

EVANS HIGH
SCHOOL
DANCING KNIGHTETTES
DANCE TEAM
AND
TRYOUT PACKET



2019-2020

Dancers and choreographers use dance performances to express ideas and stories and at the school level, show school spirit. There are many types of dance, such as ballet, tango, modern dance, tap, and jazz.

Please read and watch videos of the different style of dances. If you are going to dance, you need to know the style of dances, so you are not limiting yourself to one type of dance. A true dancer is knowledgeable.

Dance Styles that you will display

JAZZ TECHNIQUE: This style includes kicks, leaps/leap combinations, pirouettes, turning sequences, body placement, control, etc.

HIP HOP: A routine focusing on street style movements with an emphasis on variety, execution, creativity, body isolations/control, rhythm, uniformity and musical interpretation. Choreography should demonstrate various styles and elements of hip hop.

LYRICAL/ JAZZ: This performance demonstrates various elements of lyrical/jazz technique and performance skills. This routine should focus on a mixture of difficulty, creativity and technique. Technical elements should be included in this category (see below):

LYRICAL/JAZZ TECHNIQUE: Kicks, leaps/leap combinations, pirouettes, turning sequences, body placement, control, etc.

CREATIVE DANCE: The focus of this performance is audience entertainment. With no spoken word, this routine tells the story of the selected theme or era. Through the selection of music, costuming and dance the audience is drawn into your theme. This routine should encompass and express one predominate theme and/or era. Creative dance incorporates novelty movements into elegant, athletic theatre capable of captivating audiences. Technical skills will be credited toward degree of difficulty. Dance style must emphasize uniformity, rhythm, creativity and execution. Costuming is required to reflect the routine's theme/era. Props are highly recommended, however not mandatory.

Membership Requirements

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF A DANCE TEAM MEMBER

Dance team members at Evans High School have tremendous responsibilities. Students, faculty and the entire Evans community have very high expectations of them in every aspect of school and personal life. In order to have a productive, successful, and enjoyable year, it is vital that each candidate has a clear idea of what these expectations are. Dancers must understand not only what is expected of them, but also be aware that if they choose to fall below these expectations or fail to comply with the rules for the group, **they can be removed from the squad**. Dancing is a fun and rewarding experience, but the responsibilities are significant and last the duration of one full calendar year.

Note: The Evans High School Dance Team is now established; therefore, you will be held to the same standard as all other athletic programs. You are laying the foundation for something new and different in the community; therefore, you will operate under the following guidelines and policies.

Attendance:

1. ALL practices and performances are mandatory. Attendance will be noted.
2. Tardiness includes being late as well as leaving early.
3. All dancers must be on time to scheduled practices, and events. Tardiness is defined as not in the facility or area ready to dance five minutes prior to the scheduled start time.
4. If for any reason you are going to be absent, you must email, text, or call your sponsor. Preplan appointments on nonpractice days, please!
5. Attendance requirements pertain to practices and performances.
6. Attendance is VERY important. Too many absents could result in a dancer to sit out part of or the entire dance during competitions.
7. Dancers may not hold a job **that conflicts with Dance Team responsibilities**. Flexibility is essential, and if last minute schedule changes occur, dance must come first if you are committing to being on the team.

Fundraisers:

1. The dance team will participate in fundraisers. Participation in these fundraisers is MANDATORY.
2. All proceeds from fundraisers will go directly into the YWSG dance team account but I am keeping up with individual funds as well.
3. Profits from fundraising may be used towards: fees, costumes/uniforms, and other expenses.
4. Not turning money in a timely manner will result in disciplinary action. (DO not hold money and do not spend money that you are to turn in for fundraisers)

General Expectations:

1. Dancers must maintain a positive and encouraging attitude at all practices, meetings, and events.
2. Proper appearance is required at all times, appropriate to the occasion.
3. No foul language or inappropriate gestures will be used at any time by any member of the dance team.
4. Insubordination to the coaches or other authority figures is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. This may result in being put off the team or suspended from a performance.
5. The use of alcohol or drugs of any kind is strictly prohibited and will be grounds for dismissal from the team.
6. The use of cell phones during practices is strictly prohibited unless in an emergency situation. All cell phones must be put on silent, or turned off, and must be kept in dancers bags during practice. Water and bathroom breaks are not cell phone breaks.
7. All members must pay for the required uniforms and shoes.
8. All members are required to attend all practices & performances. Do not schedule unapproved practices on or near school campus.
9. All members must adhere to and respect the Columbia County Code of Conduct and abide by the policies set forth by Evans High School administration and sponsors.
10. **All members are expected to adhere to the requirements established as Young Women of Style and Grace. Even though you are a dancer, you will be a part of the YWSG organization.**
11. Dancers are responsible for the appropriate care of their uniforms, costumes and poms. If uniforms, costumes or poms are lost during the year, the dancer will be responsible for the cost of replacing them.
12. Any conflicts that arise between members of the group should be kept within the team and settled immediately. It is counterproductive to discuss group problems outside the team.

Behavior Expectations at Performances

1. Be respectful of visiting schools (e.g., no gossip, no "rivalry slams" no misconduct on social media of any kind).
2. Be respectful of yourself and classmates in public and private (e.g. no fighting, no gossiping, no bullying of any kind)
3. Be respectful of teachers' classrooms. Keep everything in its original spot. Make sure to double check nothing gets left in the room.
4. If problems arise when visiting schools, consequences will be given at the sponsor's discretion.
5. Stay with the team unless excused by sponsor.

6. Wear team clothes over costume in public before and after performance.
7. Use assigned rest rooms only for dancers once in uniform.
8. Warm up with team as a team. Do not do any warm-up/stretching activities not usually done in practice.
9. Keep costume zipped up in public before and after performances/competitions.

10. Being on a team does not guarantee you will dance at performances and competitions. You must always work at maintaining your spot.

11. If a dancer has a concern about a coach's decision they must talk to the coach first. If there is still a concern after that discussion then a meeting between parent, dancer, and coach may be set up.

12. Be open to constructive criticism. Feedback should be welcome in order to improve.

13. If you need to offer feedback, keep it positive, motivating, and inspiring. No negative comments (e.g., "I'm fat", "I don't like this costume", "I can't", etc).

14. Sponsor may bench dancer(s) for inappropriate behavior (e.g., talking, distraction, off-task) during practice.

15. NO phone usage at a competition or performances unless approved by the coach.

Social Media: . Remember, each one of you represents the team. Be smart when using social media. Avoid using or being a part of negative group chats and social media.

16. Travel to and from performances will be as designated by the Dance Team advisor. Dancers **will always travel to** competitions with the team. Usually dancers will travel from competitions and performances with the team as well, but exceptions may be made **ahead** of time by written agreement only.

17. Dancers must wear the chosen outfit for a performance. Choosing not to have the correct outfit means choosing not to perform. This includes what they wear if they travel as a group.

Practices:

1. Dancers will wear the appropriate practice attire to **each and every practice**. All black is the best attire as it makes it easier for the coaches to see mistakes and help correct. **Pajama pants and baggy clothing is NOT appropriate attire. Extremely short shorts and crop tops are inappropriate. You will not practice if you wear the wrong attire.**

2. Hair must be pulled up and away from the face and should remain secure for the entire practice. Extra warm up clothing should be removed after the stretch and warm up period of practice.

3. No large jewelry, body piercings, or excessively long artificial nails is allowed.

4. No gum chewing or cell phone use is allowed.

5. No horsing around will be tolerated during practices. Focus is necessary to get things done in a timely manner.

6. No friends are allowed to come watch practice as we find this as a distraction.
7. A positive and encouraging attitude is expected of all dancers at all practices.
8. Questions, comments, and general discussion should be kept to a minimum. Any questions or concerns should be discussed either before or after practice.
9. Be prepared to work! No excuses! All dancers should give 110%, 100% of the time!
10. Dancer's need a ride to and from practice. They are not allowed to walk. It will be dark when practice. Dancers need to leave at 4:30 unless otherwise noted by the sponsor. You can practice at home as well.

Dance Choreography, Music and Costuming

- 1) Routines must be appropriate for family viewing. Appropriated choreography, costuming and music **MUST** be used. Dancers using excessive vulgar or suggestive movements, words, costuming or music will no longer be allowed to perform.
- 2) Dance teams may wear approved jewelry as part of their costume. Approved jewelry includes legal post stud earrings and hair accessories. Jewelry such as hoop earrings, bracelets, necklaces, rings, belly, tongue and nose rings etc. are prohibited. Medical alert bracelets or necklaces may be worn, but should be secured to the body with tape.
- 3) Soled dance shoes (jazz boots, dance sandals, jazz shoes) are acceptable when dancing. Wear socks or dance shoes in practice. Protect your feet.
- 5) All costuming and make up should be age appropriate and acceptable for family viewing.

Financial Responsibilities and Projected Uniform Cost for Dance Team Members

Warm-up Jacket and pants	\$55.00
Shoes (tennis, jazz)	\$50.00
Misc Team shirts/gear	\$50.00
Dance bag	\$30.00
Leotard	\$14.00
Uniforms	\$140.00
Total:	\$340.00 (Balance due TBD)

Disclaimer: Each girl will be responsible for doing her part in each fundraiser and can easily fundraise to pay for her uniforms. It is very important to keep fundraising throughout the year as well. I will work to provide as many fundraisers as needed and expect that each dancer do her part to be successful. We are limited to the types of fundraisers we can do. Consider getting a sponsor as well. Other expenses may occur throughout the year. Each dancer will have her own "account".

Other

Videotaping - We discourage parents from posting our performances or performances of other schools online. We want to be respectful of every dancer on the team, not everyone is comfortable sharing videos of themselves online, or having their daughter posted online. If you want to share with each other, please share privately between parents.

A reminder to our parents and fans to be polite and show good sportsmanship at our performances. You are an extension of our school and represent our team. We want to develop a positive image for our school and our athletes. Keep this in mind when attending games and other events.

RESPONSIBILITIES and PRACTICES

I have tried to list most of the responsibilities of a dancer. Please understand this is not a complete list; it is only meant to give you an idea of the commitment you are about to consider:

FALL SEASON

- Perform at selected home football games. (Dates to be determined)
- Perform at pep assemblies.
- Participate in fundraising activities.
- Fall practices- (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday)
- scheduled dance clinics
- parades ?

WINTER SEASON

- Perform at home basketball games
- Perform pep assemblies
- Black History Program
- Practices 3 days a week
- Holiday Party
- fundraisers
- parades ?

SPRING SEASON

- Try-Outs for next year.
- Practice for Camp with new team.
- Superlative Banquet
- Fundraisers

If this is for you, please continue on to the tryout packet that is included on pages 9-13!

EHS Dancing Knightettes Tryout Information (2019-2020)

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT TRYOUTS:

- 1 All grade levels may try out for Dance Team. (rising 9th- 12th graders).
- 2 If you make the team, you will attend the first official meeting on **April 30th after school.**
- 3 The **parent meeting** will be on **Thursday, May 2nd at Evans High School.** This meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the high school room 208. (Parents, if you cannot attend this meeting, email mayah.wood@ccboe.net to communicate directly with the team sponsor Mayah Wood.)
- 4 **Selection Process**
 - ✓ Behavioral and discipline record, teacher evaluations, and academic performance will be evaluated as part of the team selection process in addition to dance technique and performance.
 - ✓ Grade Ave. must be a 70 or above **at all times** to meet GHSA and EHS eligibility to remain on the team.
5. **Judging**
 - ✓ Dance team candidates will be evaluated by qualified judges on the following criteria:
Kicks, Turns, Technique, Rhythm/Coordination, Timing, Memory, Overall Appeal, and Physical Fitness.
 - ✓ The number of dancers that is selected will be based upon evaluation of tryout scores and will be determined by the judges and sponsors.
 - ✓ Decisions made regarding the team selection process **will be final.**
 - ✓ Scores will not be distributed or discussed; however, judges' comments will be released upon request.

TRYOUT TIMELINE:

August 19-22- Mandatory Dance Routine Clinic (3:00 to 5:00 p.m.)

*Students will learn routine and stands to perform in tryouts.

August 23, 2019 @ 3:30

* Students will be required to perform stands, dance routine

***All tryout days are closed to the public.**

During the week of clinics you are to wear black tops and black leggings. Make sure you bring tennis shoes and socks! Please wear your number on your shirt. This is especially important in the tryout process.

All dance clinic days will take place in the gymnasium unless otherwise noted. I will post team placement by tryout numbers on my Webpage by Monday evening. Please check to verify.

Please come to tryout with pages 10, 11, 12,
and 13 of this document and your physical
form completed and signed.

Student's Name _____

Dance Team Teacher Recommendation

Please complete this form, sign it and turn it into Dr. Mayah Wood's mailbox by April 7th, 2018 or place in a sealed envelope and return to the student with your signature across the seal.

Please rate the student in each category according to their performance in your class. Feel free to add additional comments. (5 = Best, 1 = Needs Much Improvement)

___ Cooperates and gets along with other students

___ Gets class work/homework done on time

___ Attendance

___ Positive Role Model for other students

___ Attitude

Is the student passing your class? _____

Would you recommend this student to be a member of the Dance Team?

Instructor's Name

Thank you for taking your time to assist with the selection process.

Student's Name _____

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___ Attitude

Is the student passing your class? _____

Would you recommend this student to be a member of the Dance Team?

Instructor's Name

Thank you for taking your time to assist with the selection process.

EHS Dancing Knightettes Dance Team Application/Agreement

Name _____ Phone # _____

Email _____

Address _____

____ 1. Have you read the Dance Team expectations, and do you agree to abide by the rules and regulations?

____ 2. If currently employed, would you be willing to put Dance Team before job obligations?

____ 3. Would you be able to meet the financial obligations for Dance Team?

____ 4. Are you willing to help with fund-raising projects, including those that may be held during the summer?

____ 5. Are you willing to attend summer practices and Dance Team camp?

____ 6. Are you willing to make a whole-hearted commitment to Dance Team for one year and put dance before other extra-curricular activities?

____ 7. If chosen, I will comply with the rules, and I will cooperate fully with the other members of the team and the advisor.

____ 8. I understand that if I fail to meet the requirements and expectations, I may be removed from the squad.

____ 9. I promise to be present at all dance team training, practices, team building activities, pep rallies, games, and other events specified unless an **emergency** occurs.

____ 10. I will commit myself to continually improving my dance technique and execution and put forth 100% effort in order to do so.

____ 11. I also understand by the very nature of the activity, dancing carries a risk of physical injury. No matter how careful the dancer and coach are, the risk cannot be eliminated.

____ 12. I understand these risks and will not hold Evans High School responsible in the case of accident or injury at any time.

Dancer Signature _____ Date _____

As this student-dancer's parent or guardian, I have read and approve the terms of this agreement. I allow my daughter to try out for Dance Team, and if chosen I agree to support her participation. I also understand that decisions will be made for the good of the overall team.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Dancer Information

Please print clearly

Name _____

Grade (2019-2020 year) _____

Shirt size _____ (PLEASE CONSIDER BUST SIZE)

Shoe Size _____ (UP ONE SIZE from your normal shoe size)

Pant size _____ (consider hip and height)

Birthday _____

Phone Number _____

Dancer's Email _____

Parent name (s) _____

Parent Phone Number _____

Parent Email _____

Home Address _____

Allergies _____

