



2025-2026 Audition Information Packet

All audition information is in this packet.

Please read all information before submitting any applications.

If you have questions, please email <u>michelle.barth@fortbendisd.gov</u> and <u>alina.mitchell@fortbendisd.gov</u>



Dear Parent/Guardian and Candidate,

We are delighted that your dancer has shown an interest in auditioning for the Clements High School Dance Teams for the 2025-2026 school year. **REMINDER:** incoming 9th graders are eligible to be considered for JV (Twinkles) and Varsity (Stars). As a parent/guardian of a prospective Dance Team member, you should be fully aware of the audition procedures and requirements for dance team membership. You and your dancer must also realize the commitment and dedication required for all members once they have been selected for the Dance Team.

While a member of the Dance Team, your dancer will receive the best character training possible, experiencing good times, glory and recognition, along with gaining dependability, responsibility, self-discipline and life-long memories. Being a member of an organization such as Dance Team has been the highlight of many dancers' high school experience and provided them an important opportunity for self-development. Success throughout the year, especially at team competitions, is a goal not only for us as Directors but we hope all the dancers on the teams too! With that comes commitment to training, willingness to understand and trust the process through the highs and lows that come along the journey of competitive training. Judges are looking for mastery of skills but also will consider those dancers that show potential and desire to work towards self-improvement! With that, if you are selected for either Twinkles or Stars and happen to receive a Probationary Contract, it will outline the expectations for you to uphold over the summer before we see you again for the new school year.

The following packet will familiarize you with the audition process and general information concerning Dance Team that should be understood *before* your dancer auditions. Being selected as a Dance Team member is not only an outstanding achievement and a great honor; it is a decision that is encouraged to be discussed between you and your dancer as the audition process can be demanding both physically and emotionally, so parental/guardian support is essential.

This year Team auditions do take place before Banquet, and we will be releasing results for both teams before Banquet. We want this special annual event to be enjoyable for all those that are attending. In the case that results are not what one expected or wanted we are giving the option for results to be held till after Banquet. If you would like your dancer's results held, then please email both directors and we can make this accommodation for your dancer. If we do not receive an email by April 25th, we will release results as normal.

Attached you will find an outline of the audition process as well as general CHS Dance Team information.

Respectfully, *Ms. Barth & Mrs. Mitchell* CHS Stars and Twinkles Directors

William P. Clements High School

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AUDITION INFORMATION

Saturday, April 26th

CHS Competition Gym

Check-In begins at 8:30AM

Please arrive at the ATTENDANCE OFFICE DOORS – located in the student parking lot, closest to the Auditorium

All dancers must be checked-in by 8:55am – no entry allowed after that time. **Dismissal is approx. between **1:30 - 2:00pm****

- Dancers will be assigned an audition number upon arrival on audition day.
- Dancers will be stretched and warmed up. The routine will be taught on audition day.
 - A video of the audition routine will be posted on the Audition Candidate Band page prior to the audition day.
 - It is strongly encouraged but not required for Dance Team hopefuls to begin to familiarize themselves with the audition routine prior to the audition day.
- Skills in the audition process will include but not limited to:
 - o Right, Left and Center Splits
 - Pirouettes, Coupe Turns
 - Turning jumps
 - Jetés (traveling and stationary)
- All dancers will perform the audition routine in front of a panel of 5 judges, which includes both Directors.
- There is no set number of dancers for either the JV or the Varsity Dance Teams.

Results will be posted on each Dance Team's INSTAGRAM pages! Follow us: Twinkles @chsjvtwinkles and Stars @chsstars

If you are selected for either of the teams, dancers <u>and</u> a parent/guardian will be required to attend the NEW TEAM MEETING. <u>Tuesday, May 13th at 6:00pm in the CHS Library</u>

Membership subject to dismissal for failure to attend.

EXAMPLES OF COSTS THRUGHOUT THE YEAR

The first year on the dance team you will be required to purchase: a team spirit jersey shirt, backpack (NEW: Team Logo backpacks!), garment bag (Stars), team bow and a handful of other various items which change year to year depending on vendor availability. You will order via Google form & submit full payment on due date listed below. Approx cost: \$250 - \$450

Daily rehearsal clothing will be ALL BLACK - dancers may choose at their discretion what that may be: leotard, sports bra & shorts, leggings and a solid black tank, etc. <u>Items must be FITTED and SOLID BLACK</u>. Most dancers already have items such as these on hand. **Approx cost: \$0 - \$150**

Dance Team Booster Club Cost*

Annual Membership Costs will be:

Stars: \$350 **Twinkles:** \$200 **Managers:** \$150

*Booster Club Fees cover a variety of items throughout the year including but not limited to: all team t-shirts, football season & contest season goodie bags and team trip treats.

Emerge Intensive STARS Only:

This intensive will occur during team camp with Melissa Robinson. The cost is not final until we have our team size but you can estimate between \$50-\$100 for this intensive. This intensive can be put towards the required summer dance hours.

FEE DUE DATES

Booster Club Fees will be due before the last day of school. Other fees such as supplies, and camp fees will be due at various times. Details on due dates will be shared at the first mandatory team meeting in May after auditions. Monthly payment plans may be set up on a case-by-case basis via parent/guardian email to both Directors. Information such as this remains confidential.

THINGS TO NOTE

- Returning or potential new member, EVERYONE can benefit from reading through this section!
- If you are selected for either team, your name will be submitted to the Counselors you do not need to contact your counselor about your schedule.
- On football game days:
 - **ALL Stars** are required to stay after school for Away **NON-FBISD Stadium** Game Day performance preparations.
 - **Game Day Meals** with the Band will be offered for Away Non-FBISD Stadium Games ONLY and are *optional* to sign up. Details to be shared.
 - Any THURS football games results in no Friday rehearsal for Stars.
- Twinkles will attend and perform at *least* one Varsity football games alongside Stars.
 - If it is a Non-FBISD Stadium game they are attending, the above applies to them.
- FBISD Transportation will goes as follows unless otherwise changed by FBISD:
 - Transportation will be provided to all NON-FBISD Stadium games.
 - For all FBISD Stadium games (Mercer or Hall), members are responsible for providing their ride to/from the game. Carpooling is strongly encouraged.
- 2025-2026 will be an OUT OF STATE! trip year for Stars. We are headed to DISNEY WORLD! Details to be shared at the New Team Booster Club meeting. Team trips are not required but rather strongly encouraged to develop and strengthen the team relationships.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- FBISD operates on a rotation system for Fine Arts groups participating in the Fort Bend County Fair Parade and <u>this is NOT our year to participate!</u>
- Twinkles is 1st period and Stars is 7th period.
 - Reminder about *class time vs rehearsal time...*
 - 1st and 7th period are considered class time and <u>not</u> rehearsal time. Yes, we use class time to rehearse but that is part of the regular school day that is time set by the state that students must be in the classroom setting for instruction.
 - UIL rules state that between the beginning of instruction on Mondays (7:30am) and the end of instruction on Fridays (2:50pm).
 - Teams cannot rehearse more than 8 hours/week.
 - During our most lengthy rehearsal time, Contest Season, we still do not exceed the limit of 8 hours/week as Friday after 2:50 doesn't count towards the UIL rule since a regular instructional day doesn't follow it.
 - NO REGULARLY SCHEDULED Stars Team rehearsal on Mondays.
 - This is the day we expect everyone to schedule their appointments, tutorials, etc. We of course understand that on occasion, this is unavoidable.
 - Dependent upon special circumstances, we may have to schedule a Monday rehearsal sparingly. Details for those days will be communicated well in advance.
 - Please also note: on occasion, times will be adjusted on a case by case basis.

- There is after-school rehearsals on weekdays for Stars:
 - Football Season
 - Tuesdays Fridays until 4:00pm
 - Team is DISMISSED on game days at 2:50 WHEN we play at a FBISD stadium (Mercer or Hall).
 - Team will STAY on campus when we play at a NON-FBISD stadium (ex: Trailor Stadium in LCISD) and eat Game Day Meal. Run thru with the band, load the bus and go!
 - If we have a THURS game there will be no rehearsal on Friday.

o Contest Season

- This will be split up between <u>non-competing</u> weeks and <u>competing</u> weeks.
- Non-competing weeks, Stars will rehearse as follows:
 - Mondays: off
 - Tuesdays Fridays: 2:50pm 4:00pm
- Competing weeks, Stars will rehearse as follows:
 - Mondays: off
 - Tuesdays Fridays: 2:50 4:30pm

Spring Show Season

Stars

- Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays: off
 - We will still work on dances during 7th per class time.
- Tuesdays & Thursdays: until 3:30pm
 - This will begin when we come back from Spring Break.
- The week-of Spring Show, the team will rehearse the entire week.
 - Times TBA on Band calendar.
- Twinkles for the majority of the year do not have rehearsal outside of school time. You will have rehearsal for the football game(s) you are attending.
 - Also, as we approach contest season, morning and/or after school rehearsal will be scheduled to prepare the team for competitions.

Summer Camp Dates are *****mandatory**:

- Stars Summer Team Camp will be from Monday, August 4th and <u>each weekday</u> after that, ending on Friday, August 8th from 9:00am – 3:30pm.
 - School begins on **Tuesday**, August 12th.
- Twinkles will not attend summer camp but will be required to attend Meet The Rangers on Saturday, August 23rd (this date is pulled from the prior year, please plan for this date but it is subject to change) for Team Pictures and then stand routines with Stars. Call Time TBA once Coach Darnell releases the event schedule.

*****Dancers who are not present for any portion of Summer Team Camp are at risk of losing their performance spot for football and contest season.** Dancers who are absent **without either Director having prior knowledge**, will receive a consequence from the Directors. IF something comes up, as soon as you are aware of a scheduling conflict, <u>please reach out to us</u>. We are happy to help find compromises. Finding out about an absence the evening before or morning of is not helpful. We of course understand some circumstances happen without notice. Emergencies are always taken seriously and without consequences.

AUDITION DETAILS

For the audition, candidates must wear the following:

- + Solid black *fitted* dance clothing, such as leggings, hot shorts, a workout tank top or leotard.
- + Hair in a neat, low pony with any bangs secured away from your face.
- + Light make-up, performance lipstick = red/deep burgundy.
- + Candidates may audition either: barefoot, in tan jazz shoes or Twyla (half-sole) shoes.

+ You will need to bring at least four (4) safety pins for you to pin your number to your clothing. Safety pins <u>will</u> <u>not</u> be provided on audition day.

IMPORTANT- In your application, you will be asked to select which team you are wanting to be considered for, if you select ONLY Stars or ONLY Twinkles, you can only be placed on the team you've selected. If judges do not place you on that team based off your audition, you will not be placed on the other team since you didn't specify that you're willing to be on either team.

<u>Academic evaluations</u>: Everyone's grade evaluation starts with a perfect 25. T1, T2, T3 grades are used in the evaluation process. *Previous progress report grades, exam grades and semester averages are not used in this evaluation.* Uploads of grades and attendance/tardies will be collected in the application. The deductions are as follows:

- For every grade below 70 -> 3 points will be deducted
- For every grade between 70 and 72 —> 1 point will be deducted
- Discipline referrals will be disclosed to directors but not taken into final count of score
- For absence totals greater than 9 per class period —> 5 points will be deducted with an additional point per absence following.
- For Tardy totals greater than 4 per class period —> 3 points will be deducted with an additional point per tardy following.
- Discipline referrals will be disclosed to directors but not taken into final count of score
- Should your grade evaluation reach the point where it would actually be a negative number, that score will just be entered as a 0.

DISTRICT STATEMENT

Fort Bend ISD prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any student on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by law. No qualified disabled student shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any Fort Bend ISD service, program, or activity.

Fort Bend ISD takes steps, including the provision of supplementary aids and services determined appropriate and necessary, to provide nonacademic and extracurricular services and activities in the manner necessary to afford children with disabilities an equal opportunity for participation in those services and activities. Any student with a disability requiring reasonable accommodations for participation in any Fort Bend ISD service, program, or activity should contact their campus to request a meeting of their student's Section 504 committee or ARD Committee.

Questions regarding Fort Bend ISD policies and procedures can be addressed to Dr. Deena Hill, Executive Director of Student Support Services, at 281-634-1143 or <u>Deena.Hill@Fortbendisd.com</u>.

FINAL REMINDERS

This is where you can find useful information and ask questions prior to submitting your application and video. Band is our communication platform for both teams throughout the year.

Link to join the Band page for Auditions- BAND JOIN LINK

Application Submission, Grade submission and attendance submission<u>LINKS</u> BELOW- Due by April 20th, 2025 at 5:00PM

AUDITION APPLICATION

GRADE EVALUATION FORM

AUDITION CHECKLIST

ACTION ITEM
 Read the entire packet. Strongly encourage student and at least one parent/guardian read together.
Join the Audition Band Group page. Updates posted as well as the option to ask questions for quicker answers.
Review choreography video and practice suggested skills for dance team.
Take a screenshot of your T1, T2 and T3 grades. This will be uploaded into the Audition packet. Please be sure your name is clearly visible on the grade sheet so that it can easily verified the grades belong to you. A scale is used for considering grades below A and B. The overall scoring component for grades is 25 points out of the overall 100 points earned. The remaining 75 points are earned from judges.
Complete and submit your application forms by the due date stated in this packet.
For audition day: wear SOLID black, bring four (4) safety pins, hair neatly pulled back and out of face, light make-up/lip color & appropriate dance shoes.