



**College Station ISD Dance/Drill Team
Constitution & Procedures
2022-2023**

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Philosophy & Purpose

Being a CSISD Dance/Drill Team member is an honor and special privilege. Dance/Drill teams exist to promote good sportsmanship, good citizenship, wholesome school spirit and entertainment, and are first and foremost representatives of their school. CSISD Dance/Drill Team members should exemplify both individual and group behavior suitable to their position and in accordance with the rules as stated in the CSISD Student Code of Conduct. Members of these groups have a fundamental responsibility to play a leadership role in building teamwork and helping the school achieve its goals and objectives. Because of these responsibilities, members of the team will be expected to maintain a higher standard of behavior both on and off campus in addition to higher academic achievement than that of their peers.

Objectives

CSISD Dance/Drill Team members are expected to be physically and mentally skilled in learning and remembering routines. They are also expected to be able to publicly demonstrate a skill level suitable for the team position and the timing necessary for group performance.

Definition

CSISD Dance/Drill Team member year: The rules and procedures outlined in this constitution are in effect from the time the student is selected to the team until they are no longer a CSISD Dance/Drill Team member. This does not include the academic guidelines. Because of TEA rules, the academic policies are in effect for a school year.

Commitment

Candidates selected to be a member of the team are expected to make a commitment to the activity for the full CSISD Dance/Drill Team member year. Therefore, a member of any CSISD Dance/Drill Team may not participate in another sport that interferes with the dance/drill team schedule. Any dancer who voluntarily quits the team before the end of the dance/drill team member year, without the approval of the principal and director, will not be allowed to letter for the current year or tryout for the next year.

Tryout Guidelines

Directors will be responsible for the preparation and distribution of a packet of information to be made available to all candidates. This information will include specific tryout dates, times, attire, and procedures. The building principal must approve this information prior to distribution.

Students wishing to try out for the team must file an application and parent permission form with the director by the date stated in the tryout packet.

High school dance/drill team members shall be selected by a scoring method that assigns a weight of 100% to the ratings assigned by a panel of judges.

All dance/drill team candidates shall be judged by qualified judges who are not employees of CSISD.

Candidates will be present in school all day on the day of judging.

Tryout Eligibility

Candidates must meet all of the following tryout requirements:

1. Candidates must meet **both** of the following **academic requirements**:
 - **A candidate must have an average of 80 for the 1st through the 4th six weeks.** Courses figured into the required 80 average will be the same courses used to calculate the grade point average (GPA). Classes receiving added points in the GPA will be given the extra points in the calculation of the semester average. Any course with a grade of WF will be averaged as a 50. The grade in any 5-point course will be raised by 10 points.
 - A candidate must have UIL grade eligibility at the 4th six weeks and at the time of tryouts.
2. All candidates will meet the standards set forth by state law and the Texas Education Agency regarding eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities. Such eligibility will be certified with the registrar.
3. A candidate may not have been dismissed from any other school club, organization, or sport for the current year.
4. A candidate will not be eligible to tryout if he/she has been placed in ISS or Venture Center for more than 3 days during the current year. Any sort of disciplinary action(s) that result in a total of more than 3 days placement will make the candidate ineligible for tryouts.
5. A candidate will be ineligible to tryout if he/she has been suspended from school for the current year.
6. A parent or guardian must attend the mandatory parent meeting or sign the waiver.
7. Candidates and parents must sign a form stating that they understand and will comply with all information in the packet before the student is allowed to participate in the tryout process. This must be turned in by the date and time specified.

Team Makeup

The number of members on the team varies each year and depends on the “natural break” during tryouts. Those with the highest scores above the natural gap in scores will be chosen for the team.

Dance Team Judges

There will be three judges on the panel. Judges will be selected from dance company staff members, dance associations, universities, and/or out of district coaches. Judges should not be hired to judge tryouts if they have tutored or taught the candidates during the current school year. Every attempt should be made to hire judges who have not worked with students in the College Station area. However, with the hundreds of camps and dance programs in the state of Texas, attended by thousands of dancers and taught by numerous instructors, it may be possible at some time that a member of the judging panel may have had some contact with a candidate who is trying out.

The judges will be instructed to judge the candidates based only on the mastery of the skills that they see demonstrated during the tryouts. Tryout results will not be challenged because of prior knowledge of judges and candidates.

Line Tryouts

Panel tryouts will be closed to the public. There will be no students, parents, or existing members in the tryout room/area, nor will they be involved in the collection or tabulation of scores. Any deviation by the candidates from the tryout requirements may result in the disqualification of the candidate.

Candidates must physically perform before the panel. If a candidate is injured, he/she must perform to the best of his/her ability.

If a candidate is unable to attend the final tryout, he/she will be allowed to be judged by video audition, only if the absence is approved by administrators and directors prior to the time of tryouts.

If a candidate moves into the CSISD district after line tryouts have taken place, they may be allowed onto the team based on the following qualifications:

1. A discussion with the previous director and administrators discussing behavior and balance of fines. Membership on a previous team will not guarantee the student a position on a CSISD Dance/Drill Team but may be considered.
2. Viewing of the candidate's grades from the previous district to ensure UIL eligibility.
3. The candidate must demonstrate skills judged during the line tryout. The outcome of the tryout will be decided by the CSISD Dance/Drill Team director and assistant director. The tryout will be judged on a yes/no basis. Critiques will only be available to the candidate if he/she is not accepted onto the line.
4. The candidate must attend line camp and assume all fees associated with new membership.
5. If the candidate moves into the district after line camp, the candidate may not be eligible to perform routines taught in his/her absence.

Tabulation of Scores

A spreadsheet with the formulas already inserted will be used in the tabulation of scores. It will be the responsibility of the building principal or his/her designee to enter the candidates' names and tryout numbers on this spreadsheet. The principal or his/her designee will oversee the entry of the judges' scores into the spreadsheet. Candidates will then be ranked from high to low with a natural break determining the candidates selected for membership.

The formula for tabulating final scores should be as follows:

- Each judge may award up to 100 points total per candidate. The judges' final scores will be averaged together to get the judges' average score. This number will count 100%. Scores will be calculated to two decimal points. In case of a tie, both students shall be selected.
- Scores will be left in the office of the principal until winners and non-winners are notified. Original scoring sheets will be retained.

Notification

After all tryout scores for a school are tabulated and confirmed by the principal and director, final results will be posted on the high school website. Candidates will be given instructions on how to find the website. No results will be distributed at the tryout site.

Replacements

If a member of the team moves (or there is an opening for any reason), the opening **will not** be replaced.

Parent Request for Scores

The candidate scores may be viewed by the candidate and parents by setting up a conference with the attending principal during the designated time on the website. Parents may request to see their own child's score (no rank score) from the principal or his/her designee. By law, all other student scores are protected and cannot be shared with anyone except the directors, principal, or the principal's designee.

The following conditions apply:

1. No names or identifying numbers that would indicate the tryout order or results of individual students.
2. No judge's names or identifying numbers that would indicate which judge gave which score.
3. The original judge's score sheets will not be released to parents or students.

Eligibility & Maintenance

In order to be eligible to participate for any six-week period following the initial six-week period of a school year, a student shall not have a recorded grade average lower than 70 in any course for the preceding six week period or an average lower than 60 in a designated honors, Pre-AP or AP course.

A student who becomes academically ineligible for a six-week period shall be placed on academic probation.

- Academic probation continues for at least three weeks and is not removed until the student obtains the required average in all subjects taken. This suspension shall become effective according to the grading calendar set in place by CSISD yearly.
- Members on academic probation must continue to attend classes and all practices, must sit out of all performances, and may not sit with or ride with the team to appearances or performances. Ineligible students are not allowed to wear a CSISD Dance/Drill Team member uniform.
- If the student is on academic probation for any two (2) six-week periods in the same course or in different courses during the school year, the student will be removed from the dance team for the remainder of the school year.

Any CSISD Dance/Drill Team member is subject to discipline up to and including removal from the team. Anyone dismissed for disciplinary reasons will not be eligible to return to the team at any time. CSISD Dance/Drill Team members dismissed for grades will not be eligible to participate for the remainder of the year or for the following year.

Excessive absences from school, from practice sessions, or repeated instances of failure to participate in practice may result in ineligibility at the discretion of the directors.

The directors will have the authority to place any member on probation, suspend, or remove permanently, for the following reasons:

1. Undesirable conduct, language, or behavior related to inappropriate postings.
2. Uncooperative attitude with the directors, leadership team, or other team members.
3. Violation of rules and regulations in the extracurricular handbook.

General Conduct Rules

Participating as a CSISD Dance/Drill Team member is a privilege, not a right; therefore, members are expected to behave in a manner that is becoming to the individual, as well as the organization they represent. Members should be aware that in or out of uniform, in or out of school, or in cyberspace, they are representatives of the dance/drill team, their high school, and CSISD. They should act accordingly.

Members represent not only their school, but the community they serve and CSISD. **This responsibility is not to be taken lightly.**

As a representative of the team you are expected to maintain a high standard of performance, behavior, appearance, and sportsmanship. Members of the team must refrain from smoking, drinking, public display of affection (kissing), and cursing **at all times.**

Proper manners should be used at all times to address adults. Mutual respect and politeness toward members within the team are basic elements that contribute to the total success of the team.

Cyber Policies

Any behavior from social media that discredits any team member, its directors, administration, or school will result in disciplinary action to be proportional to the offense. The directors and administrative staff reserve the right to determine the severity of punishment.

CSISD Dance/Drill Team members are encouraged to consider how things posted online can be perceived by others. This includes posts that are posted by you or another party.

Dance & Social Officers

See tryout packet.

Officer Responsibilities

1. Set an example for the rest of the team by following all rules and regulations for CSISD Dance/Drill Team members.
2. Set an example by supporting the directors, other officers, and team members.
3. Be at practice early and stay late if necessary.
4. Be responsible for contacting all members to notify them of practice, change of plans, etc.
5. May be asked to help select music, costumes, formations, team building activities, etc.

Removal of Leadership Position

1. Negative and/or disrespectful attitude toward directors or teammates.
2. Neglecting responsibilities.
3. Permanent removal from position with accumulation of 15 demerits.
4. Violating general rules of conduct.

Managers

All CSISD Dance/Drill Team member guidelines apply to managers. The Director will be responsible for creating an application process for manager candidates to be selected for the team.

Attendance Requirements

Summer Practice/Camp:

1. Summer camp will be **mandatory**. The directors will determine practice hours.
2. All CSISD Dance/Drill Team members will be required to attend a summer training camp at their own expense. The directors will select the summer camp.
3. Members absent from practice/camp, excused or unexcused, may be ineligible to perform material until decided by the Director.

School Year Practices:

1. All CSISD Dance/Drill Team members shall practice every day during the scheduled physical education period, plus before and after school practices as scheduled by the directors.
2. **Football Routines & Pep Rallies:** If a member has two absences (excused or unexcused) from practice or the dance/drill class period, he/she may not be eligible to participate in the week's performance. All members must be present at the last field practice to perform, regardless if it is their first absence that week or not.
3. **Contest Season & Spring Show:** Members must be present to learn from outside choreographers to be eligible for that routine. If a member has two unexcused absences, he/she will not remain in the routine. If he/she has two or more excused absences (school excused absences or absences from being ill with a doctor's excuse) he/she will be asked to make up a percentage of practice time missed with his/her officer to ensure that he/she is still prepared to perform.
4. **Injuries:** This is to address injuries of a serious nature. When a dancer is placed on medical restriction by a doctor, he/she must continue to observe. Once he/she has healed, he/she will be asked to make up a percentage of practice time missed with his/her officer to ensure that he/she is still prepared to perform.

Extra Activities:

1. All team members shall attend all activities and events designated by the directors. In the event an absence occurs, the member must notify the directors and designated officer of his/her absence before the start time of said event.
2. Playoffs are mandatory for all team members.
3. Team members will report back to practices two weeks before school starts.
4. Team members shall be at all activities at the time designated by the directors and remain until the end of the activity.
5. Team members will be expected to participate in any parades or other community activities as selected by the directors.
6. Planned absences such as college visits, trips, UIL or other school related field trips, etc. should be communicated with 2 weeks notice of the absence.

Transportation

Home or Local Activities: Team members are responsible for securing transportation for all home games and local activities.

Out of Town Activities:

1. The directors will arrange transportation on a school bus or van. If a bus or van is unavailable, team members will ride in a car driven by a qualified adult as approved by the principal.
2. Team members will return by the same transportation unless the parents notify the directors **with a written notice before leaving**. Team members and parents must meet with the directors before leaving the activity.
3. Team members must stay in school sponsored rooms when staying overnight.

Uniforms

1. Uniforms and costumes are the property of your high school and CSISD. Each CSISD Dance/Drill Team member is financially responsible for the care and upkeep of the assigned uniforms. No current uniform may be worn, bought, made, remodeled or planned in any way without the permission of the directors.
2. All team members are required to return all uniforms **cleaned and undamaged** at the end of the school year or a fee will be issued.
3. **Uniforms will be kept clean at all times.**
4. All uniform items must be worn properly, neatly pressed, and not in need of mending. This includes polished boots, tights, and hats.
5. All team members will incur the cost of shoes, boots, practice uniforms, camp, contest, and other various expenses (booster club scholarships available).
6. Tattoos/piercings (other than ears) should not be visible while in uniform, costume, or wearing any CSISD drill team item. A Band Aid or flesh colored tape will not be an acceptable cover.
7. **Uniform and costume decisions are at the directors' discretion and will not be changed.**
8. **Uniforms, sweatshirts, and any item associated with the CSISD Dance/Drill team will not be worn by anyone but team members.**
9. No distracting or unnatural hair color or style (i.e. blue, pink, etc. or mohawk, shaved, etc.) shall be worn while in uniform, costume, or any other team attire.

Expectations

Team members must attend **ALL** designated functions such as practices, camps, games, pep rallies, competitions, and fundraisers.

1. Team members are expected to arrive at the designated time for all activities, be dressed in proper attire, execute all skills to the best of their ability, bring a cooperative attitude, and must enroll in the dance/drill team class for the entire school year.
2. In accordance with CSISD, all team members will follow the UIL guidelines as well as all rules in the extracurricular handbook. See extracurricular for more grade and attendance requirements.
3. Team members must follow payment deadlines. Members with negative balances beyond due dates will be added to school fine lists and prohibited from exemptions, attending school functions, etc.
4. Team members must have a positive account balance to be eligible to return to the team.

Lettering

Team members must be on the team for one full year. Members must be in good standing to be eligible for a letter and jacket. Members will receive a jacket unless they have received one from another UIL sport/activity.

Probation

1. A member is placed on demerit probation when they have accumulated 10 demerits and must have both a parent and director signature on the Notice of Probation form.
2. The member will remain on demerit probation until they have fewer than 10 demerits.
3. If there is not a performance during the member's probation period, they will miss the next performance opportunity.
4. A member who is on academic probation will not be in uniform at any school activity.

Automatic Dismissal

1. Smoking/drinking at a school and/or a team event
2. Being placed in ISS or Venture Center for more than 2 days during the current year.
3. Being ineligible for any 2 six-week periods.
4. Permitting entry of the opposite sex into a school sponsored room with the exception of parent figures.
5. Accumulating 20 demerits will result in dismissal from the team.
6. Accumulation of 2 probationary periods (academic or demerit) will result in dismissal from the team.

Merits & Demerits

The merit/demerit system goes into effect **the day you are selected** as a CSISD Dance/Drill Team member. **Each line member will begin with a zero balance at the beginning of the year. Merits and demerits will be kept and recorded separately. The merit/demerit system is separate from the class grade issued.**

It takes ten (10) merits to offset one (1) demerit for regular line members. For anyone with a leadership title, it takes fifteen (15) merits to offset one (1) demerit. There will be merit opportunities offered throughout the year. Merits will be offered at the discretion of the directors. Merit opportunities consist of community service and extra involvement in team events.

Although merits can offset demerits, the accumulation of demerits is permanent.

This guide to our discipline system is not meant to be inclusive of every, or exclusive of any, situation. The guide may be adapted during the year by directors as needed.

If a director deems an offense severe enough, a team member may be placed directly on probation or dismissed from the team at the sole discretion of the director.

Please refer to the following pages for a guide to the merit/demerit system.

Demerit System

General		Consequence
1	Members will respect/respond to all directors at all times. Rudeness/ insubordination will not be tolerated.	Probation for next event and 10 demerits
2	Members will respect all teacher/staff members at all times.	Probation for next event and 10 demerits
3	Members will not receive an office referral for any reason.	Probation for next event and 10 demerits
4	Placement in ISS for any reason for less than two days	1st Offense: Probation for next event and 10 demerits 2nd Offense: Dismissal from team
5	Members will follow (even when not in agreement with) the directors' and/or officers' instructions at all times at activities.	Probation for next event and 10 demerits
6	Academic dishonesty	10 demerits
7	Inappropriate language or discussion topics at a team function, including social events <i>*This also pertains to social media.*</i>	5-10 demerits
8	Theft or intentional damage to school property or teammates' personal belongings	5-10 demerits
9	Publicly negative statements about the team in general, team members, faculty members, or team events <i>*This will include verbal statements observed by school officials as well as statements seen on social media.*</i>	5-10 demerits
10	Members will not participate in any illegal activities. Members will not be associated with underage drinking or in the presence of other minors consuming alcohol or drugs.	10 demerits OR administrator review if offense warrants dismissal

Activities		Consequence
1	Members will be on time to all planned activities.	5 demerits
2	Members will follow all university, hotel, camp, competition rules and respect all staff members and chaperones.	10 demerits
3	Members may not leave the designated event location with anyone at any time unless approved by the director.	Sent home and possible team dismissal

Uniform		Consequence
1	Members will not wear uniform/costumes to a non-school function without permission of the directors.	Probation for 1 or more activities or dismissal from team
2	Members will not lend uniforms, warm ups, letter jackets, etc. to anyone who is not a member.	5 demerits
3	Uniforms/costumes may not be altered in any way without prior approval from directors.	Cost of uniform replacement
4	Members are responsible for damage to/or loss of any part of a uniform/costume.	Cost of uniform replacement
5	Members may not have any pictures in uniform or team attire on social media if any inappropriate or suggestive content can be linked to the individual.	5-10 demerits OR administrator review if offense warrants dismissal

Practice		Consequence
1	Members must be prepared for practice. Any violation of the following will result in demerits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hair must be up, secure/no hair in face - No excessive jewelry (stud earrings only) - No chewing gum - Not wearing the correct practice attire 	2 demerits each time it occurs
2	Not being attentive or focused in practice	2 demerits
3	Not bringing back required items (ie: forms, signatures, etc) at the beginning of practice on the assigned date.	2 demerits
4	Members must be on time to class/practice and in stretching lines by the designated time. Demerits will be given as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1-5 minutes late: 1 demerit - 6-10 minutes late: 2 demerits, etc - 20 minutes or more: Unexcused absence 	1 demerit for every 5 minutes late
5	Members will attend ALL in/out of school practices. Directors must be notified of any absence prior to the start of practice. This will also include absences that occur due to a member arriving late or leaving a practice early. Absences are classified as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excused: illness/doctor permit, death in family, UIL activity approved prior to practice - Unexcused: work, vacation, appointments, non-UIL involvement (ie: competitive dance, etc) - ALL planned absences should be communicated with 2 weeks notice in order to be considered excused. This includes other UIL activities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Late Notification: 2 demerits 	Unexcused: 5 demerits

Performances & Events		Consequence
1	Members will be in the correct/complete uniform at the designated meeting time and place prior to game or pep rally.	5 demerits each time it occurs
2	Members will have required items upon arrival.	2 demerits per item
3	Members will maintain proper sideline/audience behavior at all times. Any violation of the following will result in demerits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No excessive talking among the team - Face forward and pay attention to the game/pep rally, etc - Stand in correct formation and no talking in Pre-Game Lines - Only one person/squad out of formation at a time for drinks and only leave stands with permission from directors - No taunting the other team - Members will show respect during the National Anthem and both school songs - NO PDA in or out of uniform 	5 demerits each time unconstructive behavior occurs
4	All members will stay to clean up their area after each game/pep rally, etc and will be dismissed by the directors.	2 demerits
5	Members will attend ALL in/out of school practices. Directors must be notified of any absence prior to the start of practice. This will also include absences that occur due to a member arriving late or leaving a practice early. Absences are classified as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excused: illness/doctor permit, death in family, UIL activity approved prior to practice - Unexcused: work, vacation, appointments, non-UIL involvement (ie: competitive dance, etc) - ALL planned absences should be communicated with 2 weeks notice in order to be considered excused. This includes other UIL activities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Late Notification: 2 demerits 	Unexcused: 5 demerits

These are general rules and guidelines for all CSISD Dance/Drill Team members. The directors reserve the right to upgrade any penalty depending on the severity of the situation. All merits and demerits are issued by the directors at his/her discretion and are to be accepted by the CSISD Dance/Drill Team member without argument.



CSISD Dance/Drill Team Constitution Agreement

I, _____, have read and understand the 2022-2023 College Station ISD Dance/Drill Team member manual. I understand that these guidelines are set forth to help run an effective and successful team. I understand that each individual case will be reviewed by the directors and administration. I promise to abide by all rules, guidelines, and policies as set forth by my high school and College Station ISD.

CSISD Dance/Drill Team Member

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent / Guardian

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____