



McAllen Independent School District

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dance Team Constitution

2023-2024



The name of this organization is:

McAllen ISD

Brown MS, Cathey MS, De Leon MS, Fossum MS, Lincoln MS, Morris MS, Travis MS

Dance Team

The purpose of this **Dance Team** shall be the following:

- To develop dance fundamentals for both the present and future and foster a love for dance,
- To promote school spirit and represent McAllen ISD at various school functions on or off campus,
- To develop traits in each member, such as leadership, good sportsmanship, and individual responsibility,
- To represent McAllen ISD by maintaining a high standard of character, moral conduct, and integrity,
- To develop and maintain a very high standard of precision dance for performance.



I. DANCE TEAM MEMBER TRYOUTS

- A. Tryouts for dance team members will be open to current 5th, 6th or 7th graders meeting all criteria as listed in this document.
- B. Grade requirements:
 - a. Anyone auditioning must have passed every class with a 70 or above for the six weeks grading period prior to tryouts. One grade of a 65-69 in an advanced course (AP) is acceptable if waived by administration.
 - b. Students who do not meet the above stated criteria will still be allowed to tryout if the grades from the first six-weeks through the fourth six-weeks average a 70 or above for each class in question.
- C. All candidates must have a current district physical in order to tryout.
- D. A member who fails to complete the full term of the designated contract period (period following auditions to the end of the next scholastic year) is expected to pay for items already ordered and will be ineligible for reinstatement.
- E. All candidates must resolve all current financial issues prior to auditions.
- F. Dance team camp will be mandatory for all members.
- G. All candidates selected for the team must pay their first installment within 2 weeks of being selected as a member.
- H. It is understood that a few students may wish to participate in additional school related extra-curricular activities. These students may miss a portion of dance team practice to participate in these other school related extra-curricular activities. Students who miss too much practice (as determined by the sponsor) risk not being allowed to perform. Scheduling conflicts will be resolved by the applicable sponsors. The sponsors will devise a practice plan that the student is required to follow. It is imperative that students frequently communicate with applicable sponsors.

II. PRACTICE RESPONSIBILITIES

- I. All before school and after school practice sessions are mandatory.
- J. Members must be on time for practice and stay until dismissed by the director.
- K. Members must notify the director of an absence prior to a practice session or bring a parent or doctor note stating the reason for the absence(s).
- L. If a member must leave a practice session or activity early, the director must be contacted prior to the practice session or activity.
- M. Any member who misses two specific routine practices may forfeit performing that routine.
- N. Practice is made for performance perfection; therefore, members must voice individual needs so that the director or designee may help.
- O. If questions arise, members must raise their hand and wait to be called on. Talking is prohibited while the director is speaking. Clear communication is imperative.



- P. Hair must be pulled away from face at all time, unless otherwise instructed by the director.
- Q. Gum chewing or eating will not be tolerated. Breaks will be given as needed.
- R. All dances must be practiced at full dancing ability, unless otherwise instructed by the director.
- S. Practice times will be at the discretion of the director and principal.
- T. All practices sessions will be closed to parents and non-members of the organization.

Remember: Practice doesn't make perfect. Perfect practice makes perfect.

III. ATTENDANCE

- A. Attendance at practices, special appearances, performances, and meetings is required.
- B. If a member knows he/she will not be attending an event, he/she must contact the director beforehand. Only in an emergency situation should the director be notified after.
- C. If a member misses the practice session right before a performance or during line up (formations), it may prohibit him/her from performing due to last minute changes.
- D. Any member missing two consecutive practice days, whether excused or unexcused, may forfeit performance for that week.
- E. Promptness is expected.

IV. PERFORMANCES

- A. All members are required to attend all district funded performances.
- B. Failure to follow through with any of the stated rules/regulations in this constitution may affect participation in the event.
- C. Attendance at all dress rehearsals is mandatory.
- D. Absences, excused or unexcused, may affect placement in performance choreography.
- E. Grades could affect placement in performance choreography. Director will determine placement or reinstatement in performance routine.

V. FUNDRAISING/FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Every member will be required to take part in all fundraisers.
- B. Any member who does not partake in a fundraising event might have to pay her share out of pocket.
- C. Members will be responsible for selling or paying for designated amount of sponsored activity tickets, such as dance clinic or BBQ tickets.
- D. All school sponsored fundraisers will be held to benefit the entire organization.
- E. All fundraising is at the discretion of the directors and principal.



- F. All fundraised money is non-refundable.

VI. CODE OF ETHICS

- A. All parents/guardians are strongly encouraged to be supportive and reinforce the decisions set forth by the Director.
- B. Mutual respect is imperative.
- C. The appropriate chain of command must be followed when addressing concerns (Director, assigned MS campus Principal, McAllen ISD Director of Fine Arts).

VII. INTERPRETATIONS

The interpretation of this constitution is at the discretion of the director and principal of each campus. They have the right to amend the constitution as deemed necessary for the benefit of the organization. This constitution is meant as a basic operating instrument and not intended to cover every operating policy.

VIII. DEFINITION/CLARIFICATION

For the purpose of clarification, the word “Guardian” as used in this document means any legal guardian as appointed or recognized by the judicial system of the State of Texas.



PLEASE RETURN AGREEMENT

McAllen ISD Middle School *Dance Contract 2021-2022*

1. The purpose of this organization will be to promote and maintain school spirit and sportsmanship, to provide entertainment whenever necessary in cooperation with the school and community events, to participate in competitions, and to develop character, leadership and individual responsibilities while maintaining high moral standards and maintaining a very high standard of precision dance for performance.
2. To be an active member of the Middle School Dance Team, each member must apply to be a member of the dance team, maintain a positive approach and progress in ability to create a positive organization.
3. Participation in other activities is encouraged. If the other activities interfere with practices and/or performances the student must cooperate to share time equally between these activities.
4. Dance students must abide by school regulations, school board policies and procedures besides dance policies and regulations.
5. Dance students are required to take proper care of uniforms, props, and equipment. The student is responsible for all equipment, private or property of the school, at all times.
6. Promptness and regularity of attendance are two of the most important factors in maintaining the high morale of dance members and enhancing the performance of the participants. Excessive tardiness and absenteeism, as well the actions that impair the very moral of employees and representative of the school, will not be tolerated and will be cause for disciplinary action or removal from the program.
7. The student named on this contract has my permission to attend any dance team functions. The school also has my permission to transport him/her by bus or school van driven by responsible adult drivers. I understand that the school or its representatives are not responsible for any accidents that might occur. I give permission for the school's representative to obtain medical assistance for my student at my cost if the occasion occurs.
8. I understand that the support of the family is paramount in a student's education and the parent is strongly encouraged to attend all the local performances. The active



participation of the parent is essential for the future of the dance education and the parent will assist as needed and requested.

9. I have received and read the "Dance Constitution." I also understand that by signing this contract, I will follow all stipulations stated in the "Dance Constitution." Failure to adhere to the rules stated in the "Dance Constitution" may result in removal from dance program.
10. This agreement may be amended by explicit basis and reasons, and any modification shall be writing and shall be made to adhere to school regulations, school board policies and procedures besides dance polices and regulations.

CANDIDATE/LEGAL GUARDIAN AGREEMENT

I, , along with my parent(s)/guardian(s),
, have read and understand the
McAllen ISD Middle School Dance Team Constitution presented to me
for the 2021-2022 school year. I will abide by all the rules and
regulations stated in this constitution. I understand that failure to do so
may constitute removal from the organization.

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| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Candidate Signature | Date |
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Legal Guardian Signature | Date |
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| MS Dance Director Signature | Date |
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Campus Administrator Signature | Date |