everycreature alright?

The students nod.

133 SPIKE
You're lucky we got here in time.

134 STARLIGHT
You know, this probably isn't the safest place for a campout.

She addresses the next line to a TREE.

135 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Even for a Changeling.

The tree turns into Gossamer... who hangs her head, morose.

136 GOSSAMER
Does that mean you're going to send us back to our homes?

Twilight shares a look with her friends.

137 TWILIGHT
Not exactly. We have another option in mind...

The students look up at that. Gallus feigns coolness.

138 GALLUS
We're listening.

139 TWILIGHT
It's pretty clear you've already started learning friendship <u>without</u> your teachers. But we'd like to show you even more about it...If you come back to school.

The students don't look too thrilled by the prospect.

140 BLAZE
Not much of a choice.

The "teachers" all look at each other and come clean.

141 APPLEJACK
To be honest, we felt exactly the same way when Twilight told us she was reopening the school.

142 SILVERSTAR
Really?

143 RARITY
Believe me, we were just as distressed as you. But this time, we guarantee it shall be different.

144 RAINBOW DASH
Oh yeah. With class run my way, it'll be TWO HUNDRED and twenty percent cooler.

145 FLUTTERSHY
And without the EEA, it'll be much friendlier.

146 PINKIE PIE
Plus all your nations won't go to war if you come back with us!

The students gape and look at each other in shock.

147 SANDALWOOD
Wait, that's what's happening?!

CUT TO:

SC.12 EXT. TWILIGHT SPARKLE'S SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - NEXT DAY

Twilight, the other ponies and their students (pony and otherwise) gather in front of the school. The EEA seal mars the image, still blocking the doors.

They turn when they hear--

148 CELESTIA (PARTIAL OS)
Twilight! I was so relieved to get your letter.

Celestia is approaching with the delegates.

149 SEASPRAY
We all were. I'm just glad you're alright, Silverstar.

Seaspray moves to greet Silverstar. Gallus grins to Grandpa Gruff, but the crusty Griffon just crosses his arms.

150 GRANDPA GRUFF
Don't expect a welcome party from me, sonny. It's time you got home.

151 GALLUS
I'm not leaving.

152 GRANDPA GRUFF
Whaaat?

153 GOSSAMER
None of us are. Sorry, Thorax.

154 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Yak not understand. This pony joke?

155 BLAZE
No. We're going back to school.

156 EMBER
How? You can't even get inside.

Twilight uses her horn to magically <BLAST> the seal off the doors. Everyone gapes.

157 TWILIGHT
School is back in session.

158 STUDENTS
<cheering>

The students cheer and start for the doors, when--

159 NEIGHSAY (O.S.)
What is the meaning of this?!

REVEAL: The cast-aside SEAL has opened a MAGICAL PORTAL that NEIGHSAY, the EEA HEAD UNICORN, steps through.

He turns and blocks the doors. The students shrink back.

160 NEIGHSAY (CONT'D)
Who dared remove my seal?

161 TWILIGHT
I did, Chancellor Neighsay. And I respectfully ask you to step aside, or classes will start late.

162 NEIGHSAY
Class won't start <u>at all</u>! The EEA has spoken. And NONE SHALL PASS!

Neighsay stomps his hoof in his best Gandalf imitation.

Yana stamps her hoof back.

163 YANA
Yak pass if Yak say!

164 NEIGHSAY
This is for the greater good. We have standards to uphold. The school was disorganized! The teachers unqualified!

He motions towards the collapsed tower.

165 NEIGHSAY (CONT'D)
And those dangerous and unpredictable "students" put ponies' lives in danger!

The Delegates take offense at this. Ember bares teeth.

166 EMBER
I'll show you unpredictable...

Every creature starts arguing at once. Celestia raises her voice to cut through the tension--

167 CELESTIA
I'm sure Princess Twilight Sparkle has a good explanation for all of this.

All eyes go to Twilight. But she remains calm.

168 TWILIGHT
I do. It's true that my School of Friendship is EEA unaccredited.

Spike leans to Rarity--

169 SPIKE
(sotto)
Look! She said it without doing the eye thing!

170 NEIGHSAY
(splutters; indignant)
Then...It's not a school!

171 TWILIGHT
It's not an <u>EEA</u> school. It's a friendship school. With its own rules. I should know. I wrote the book.

And with that, Twilight levitates in a TOME three times bigger than the EEA's, and drops it at Neighsay's feet.

172 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
These students reminded me that every friendship is special. So the way we teach it has to be just as unique. <u>My</u> school is going to do things differently.

Neighsay is shocked. He visibly gapes.

173 NEIGHSAY
Allowing all of these creatures to attend your school... changing the rules for them ...It simply won't work!

Celestia stands next to Twilight and glares at Neighsay sternly.

174 CELESTIA
I seem to recall something about Earth Ponies, Unicorns and Pegasi doing something similar, don't you?

Twilight and Celestia share a smile.

175 TWILIGHT
I promise you, Chancellor, my school will help protect Equestria.

Neighsay burns and growls as he stalks off.

176 NEIGHSAY
Or destroy it.

ANGLE on Delegates... Seaspray smiles, Thorax looks worried, Ember frowns, Prince Rutherford looks thoughtful, and Grandpa Gruff shakes his head.

177 GRANDPA GRUFF
Hmph. How's this school gonna be any different from last time?

And with that, Twilight launches into a MUSICAL NUMBER about the amazing parts of the school...

178 TWILIGHT
(sings)
My brand new School of Friendship
Is home to everyone...

Twilight and Starlight's horns glow as they magically raise the toppled tower from 801.

179 GOSSAMER
(sings)
We're learning how to trust and care...

Gallus and Gossamer fly up to help settle the tower in place.

180 GALLUS
(sings)
We're all here to have fun!

Rarity ties a bow on Yana's hair - PULL BACK to reveal she's tied several so Yana can't trip on her braids anymore.

181 RARITY
(sings)
With friendship ties that bind us--

Rainbow Dash kicks the EEA tome off Twilight's desk and Applejack replaces it with Twilight's rule book.

182 APPLEJACK
(sings)
Tighter than the strongest law...

HIGH ANGLE -- CLOSE on Fluttershy on her back in the grass, putting her hoof in Silverstar's who lays next to her -- like "holding hands"...

183 FLUTTERSHY
(sings)
We're hoof in hoof...

As they sing, we CRANE BACK to see ALL THE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS are on their back in a circle, all holding hands.

184 SILVERSTAR
(sings)
In hand in hoof in wing or even claw!

Gallus stands on a garden pedestal, striking a pose like a topiary to make Yana and Sandalwood laugh. Twilight trots past, smiling--

185 TWILIGHT
(sings)
There's a griffon in the garden.

Silverstar hangs upside down from a beam in the hall, doing sit ups. PAN OVER to show Rainbow Dash is doing them too--

186 RAINBOW DASH
(sings)
Hippogriffs hang in the hall!

Spike holds the school's front door open as a MASSIVE DRAGON and a tiny BREEZIE enter...

187 SPIKE
(sings)
And the door's always open to all creatures great and small.

Blaze does homework in the LIBRARY, piles of books all around her. She looks up in surprise as Yana, Pinkie and Prince Rutherford bring in more carts of books.

188 PINKIE PIE
(sings)
And a Yak or two or three...

"Fluttershy" walks down a corridor past Starlight.

189 STARLIGHT
(sings)
That might have been a Changeling...

REVEAL the REAL Fluttershy standing next to Starlight, also looking--

190 FLUTTERSHY
(sings)
But it kinda looks like me.

Under Twilight's supervision, Spike hands Pinkie back her confetti cannon, and Rarity a basket of gemstones. The ponies beam. OUTSIDE the window, Fluttershy smiles as Yana hugs a displeased Angel bunny. Rainbow Dash flies by with Blaze and Gallus following. Applejack directs other students to plant appleseeds - one which grows when watered.

191 TWILIGHT
(sings)
Some things you just can't teach with books
Some things you only know.
So trust your heart and let us lead, your friendship's sure to grow.

ON THE STUDENTS, now assembled in the great hall, sitting with each other, enjoying cupcakes.

192 STUDENTS
(sing)
And once we master kindness,
We'll spread it 'cross this land.
And give the gift that's ours to share, make others understand.

193 MANE 6 / STARLIGHT / SPIKE
(sing)
Yes, Friendship's always there to share, and that's what we've got planned!

END SONG.

The delegates now look convinced. Ember has her hands over her ears. She winces.

194 EMBER
Fine. If you promise to stop singing, Blaze can stay.

Blaze pumps her fist in the air.

Prince Rutherford turns to Yana.

195 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
If dragon stay, Yak stay.

Thorax nods to Gossamer. She beams to hear--

196 THORAX
I know you will make the Changelings proud, Gossamer.

197 SEASPRAY
You belong here. Now... Can you show me those stair-things you mentioned?

Silverstar nods enthusiastically. Only Gallus is left, looking worried, as Grandpa Gruff makes a sour face.

198 GRANDPA GRUFF
What? You belong at home. You think I care if you've made friends?

199 GALLUS
Please, Grandpa Gruff?

His friends join him, and they hit Grandpa with the whammy of six pairs of big, sad eyes.

200 GRANDPA GRUFF
Alright, alright! Stop doing that!

The students cheer and rush inside.

Starlight smiles to Twilight.

201 STARLIGHT
Guess I make a pretty good Guidance Counselor, huh?

Twilight nods--

202 TWILIGHT
Yes! Writing a rule book was the most fun ever!!! I can't wait to start working on the new lesson plans!

PAN ACROSS HER FRIENDS as she adds with a smile--

203 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
With some help from my friends.

And with this, we CRANE BACK away from Twilight's School of Friendship, fully and happily in session.

FADE OUT

END EPISODE