



# Ridge Point Royals Dance Team Tryout Information

Please fill out the Tryout Registration Form ONLINE by Mon, March 30, 2020.

(Link available on The Prowler and Social Media)

*Text @royalscan to 81010 to sign up for our Remind group!*

## Welcome!

Tryouts for the Ridge Point Royals Dance Team will be held the week of March 30-April 2 with the actual audition being Thurs, April 2.

***Candidates trying out for the Royals must understand the following guidelines:***

1. **\*NEW THIS YEAR\***: Candidates may be in grades 8, 9, 10, 11. FBISD states that students in grades 9-12 can be on the varsity dance team. *See attached letter.*
2. The Royals Dance Team is a competitive dance group and school spirit organization. Participation is a FULL YEAR commitment (August—May).
3. Members will be selected through an audition process that includes performance of a dance routine and a technique combination for a panel of dance judges. Report card grades and conduct marks are also used as part of the selection process. All grades from the first, second, and third term year are used for this evaluation. (Progress grades, semester exam, and semester averages will not be used.)

***If you are selected for the Royals Dance Team, you will adhere to the following rules:***

1. Maintain academic eligibility.
2. Attend ALL practices and functions – these include but are not limited to summer camp, daily after school rehearsals (2:45-4:30), some Saturday practices in the spring, football games, dance contests, spring performances, parades, trips, social events, and other activities elected by the director.
3. Purchase practice clothing and costuming items. Please note that arrangements can be made for special financial situations. These arrangements are handled on an individual basis and are extremely confidential. Financial limitations will not interfere with membership. However, full payment will need to be settled by the end of the school year. *If you have an outstanding balance with Royals or JV Royals you will not be allowed to audition for the 2020-2021 year.*

### ***\*\*Cost of Practice Clothing/Uniforms***

The first year on the dance team you will be required to purchase several practice uniforms. The average initial cost for a new member is \$400-\$500. After the first, the cost for practice clothing, etc. is usually less than \$150. *Next year is an in state TRIP YEAR! Trips are optional and cost is approximately \$300-\$400. More info will be given at the end of the school year.*

4. Be a positive role model for the other students at Ridge Point High School.

5. Be enrolled in the appropriate dance class for next year. If you are selected for the team you will automatically be placed in 7th period dance team. You must make room in your schedule. *Royals receive a PE waiver/credit, but you must be enrolled in the course and pass it.*

### **Tryout Scores:**

- Tryout scores will be based on grades (max of 25 pts) and your performance in front of the judges (max 100 pts/judge). Highest score is 325.
  - The judges will score you on R/L splits, an across the floor combo (consisting of turns, kicks, leaps) and a tryout dance where you will be scored on memory, projection, precision, timing and overall dance technique.
- **Grade evaluations:** Everyone's grade evaluation starts with a perfect 25. T1, T2, T3 grades are included in the evaluation process. *Previous progress report grades, exam grades and semester averages are not used in this evaluation.* 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
  - For conduct marks of "N" → 1 point will be deducted
  - For absence totals greater than 9 → 5 points will be deducted with an additional point per absence following.
  - *Should your grade evaluation reach the point where it would actually be a negative number, that score will just be entered as a 0.*

### **7. JV ROYALS DANCE TEAM**

- If you are not selected for Royals, the judges may place you on JV Royals. A follow up email will include details. *Separate JV Auditions will be held Sat, April 4, or the day of Panther Premiere/Class Orientations in August.*
- **JV Dance Team will be 5th period. Only 9th-11th graders will be allowed on JV; no seniors.**

### **To audition for Royals:**

- Turn in the information sheet ONLINE on or before Mon, March 30, 2020. (Link on The Prowler/Social Media)
- Attend the MANDATORY parent/candidate meeting on Monday, March 23, 6:30-7:00PM.
- Attend all pre-tryout clinics. If you must miss one or more sessions, you must contact Mrs. Richter or Ms. Wendt in ADVANCE of your absence for her to determine if it is excused. You are responsible for learning all information that was missed.

**Clinic times                      Mon, March 30- Wed, April 1 → 2:55—4:30PM**

***8th grade clinic times and actual tryouts will be 4:30-5:30 each day.***

- Please wear basic dance attire or leggings and a fitted top to the workshop/clinic sessions to learn the tryout dance and kick routine. Please be modest. No hot shorts, crop tops, sports bras, etc will be allowed.
- The actual audition is Thursday, April 4th at 3:15 PM. You will report for roll check at 3:00. Auditions will be in front of the panel of judges and will begin promptly at 3:15. Candidates will audition in groups of four or five. Results will be posted Friday, April 3 by 3:00pm on social media.

Questions? Contact Mrs. Richter at [Miranda.Richter@fortbendisd.com](mailto:Miranda.Richter@fortbendisd.com) or  
(281) 327-5239. *I look forward to a great tryout week with you all!*



December 13, 2019

Parents and Students,

I am excited to announce a change in district policy regarding our high school Dance Teams. Previously, incoming freshmen students could only be considered for placement on freshmen or junior varsity teams but could not be considered for varsity. During a review of our Dance Team Code, it was determined that this policy was not in the best interest of those advanced ninth grade students whose dance abilities were sufficient for placement with varsity level dancers.

The Fort Bend ISD Fine Arts Department's mission states that FBISD Fine Arts "exists to inspire artistry and equip students to reach their full potential, thus creating opportunities without boundaries". In addition, our Core Beliefs include a commitment to "provide artistic opportunities to students to stretch and explore the full range of their abilities". It was determined that excluding students from placement on the team that best meets their skill-level and provides the most opportunity for growth was not aligned with our department mission and core beliefs. In addition, the dance program was the only fine arts program that restricted freshman from participation at the highest levels. Even athletic programs allow high-achieving freshmen to compete at the varsity level. To better align dance policy with other FBISD extra-curricular activities and to provide the most rigorous fine arts experience possible to our students, it was decided to change this policy beginning with team auditions for the 2020-2021 school year.

Each campus is still responsible for conducting their own auditions and will communicate any changes to procedures to accommodate the addition of freshmen to the varsity team review process. Any ninth graders selected for varsity teams will be required to meet the same expectations as other team members including maintaining grades, attending all required events and balancing academic responsibilities with team requirements. Some ninth graders may not be ready for these additional stressors as they transition to high school and that should be considered as parents determine whether their student should audition for the varsity team. Placement decisions are final and based on transparent audition procedures at each campus.

The FBISD Fine Arts Department is determined to provide the best fine arts experiences possible for students and staff. We hope this adjustment to policy opens the door for more students to make the most of their FBISD fine arts journey.

Sincerely,

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