



Standard Operating Procedures

High School Cheerleader Handbook

APPROVED: February 7, 2022

REVISED: August 14, 2023

High School Cheerleader Handbook

Policy Cross Reference Sheet

This handbook is an administrative procedure of the District and subject to policies adopted by the Board of Trustees. In case of conflict between administrative procedures and Board policy, policy shall prevail.

Date of Superintendent Approval: Christie Whitbeck 8-14-23

Version Number: (i.e. "2020.1") 2022.2

The contents of this handbook relate to the following Board policies:

Policy	Title	Page(s)
FM (Legal)	STUDENT ACTIVITIES	*
FM (Local)	STUDENT ACTIVITIES	*
FO (Legal)	Student Discipline	6-8, 19
	Student Code of Conduct	6-8, 19
FNG (Local)	Student Rights and Responsibilities - Student and Parent Complaints/Grievances	9

* The above listed policies relate to areas in which Student Activities are necessary. This handbook speaks directly to High School Cheer.

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INTRODUCTION

Philosophy:

The Board believes that student activities provide opportunities for students to practice and demonstrate the attributes of the Profile of a Graduate. As such, the District shall encourage participation in student activities, engage students through inclusive and collaborative experiences, and allow students the opportunity to create and participate in student organizations and student groups.

This handbook becomes effective immediately for the tryout process in the current school year and remains in effect for successful candidates throughout the period until tryouts the following calendar year.

Fort Bend ISD Athletics Mission/Profile of a Graduate:

FBISD Athletics exists to inspire and equip student athletes with responsibility, values, sportsmanship, and teamwork through participation in sports so they can pursue futures beyond what they can imagine.

Cheerleaders will exhibit the FBISD Profile of a Graduate, including being a collaborative team member.

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 Deena.Hill@Fortbendisd.com.

GENERAL SAFETY GUIDELINES

1. Basic Safety Guidelines:

- Coach in accordance with American Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Administrators (AACCA) Safety Standards.
- The cheerleading Coach or other knowledgeable designated school representative (with Principal approval) shall attend all practices and functions.
- An emergency plan must be in place and practiced in case of an emergency. No Coach, no practice.
- All cheerleaders shall receive proper training before attempting any form of cheerleading gymnastics (i.e., tumbling, partner stunts, pyramids, and jumps.)
- All partner stunts shall be mastered according to the “partner stunt progressions” before attempting a new level of difficulty. (See Coach)
- All practice sessions shall be held in a location suitable for the activities of cheerleaders with the use of tumbling mats and away from excess noise and distractions, etc.
- Training in proper spotting techniques shall be required for all squads attempting gymnastics.
- Accessories and apparel should be conducive to safe performance.
- Warm-up exercises and stretching shall precede all practice sessions, pep rallies, games, competitions, and other physical activity.
- All cheerleading squads shall develop a conditioning and strength-building program.
- The cheering surface, location, lighting, and weather conditions shall be taken into consideration before engaging in physical activity.
- Coach may limit the squad’s activities based upon the entire squad’s ability level.
- Cheerleaders shall not stunt while the football team or other sport team is in play, nomatter what part of the field they are on.

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

1. Designation as Competition Squad:

- The squad is a competition squad as decided by the Coach and Principal.
- All members are expected to prepare for competitions.

2. Safety: According to University Interscholastic League (UIL) regulations - CHEERLEADERS; SPIRIT GROUPS “All cheer and spirit performances at any UIL activity shall be in accordance with safety standards as prescribed by the National Federation High School Spirit Handbook.”

3. Attending Competitions:

- The Coach or campus-approved designee must accompany the squad to any competition.
- Transportation will be available for competitions at sites outside of Fort Bend ISD. The campus will be responsible for providing a certified driver for district-provided transportation.

4. Hired Choreographers/Coaches: All choreographers or Coaches must be familiar with UIL competition and FBISD guidelines.

5. **Competition Guidelines:** Competition guidelines shall comply with the regulations outlined in the National Federation High School Spirit Handbook (See safety guidelines and reference material included in this handbook.)

CHEERLEADER COACH DUTIES

Cheerleader coaches' responsibilities and duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Make schedules for games, uniforms, practices, etc.
- Assign duties in all activities.
- Inform all cheerleaders of changes in schedule, upcoming events, etc.
- Provide announcements to campus administration.
- Make the final decision on choice of uniforms for games and pep rallies and communicate proactively to cheerleaders.
- Screen and have veto power on all ideas, cheers, stunts, skits, signs, etc.
- Recommend to the administration if a cheerleader is to be suspended or dropped from the squad.
- Follow all District procedures related to procurement, fundraising and collection of money. Be responsible for current inventory of all items ordered.
- Establish a system and complete a grade, tardy, absence, and conduct check with teachers and discipline action taken by grade level Principal.
- Attend all the following:
 - Summer camp and competition
 - Tryouts
 - Games when cheerleaders are officially cheering or other knowledgeable designated school representative (with principal approval)
 - Outside training for squad (gym, clinics, etc.)
 - *In case of Coach absence, a designated school official (with Principal approval) will be in attendance.
- Create a safe environment so that a routine does not pose an undue risk of serious injury.
- Ensure that the equipment is maintained for cheerleaders as outlined in the district's equipment policy. The Coach is responsible for issuing and collecting school purchased equipment and uniforms.
- Monitor all activities for compliance with the National Federation Spirit Handbook and the AACCA Safety Certification guidelines.
- Organize and practice an emergency plan that is approved by Campus Head Athletic Trainer

EXPECTATIONS

CHEERLEADING IS A TEAM SPORT, AND ALL CHEERLEADERS ARE REQUIRED TO BE PRESENT.

ALL CHEERLEADERS WILL BE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW ALL THE RULES OF CONDUCT AS OUTLINED IN THE FORT BEND ISD STUDENT HANDBOOK.

ALL CHEERLEADERS WILL BE EXPECTED TO DISPLAY POSITIVE LEADERSHIP QUALITIES IN ATTITUDE, BEHAVIOR, SPORTSMANSHIP AND SCHOOL SPIRIT that align to the Profile of a Graduate.

1. **Smoking/Vaping:** The use or possession of any tobacco or vaping products is prohibited and warrants a consequence as outlined to the Student Code of Conduct.

2. **Unexcused Absence:** An unexcused absence is defined as the failure to attend any scheduled cheerleading activity (sample listing below) as determined by coach without prior permission from coach. Any outside activity, including a job and/or participating on another cheer squad, is an invalid reason for missing a scheduled cheerleading activity. Vacations should be scheduled around summer practices and camps.

- After school practices
- Saturday practices
- Evening practices
- Summer practices
- Games
- Pep rallies
- Cheerleading fundraisers
- Cheerleading community projects
- Leaving or arriving halfway through practice
- Any other scheduled activity by coach

3. **Excused Absence:** Each cheerleader will be permitted five (5) excused absences from the current tryout year to the following tryout year. Any cheerleader who has six (6) or more excused absences will be considered to have excessive absences and will face disciplinary action beginning with the sixth absence. Cheerleading is a team sport, and all cheerleaders are required to be present. An excused absence is defined as follows:

- **School-Related Activity** – A written 48-hour notification to the coach signed by the school official.
- **Family Death** – Verbal communication to the coach by parent/guardian followed by written notification.
- **Illness** – Verbal communication to the coach from the parent followed by written notification, even if the child was not in school. If a cheerleader does not feel well enough to participate, the coach has the discretion to send the child home as an excused absence.
- **Doctor Appointments** – With written 48-hour notification to coach signed by parent/guardian.

Note: Verbal communication may consist of personal communications, voice mail, or notice to the coach's mailbox by school attendants.

Absences for Religious Holidays will be excluded from any count. Verbal communication to the Coach by the parent is required.

4. **Tardies:** Any cheerleader 5 minutes late to any cheerleading activity will be considered tardy. Three tardies will be considered an unexcused absence.

5. **Appropriate Dress:** All cheerleaders shall abide by the proper dress code when at practices, games, school-related events, or any other cheerleader activity. The coach will determine specific dress. See FBISD Student Code of Conduct for compliance.

6. **Uniforms:** All cheerleaders are expected to maintain their uniforms with care and are permitted to perform only in clean uniforms. See AACCA and NFHS safety rules for compliance. When in uniform, cheerleaders should refrain from the following:
- Chewing gum
 - Wearing nail polish
 - Long fingernails
 - Wearing jewelry
 - Wrong socks
 - Missing hair bow

7. **Stunting without Approval:** For safety purposes, all stunting must be approved in advance by the coach. Stunting is not permitted without coach approval and a coach in attendance.

8. **Inappropriate Behavior/Disrespect:** Cheerleaders are expected to be role models and ambassadors of goodwill for their schools and follow the Profile of a Graduate. Therefore, all cheerleaders are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior. The following shall be considered inappropriate behavior and subjected to discipline:

- Public display of affection (PDA)
- Misconduct documented by other teachers, administrators, and/or parents
- Distractions during practice/game/pep rallies
- Non-spirited attitude
- Unsportsmanlike conduct/Derogatory statements
- Disobedient behavior/non-compliance
- Bullying/harassing behavior (including sexual harassment)
- Cyberbullying
- Fighting or threatening to fight (a teammate or any other student)
- Disruptive behavior that substantially impacts the educational environment
- Intentionally causing harm to another cheerleader through unsafe behavior during Cheer events or causing harm through negligence, inattentiveness or inaction.

Any of the above behaviors, if deemed severe enough by coaches or school administration, will be grounds for disciplinary action up to and including suspension and/or removal from the Cheer team. Repeated behaviors above (even over the span of more than one Cheer season) may be grounds for permanent removal from the Cheer team.

9. **Deadlines/Responsibilities:** Cheerleaders are expected to fulfill all responsibilities and meet all deadlines as established by the coach.

10. **Camp Requirement:** All cheerleaders shall be required to attend a professionally-run cheerleading camp.

- The only exception to this rule is a tryout alternate who is added to the team after their team's camp due to extenuating circumstances. This addition must be approved by coaches, campus administration and the FBISD Athletic Director/Assistant Director who supervises district Cheer programming.
- If this roster change is approved, then the coach must arrange for safety training for the added student(s). Training must be performed by an NCA- or UCA-certified trainer. A coach must also be in attendance at the entirety of this training. Until the student has received this training, s/he may not participate in any stunting or tumbling activities during team practices.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

No student will be denied the opportunity of trying out for a Cheerleading squad when the cost of required expenses and fees is a financial barrier. Parents shall be informed about cost of participating prior to tryouts. Parents should contact the coach to discuss available options to meet financial obligations before orders are placed.

1. **School Provides:** Items determined by the coach with approval from District Athletic Office to include but not limited to, cheer uniform, equipment, and supplies.
2. **Individual Provides:**
 - Camp expenses (including travel)
 - Clothing and accessories are not purchased with District funds. Itemized estimate(s) will be provided by the coach at the pre-tryout meeting.
 - Gym Rentals/Choreography determined by the coach.
3. **Fundraisers:** Cheerleaders will have opportunities to participate in program fundraisers to defer additional costs not covered with District funding. Please contact the coach prior to tryouts with any additional questions regarding financial responsibilities.

CHEERLEADER DISCIPLINE

All cheerleaders are expected to follow all the rules of conduct as outlined in the Fort Bend ISD Student Code of Conduct, the Fort Bend ISD Student/Parent Handbook - Extracurricular Section, and other rules developed by campus coach.

These rules apply to all cheerleaders during their selected term.

1. **Loss of Privilege – Deferred Adjudication, Probation, Felony or Class A Misdemeanor:**
A student in grades 9 through 12 *may* lose the privilege of participation in extracurricular activities during any period of deferred adjudication or probation. School Counselors will assist Coaches in obtaining a release of related documentation.

A student in grades 9 through 12 *shall* lose the privilege of participation in extracurricular activities during any period:

- While under indictment for a felony; or
 - While awaiting a final determination of guilt or innocence in connection with either a felony or any offense punishable as a Class A Misdemeanor, whether the felony or offense was committed on or off campus.
2. **Loss of Privilege – Possession, Under the Influence, or Intent to Distribute:**
Possessing, selling, or distributing marijuana, alcohol, a controlled substance, a dangerous drug, abuseable glue, aerosol paint, or any other mood-changing, mind altering, or behavior affecting drug such as vape pens containing THC, is strictly prohibited and will result in elimination from further participation in all extracurricular activities for:
 - First Offense: one calendar year.
 - Second Offense: for the remainder of the student's school career.

3. Loss of Privilege – Suspension, DAEP, Expulsion:

A student in grades 9-12 shall lose the privilege of participation in extracurricular activities during any period of suspension, placement in Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP), or expulsion.

- DAEP Placement: Any cheerleader receiving placement in DAEP will be ineligible to cheer for the remainder of the cheerleading season.

4. ISS/OSS Placement:

Any cheerleader receiving a placement in ISS or OSS will lose privileges in extracurricular activities and will be ineligible to cheer for the duration of the placement in ISS/OSS. These consequences shall not be enforced on top of any other loss of privilege or other removals.

- 1st Offense – Minimum 1 game suspension
- 2nd Offense – Minimum 1 game suspension
- 3rd Offense – Removal from the program

5. Disciplinary Recourse:

Upon determination of a student's removal from participation in school-Coached extracurricular activities, the following will occur:

- The coach will communicate to the student and the student's parents the terms of the removal.
- The coach will notify the campus Principal and the District Athletic Director in writing of the terms of the removal.
- The student may be referred to counselors, and/or drug and alcohol education programs, as appropriate.
- The student or parent may appeal the student's loss of extracurricular privileges through District Board Policy FNG (LOCAL).
- **If a member of the current cheer squad is removed from the team after tryouts, s/he will forfeit their position for the following year as well. If a candidate makes the squad and later chooses not to be on the squad, he/she also forfeits tryouts for the following year. S/he will only be able to tryout subsequent years after the forfeited year has been served and if the student meets eligibility status.**

6. Additional Rules of Conduct:

In addition to the rules of conduct specified in the Conduct Rules section, students who participate in extracurricular activities shall comply with the following rules.

- Comply with rules and expectations outlined by District officials and staff;
- Participate in every practice, competition/performance and event required by the coach, unless the coach has granted an excused absence;
- Perform to their fullest ability at all practices, games, competitions and other events: cheerleaders should be ready and willing to perform any skill that they have established themselves to be capable of. For example: if the student performs a back tuck or a technically elevated tumbling run at tryouts, then s/he should expect to perform this skill at any subsequent Cheer event in the coming year.
- Arrive promptly, properly attired, for every practice, competition, etc., unless the coach has granted an excused absence;
- Adhere to the grooming standards provided by the coach;
- Demonstrate sportsmanlike behavior;
- Demonstrate a positive attitude;
- Be courteous and polite to others.

Failure to meet these and other expectations may result in disciplinary action at the Coach's discretion.

RESOLUTION PROCESS

Concerns should always be addressed first with the coach. If no resolution can be reached, other campus staff may need to be involved. Always follow the proper chain of command when addressing a concern:

1. Coach
2. Campus Athletics Coordinator over Cheerleading
3. Campus Administrator over Cheerleading OR Principal Designee
4. Campus Principal
5. District Athletics Office

COMPOSITION OF THE SQUAD

Cheer candidates must reside within the attendance boundaries of the campus for which they are trying out. Residency and student transfer information will be confirmed at the campus prior to tryouts to determine eligibility.

The cheerleading team will be composed of up to 32 cheerleaders selected from current freshman, sophomores, juniors and eighth graders currently enrolled in the schools' feeder pattern or approved transfers such as academies, PTECH, and EHCS. Coaches may take a full squad or choose their team number based on the first natural break in scores that approximates a full team.

- 1. Varsity:**
 - Squads not to exceed 16 cheerleaders
 - Comprised of current freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and eighth graders currently enrolled in the school's feeder pattern or approved transfers such as academies, PTECH, and EHCS
- 2. Junior Varsity:**
 - Squads not to exceed 16 cheerleaders
 - Comprised of current freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and eighth graders currently enrolled in the school's feeder pattern or approved transfers such as academies, PTECH, and EHCS
- 3. Competition Squad:**
 - All cheerleaders at competing schools are expected to prepare for and attend competition.
 - A maximum of 30 cheerleaders will perform at each competition.
 - Performing cheerleaders will be selected and notified by the coach.
 - Competition squad will be decided on a per-competition basis. Ex: A cheerleader may compete at a regional competition but not at state. Changes in squad composition are at coaches' discretion.

REQUIREMENTS TO TRYOUT

Eligible candidates for cheerleading, mascots, and managers must meet the following qualifications:

1. **Academic Standing:** See exhibit F - Administrative Seal of Approval for Indicators related to a student's ability to tryout.
2. **School Behavior:** See exhibit F - Administrative Seal of Approval for Indicators related to a student's ability to tryout.
3. **Participation in Pre-Tryout Clinic:** Candidates should attend each day of the pre-tryout clinic to help them prepare for tryouts. Clinic details will be established by the campus. During the clinic, each campus will specify the activities to be performed at the tryouts.
4. **Parent Meeting and Forms:** In order to be eligible for tryouts, each candidate and their parent/guardian must attend the mandatory orientation meeting to discuss the selection process and cheerleader responsibilities. Any parent/guardian who is unable to attend this meeting must contact the Coach prior to the date of the meeting to receive the information for their student to be able to participate in the tryouts.
 - Candidate must sign up for tryouts during a time period designated by the Coach.
 - Candidates must receive and sign for tryout packets at an organizational meeting called by the Coach or at an individually set meeting.
 - Each senior candidate will be required to submit the Senior Intent Form (Exhibit E)
 - Each candidate will be required to have the Administrative Seal of Approval signed before having the opportunity to try out. (See Exhibit F)
 - Further qualifications involving tryout procedures, standards of conduct, participation and uniforms may be required by the Coach, with the prior written approval of the Principal. These qualifications will be communicated with candidates and parent/guardian prior to tryouts.
5. **Physical Examination:** All candidates must submit a current preparticipation physical examination form signed and stamped by a medical doctor before the tryout clinic. The District reserves the right to require a new physical examination when deemed necessary.
6. **Special Circumstance for out-of-district students:** If a student lives in another school district at the time of the tryout parent meeting/clinic/mock tryout/official tryout, the following criteria must be met:
 - They must provide proof of residence within the school zone.
 - They must initiate enrollment in FBISD before the tryout.
 - They must attend the initial tryout parent meeting.
 - They may attend some portion of the tryout clinic.
 - They may attend and participate in mock tryouts, but it is not a requirement for participation in official tryouts.
 - Candidate must be physically present to participate fully in the official tryout on the day of tryouts.
 - They must attend all team events following tryouts deemed mandatory by the coach.

METHOD OF SELECTION

High school cheerleader selection is done by impartial judges who observe the candidates in a series of activities performed in a single session. Students must be present at the cheer tryouts in order to be eligible for selection.

1. **Tryout Format:** The tryout process is organized and facilitated by the coach. In addition to the

judges, the coaches and up to three designated faculty members may be present in the tryout room to observe and facilitate the conducting of tryouts.

- The screening will take place on the high school campus.
- Each school's screening is closed to the public. Only candidates, judges and designated school personnel may be in the warm-up area(s) and tryout room/gym during tryouts.
- At least one campus administrator must be present to observe the selection process.
- The committee will consist of at least three impartial professional judges selected by the Director of Athletics from outside the District. Coaches are not to interact with the impartial judges at any point prior to the final submission of ballots to the designee in charge of inputting and sorting results.
- All candidates will appear before the judges in the designated uniform. If a student needs assistance with acquiring the uniform, they should notify the coach prior to tryouts.
- Candidates who are current cheerleaders will not demonstrate or be recognized in any fashion as current cheerleaders.
- The scoring template for each campus will be distributed to candidates prior to tryouts.
- Cheerleader candidates will perform a specified sequence consisting of items listed on the tryout scoresheet. Each judge will assign points based on candidate demonstration of cheerleader skills and functions (See Exhibits A and B)
- Cheerleader candidates will be allowed to provide video for committee evaluation if they are unable to perform all required activities due to injury. The candidate must provide a physician's letter explaining the specific injury and restrictions prior to beginning the try out. They must complete all aspects of the program not restricted by the injury and identified in the physician's letter. The video must not show candidates as current cheerleaders in any way. The video must be certified to have been created within the past twelve months.

2. Results

- Each judge will score each candidate's performance using a numeric scale (see exhibit B). The judge must initial any change to a rating or sum of ratings.
- Scores from each judge are tabulated to yield one total score for each candidate.
- Candidate's total scores are ranked in numerical order from greatest to least.
- Candidates with the highest rankings are selected as cheerleader according to cheerleader numbers specified at each campus.
- A tiebreaker system will be utilized when necessary to break ties when it involves making the team or determining alternates. The tiebreaker will consist of taking the scores from the candidate's first tryout, specifically scores from: entrance, voice projection, jumps, motions, and overall impression. If after tabulating the scores the candidate with the higher score, will receive an additional .5 points to break the tie. If after the tiebreaker, scores are still tied, the candidates will then be brought back out to perform for the judges again and will be scored on entrance, voice projection, jumps, motions, and overall impression. (See Exhibit D)
- The coaches and a principal designee will decide upon varsity/junior varsity team placement of candidates. Candidates chosen for each team must come from the top point-earners from tryouts, but selection to varsity or junior varsity is done irrespective of how candidates scored at tryouts. Important: it is not a requirement that scores be included as a factor when deciding varsity/junior varsity placement.
 - If the Coach chooses to take the maximum numbers per each team (16/16), then the Coaches will assign teams from the top 32 point-earners from tryouts.

- If the Coach chooses to use the natural break for a given school which could be less than the district maximum of 32 (16/16), the coaches will assign teams according to those candidates who finished above the natural break that approximates a full team.
 - There is no prescribed team size for schools who have fewer than the maximum 32 (i.e. a team could have 10 varsity members and 12 junior varsity or 16 varsity and 8 junior varsity members and so on).
 - Results will be released after the completion of tryouts on a date and time determined by the campus.
 - Due to federal privacy laws protecting student records, a student or parent may not view the evaluation forms of other participants.
 - Appeals of the cheerleading tryout process, including final results, must take place at the campus level. Grounds for appeal may be made in reference to mathematical calculations or procedural impropriety only. Appeals must occur within five (5) school days, and during school business hours once final results have been announced.
 - Appeals of results/decisions will be final at the campus level.
 - Tryout results are specific to the campus and are not transferrable.
3. **Mascot Selection:** Mascot selection will take place during the fourth nine weeks after finalization of cheerleader tryouts. A second tryout may occur in the fall semester if no mascot is found in the spring. Tryouts will be held on campus and will be judged by a panel of no fewer than three adult designees selected by the Coach. Mascot candidates will perform a maximum of a two-minute routine consisting of skits, mime, pantomime, and dance. No routine may be more than one-half dance. All routines must be within school standards.

EXHIBIT A – Cheer Rubric

CHEER RUBRIC

May want to include a statement that the rubric below should be used for all cheerleader tryouts.

SCORESHEET CATEGORIES	SCORING CRITERIA
Spirited Entrance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EXCELLENT ENTRANCE Enthusiasm, Energy, Crowd Interaction, Eye Contact (4-5 POINTS) GOOD ENTRANCE Enthusiasm, Energy, Crowd Interaction, Eye Contact (2-3 POINTS) FAIR ENTRANCE Enthusiasm, Energy, Crowd Interaction, Eye Contact (0-1 POINTS)
Voice Projection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EXCELLENT LOUD VOICE PROJECTION / SHOWMANSHIP (4-5 POINTS) GOOD MEDIUM VOICE PROJECTION / SHOWMANSHIP (2-3 POINTS) FAIR LOW VOICE PROJECTION / SHOWMANSHIP (0-1 POINTS)
Jumps	<p>Toe touch, hurdler, and pike in any order</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HYPEREXTENDED (4-5 POINTS) LEVEL (2-3 POINTS) BELOW LEVEL (0-1 POINTS)
Motions	<p>Based on sharpness and correct motion placement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EXCELLENT TECHNIQUE (4-5 POINTS) GOOD TECHNIQUE (2-3 POINTS) FAIR TECHNIQUE / PLACEMENT (0-1 POINTS)
Tumbling	<p>Potential points are based off of execution of skill and clean technique</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BACKTUCKS AND ABOVE (4-5 POINTS) BACK HANDPRINGS SERIES (3 POINTS) BACK HANDSPRING SINGLE (2 POINTS) ROUND OFF, CARTWHEEL, FWO (0-1 POINTS)
Memory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EXCELLENT EXECUTION, NO MISTAKES (4-5 POINTS) GOOD EXECUTION, FEW MISTAKES (2-3 POINTS) FAIR EXECUTION, MANY MISTAKES (0-1 POINTS)
Dance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EXCELLENT TECHNIQUE/ PLACEMENT (4-5 POINTS) GOOD TECHNIQUE / PLACEMENT (2-3 POINTS) FAIR TECHNIQUE / PLACEMENT (0-1 POINTS)
Overall Impression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EXCELLENT OVERALL IMPRESSION (4-5 PTS) GOOD OVERALL IMPRESSION (2-3 PTS) FAIR OVERALL IMPRESSION (0-1 PTS)

EXHIBIT B – HS Tryout Judges Score Sheet

HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADER TRYOUT							
JUDGES SCORE SHEET							
CHEERLEADER							
CANDIDATE # _____							
IN EACH CATEGORY, CIRCLE THE SCORE THAT BEST REFLECTS THE PERFORMANCE FOR THE CANDIDATE USING THE RATING SCALE PROVIDED BELOW.							
IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE ON THE SCORESHEET, PLEASE CROSS OUT THE INCORRECT MARK AND INITIAL IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE BOTTOM OF THIS SHEET							
							COMMENTS
ENTRANCE	0	1	2	3	4	5	
VOICE PROJECTION	0	1	2	3	4	5	
JUMPS	0	1	2	3	4	5	
MOTIONS	0	1	2	3	4	5	
TUMBLING	0	1	2	3	4	5	
MEMORY	0	1	2	3	4	5	
DANCE	0	1	2	3	4	5	
OVERALL IMPRESSION	0	1	2	3	4	5	
JUDGE NUMBER _____				JUDGE'S INITIALS _____			
							TOTAL SCORE _____

EXHIBIT C – HS Tryout Judges Score Sheet Tiebreaker

**HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADER TRYOUT
JUDGES SCORE SHEET
CHEERLEADER – TIEBREAKER 1st ROUND**

CANDIDATE # _____

IN EACH CATEGORY, PLACE THE SCORE THAT BEST REFLECTS THE PERFORMANCE OF THE CANDIDATE USING THE RATING SCALE PROVIDED BELOW.



	JUDGE #1	JUDGE #2	JUDGE #3
ENTRANCE			
VOICE PROJECTION			
JUMPS			
MOTIONS			
OVERALL IMPRESSION			
TOTAL			

TIE-BREAKER TOTAL SCORE _____



**HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADER TRYOUT
JUDGES 2ND ROUND TIEBREAKER SCORE SHEET
CHEERLEADER**

CANDIDATE # _____

IN EACH CATEGORY, CIRCLE THE SCORE THAT BEST REFLECTS THE PERFORMANCE FOR THE CANDIDATE USING THE RATING SCALE PROVIDED BELOW.

IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE ON THE SCORESHEET, PLEASE CROSS OUT THE INCORRECT MARK AND INITIAL IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE BOTTOM OF THIS SHEET

							COMMENTS
ENTRANCE	0	1	2	3	4	5	
VOICE PROJECTION	0	1	2	3	4	5	
JUMPS	0	1	2	3	4	5	
MOTIONS	0	1	2	3	4	5	
OVERALL IMPRESSION	0	1	2	3	4	5	

JUDGE NUMBER _____ JUDGE'S INITIALS _____

TOTAL SCORE _____

EXHIBIT D – Tryout Judges Score Sheet- MASCOT

HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADER TRYOUT JUDGES SCORE SHEET MASCOT

1. CANDIDATE # _____

IN EACH CATEGORY, CIRCLE THE SCORE THAT BEST REFLECTS THE PERFORMANCE OF THE CANDIDATE USING THE RATING SCALE PROVIDED BELOW.

RATING SCALE:

0=NOT PRESENT

1=POOR

2=WELL BELOW AVERAGE

3=BELOW AVERAGE

4=AVERAGE

5=ABOVE AVERAGE

6=WELL ABOVE AVERAGE

7=EXCELLENT

8=SUPERIOR

IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE ON THE SCORESHEET, PLEASE CROSS OUT THE INCORRECT MARK AND INITIAL EACH INCORRECT MARK IN THE SAME MANNER AS AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS SHEET. THANK YOU.

TECHNIQUE	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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STAGE PRESENCE	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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CREATIVITY	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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SPIRIT / ENTHUSIASM	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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OVERALL IMPRESSION	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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JUDGE NUMBER _____

TOTAL SCORE _____

JUDGE'S INITIALS _____

EXHIBIT E – Senior Intent

SENIOR INTENT

Student Name _____

School _____

I am trying out for:

_____ Varsity Only

_____ Either Team

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

EXHIBIT F – Administrative Seal of Approval

Administrative Seal of Approval

- *The contents of this document should be carefully considered prior to approving a student for participation in campus Cheerleading tryouts.*
- *The Administrative Seal of Approval (ASA) should be completed by the student’s assigned alpha split/grade level administrator OR by the supervising administrator over the Cheerleading program.*
- *The Coach for the campus should prepare one copy of the ASA for each candidate with student name and school and then submit all prepared ASAs at the same time to the administrator who will approve/deny.*
- *ASAs should NOT be given to the student to submit to her/his administrator.*
- *In the interest of expediency, it is permissible for the Coach to provide input to the administrator on any areas of concern with a given candidate prior to approval/denial.*

Name _____ School _____

Cheerleaders are a representation of our high school. They should always adhere to all district/campus rules. If you believe this student would be a good representative and has no serious discipline issues on campus or on the cheer squad, please sign and date below.

Below are the key indicators for whether or not an administrator should approve a student to participate in Cheerleading tryouts:

- This candidate is on schedule to graduate and possesses the credits to meet graduation requirements on time with their graduation year cohort.
- Candidates may not have received more than a total of two failing grades for T1 and T2. Failing grades in approved AP classes do not count against the student’s allotted two failing grades (if there are questions, please contact the Coach). *Because of COVID/extenuating circumstances, we are allowing for leniency in this area based upon a student having passing grades from S1 and progress reports prior to T3. However, it is still at the discretion of the Coaches and school administration to decide on this.*
- Candidates must have shown compliance with compulsory attendance laws. This means that, in order to participate in Cheerleading tryouts, a student must have been in attendance at 90% of all classes at the time of the signing of this document in order to be considered as in compliance. Again, due to possible unforeseen circumstances related to the COVID-19 or other pandemic, it is at the discretion of the coaches and/or campus administration to allow leniency in this area.
- All cheerleaders are expected to follow all the rules of conduct as outlined in the “Fort Bend ISD Student/Parent Handbook”, “Fort Bend ISD Student Code of Conduct” and other rules specific to that campus’s cheer program that may be developed by the campus Coaches with the approval of the campus principal.

- The candidate has not received excessive discipline referrals for the previous Cheer year (ex.: for March 2022 tryouts, student should not have excessive discipline referrals for the 2021-22 school year).

Grounds for NOT signing this document MAY INCLUDE but are not limited to:

- Student has excessive documented discipline referrals in violation of the “FBISD Student Code of Conduct”.
- Student has been absent for more than 10% of any of her/his classes.
- Student has failed more than two classes for the T1 or T2 grading periods.
- Misconduct on the Cheer squad that was not a violation of the “FBISD Student Code of Conduct” (ex.: excessive missed practices, missing major Cheer event(s) with little/no notice, consistent disrespectful behavior with teammates or coaches, persistent violations of other team rules, etc.).
- Student was selected for Cheer squad in a previous school year and quit the team at any point after the teams were named.
- Student was removed from the Cheer squad during the current school year for any reason (ex.: student made the team in the spring of 2022, was removed in the fall of 2022 – s/he cannot try out for Cheer in the spring of 2023).

***Any other rule violation or potential obstacle to a student successfully participating in _____ Cheer for the _____ school year not listed above may be used as grounds for not signing the Administrative Seal of Approval. The student/parent will be notified by the coach if she/he did not receive the Administrative Seal of Approval. If a student/parent wishes to receive clarification or further information on why approval was not given, they may contact their student’s grade level/alpha split administrator.

Administrator: _____

Date: _____