

Country & Western Performance Dance Teams



Handbook 2024-2025

Fine Arts Department
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**COUNTRY & WESTERN PERFORMANCE DANCE TEAMS
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COUNTRY AND WESTERN DANCE TEAM GUIDELINES

The Country and Western Performance Dance Team is a standalone extra-curricular activity. The team guidelines are unique to team members and provide a necessary framework to aid in developing and maintaining a successful dance team. The guidelines are intended to ensure consistent and appropriate application of team expectations and standards. Any interpretation of these guidelines that works to undermine or circumvent the purpose and intention of the guidelines will be rejected.

PHILOSOPHY

The Country and Western Performance Dance Team is comprised of a group of high school students chosen through organized, competitive tryouts. The goal of instructional and performance activities is to enhance each individual member's skills and development, resulting in a highly skilled performance group. Emphasis on sound teaching and learning principles is comparable to that of any other instructional setting.

Each team member must be aware of the time commitment and the individual dedication required of each member of the dance team. Dance team members will demonstrate good citizenship and high moral standards and assume responsibility for developing school spirit. Members shall set a positive example for other students through being responsible for their actions and demonstrating appropriate conduct.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Each school shall have their own rules specific to that campus. The campus rules and procedures shall not conflict with or contradict any portion of the district guidelines. In the event of a conflict, the district guidelines will be followed.

At the beginning of the school year, dance team members must have earned the designated number of credits in state-approved courses towards graduation at the scheduled time: 10th grade – at least 5.0 credits; 11th grade – at least 10.0 credits; 12th grade – at least 15.0 credits.

To ensure the district guidelines are review and updated as needed, the Executive Director of Fine Arts will arrange a required annual meeting with campus sponsors.

ELIGIBILITY - TRYOUTS

To be eligible for tryouts, a dance team candidate must be enrolled as a student in the Richardson Independent School District. Any student who was not enrolled and actually in attendance at the beginning of the school year at the RISD school where he or she desires to tryout must:

- otherwise meet the minimum eligibility criteria; and
- if a newly enrolled student, must be enrolled and in attendance in classes in the RISD school no fewer than fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the tryout.

PHYSICAL EXAMS & PERMISSION SLIPS: All candidates must complete and turn in required permission slips, including a medical release form, prior to participation in any tryout activities. In addition, all candidates must pass a physical exam and the record must be on file with the director before the team member can participate in any team activities.

All candidates must have a medical history form and annual examination form on file prior to tryouts.

ORIENTATION MEETING: All candidates must attend a scheduled orientation meeting accompanied by a parent/guardian prior to the beginning of the tryout workshops. All candidates will be advised in writing of requirements, duties, responsibilities of dance team members, and consequences of rules violations prior to tryouts. All parents and students will have an opportunity to discuss concerns and ask questions with the director and/or principal prior to completing and signing the agreement form in which the parent and student confirm their understanding and willingness to comply with all applicable rules as a condition of participation in the dance team.

TRYOUT PROCESS

- Workshops and audition dates will be scheduled by the school.
- The number of workshops will be at the director's discretion.
- Students who wish to audition for the team are required to attend all mandatory tryout clinic dates. Exceptions will be made for emergency situations at the director's discretion.
- Directors will evaluate student skills and performance throughout the clinic week and will score them using the Directors Rubric that accounts for 20% of the final score.
 - Returning members will be evaluated throughout the year.
- Tryouts before the judges will be held on one day.
- Eligible candidates must tryout in person in front of the judges, unless an alternate tryout method or a reasonable accommodation for an otherwise qualified student with a disability is approved.
 - Students who have proof of medical restrictions that prohibit them from fully performing during tryouts may be allowed an accommodation to submit video evidence of skill performance taken in the current academic year that allows judges to consider and evaluate the performance skills in question.
- A student may participate in the dance team tryout process at only one RISD school each school year.
- All returning members must be in good standing to audition.
 - This includes meeting financial commitments and program expectations.
- Students who are not safely prepared for the audition may have their tryout modified by campus staff. This could include, but is not limited to modifying dances or stunts, eliminating portions of the audition, or not auditioning at all. Final discretion will be up to the campus administrator overseeing the auditions.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING:

- Tryouts for team membership will be closed to parents and the public. Only authorized persons may be present in the tryout room. Candidates will try out in groups not to exceed six students. Each candidate will be scored independently by each judge.
- Callbacks, if any, will be at the judges' or campus administrator's discretion.
- The categories used in judging will be announced prior to tryouts and may include any of the following:
 - Technique (25 points)
 - Athleticism/Stunt ability (25 points)
 - Showmanship (15 points)
 - Memory (15 points)

- Director Evaluation (20 points)
 - Returning members will be evaluated throughout the entire year, per rubric.

JUDGES AND SCORING:

- A panel of three qualified judges will evaluate candidates for the Country and Western dance team.
- An effort will be made to secure impartial judges who are not acquainted with any candidate. An individual who has attended any RISD high school during the four years prior to the school year in which tryouts take place may not serve as a judge.
- The judges' score sheets will be collected by a school administrator immediately after the candidate is scored. The will maintain the score sheets in accordance with the applicable records retention requirements (1 year).
- A candidate's scores and score sheets constitute confidential student information. To ensure all scoring is properly verified, score sheets will not be available for review by the candidate's parent or legal guardian until the week following the tryout announcements. A parent/guardian may request to view only the scores for his or her student.
- The list of candidates selected as dance team members normally will be posted within twenty-four hours after tryouts.

MEMBERSHIP:

- RISD District Guidelines do not specify a certain number of members for any school; however, the number will not exceed forty members and up to six officers (46). Ideally, a team should have a minimum of twenty-four members. The principal will determine the final number of members. To maintain membership in the Country and Western Dance Team after selection, a student must meet the requirements as outlined in these guidelines.
- Each campus may have up to one alternate boy and one alternate girl to serve the team as needed throughout the year. This will be at the discretion of the principal and directors.
- Selection of officers and partners will be at the sole discretion of the director. Any members auditioning for an officer position must have at least one year of membership in the program.
- Students will be selected based on their scores beginning with the highest score for each gender until the requisite number of candidates is selected.
- In the event of an illness or an injury that prevents a member from participating on the team, the next available student from the try-outs may be brought up at the discretion of the director.
- Directors may add team members from the audition process up until November 1st as team needs dictate. The campus principal shall approve the addition of team members after the initial list is published after tryouts.

APPOINTMENT PERIOD AND PERPETUATION: Selection for membership on the dance team is for one school year only, which runs from the date of selection through the date on which the next team is selected. All interested candidates (returning and new) must audition on a yearly basis.

SAFETY & CONDITIONING STANDARDS

Safe practices and adequate conditioning are of paramount importance for each dance team and are vital to efficient athletic performance. A warm up period with stretching and

flexibility exercises is required before any practice or performance and important to reduce injuries. Students who sustain injuries are encouraged to seek proper medical attention. No student will knowingly be subjected to any unsafe situation. Students will learn and demonstrate mastery of stunt ability in a controlled environment prior to all performances. Students will be assessed for safety and performance abilities. Students may have modifications to their routine, may opt out with director discretion, or may not perform for a specific performance. Directors will work closely with all students to ensure they have mastered all performance aspects before participating in each event.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

- Official summer practice may begin no earlier than three weeks prior to the opening day of school. The amount of time spent in summer practice shall not exceed a total of forty-five (45) hours in any one-week period (Monday through Saturday), and no more than six hours in any one-day. Sunday practices are prohibited.
- No required summer practices will be allowed for a minimum of six continuous weeks during the summer. Each school may designate the six-week period in which practice will not occur for that dance team. During that six-week period, the school, director, coach, or students cannot organize any practice, formal or informal
- A dance team director will supervise all required dance team practices from start to finish. At no time may dance team members be left unsupervised during practice.
- Unscheduled or informal practices of the team are not allowed.

PRACTICES

- Fall practice and performance outside the school day may begin no sooner than three weeks before the first day of school and will end no later than the last day of the performance season.
- The principal must approve all practice dates and times.
- Members must attend practice sessions as instructed by the director.
- Practice time outside the regular school day will be limited to a total of eight hours per school week. The school week is defined as beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the first instructional day of the calendar week and ending at the close of instruction on the last instructional day of the calendar week, excluding holidays.
- Morning practice for Country Western Dance Team can start no earlier than two hours before the first bell of the school day and the time of morning practices is included in the eight-hour rule during the school week, regardless of start time.
- No practices may exceed a maximum of 2½ hours in length.
- No more than two practices per day, including class time, are permitted.
- **Sunday practices are prohibited.**
- All required practices will be supervised by a director from start to finish. At no time may team members be left unsupervised during practice.
- No informal team practices may be scheduled.

PERFORMANCES

- The dance team director, in cooperation with the principal, will determine the eligible number of team members for a performance.
- Dance team members may not perform at any activity unless the director or an appropriate school official is designated to oversee the activity and is present at all times during the performance.

- Attendance at all performances is required unless adequate approval from the director has been obtained in advance.
- Any member who is absent from a performance for any reason other than personal illness, religious holiday, or a death in the immediate family, without at least two weeks prior approval of the director, is subject to disciplinary consequences under the school's constitution.

TRANSPORTATION

- The school district may provide transportation for dance team members for performances, practices, or special events.
- Teachers should not transport students in private automobiles except in emergencies or with prior written authorization from student's parent and the school principal.
- The District shall not be liable for any injuries that occur to students while traveling to or from a performance in private vehicles.

ATTENDANCE

Prompt and regular attendance at all practices and team activities is essential to a high functioning organization. Absences and tardiness will be handled consistently with school policy. However, subject to principal approval, the director reserves the right to remove a member from the program for excessive absences and tardiness. A member who is truant from one required performance will be placed on a three-week probation. A member who is truant from a second required performance may be removed from the team.

MAINTAINING ELIGIBILITY

CREDITS: At the beginning of the school year, dance team members must have earned the designated number of credits in state-approved courses towards graduation at the scheduled time: 10th grade – at least 5.0 credits; 11th grade – at least 10.0 credits; 12th grade – at least 15.0 credits. Failure to meet the required number of credits makes a team member ineligible and will result in automatic dismissal from the team.

GRADES: Dance team members must maintain a minimum grade average of 70 in all classes. *

*EXCEPTION: This requirement does not apply to a grade below 70 in a course designated as exempt from the No-Pass, No-Play rule.

INDIVIDUAL & CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

All students must maintain an Individual & Civic Responsibility grade average of 90 each nine-week grading period. Individual & Civic Responsibility grades in all courses, including exempt courses, will be averaged together (A = 95; B = 85; C = 75; F = 65).

A member who fails to meet the eligibility criteria listed in this section may be subject to probation or other consequence.

Failure to Maintain Academic Standards

Eligibility: All students will adhere to the UIL/RISD Eligibility Calendar.

CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY:

When a Dance Team member becomes ineligible, he or she:

- Must attend class, work periods, and all practices as scheduled during the period of ineligibility unless specifically excused by the director.
- May not participate in any team performances.
- May not wear the team uniform to school the day of the performance/activity and may not wear the team uniform during the performance/activity.
- May not travel with the team and may not represent the team in any fashion.

CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP: Each dance team member is assured of a position during the year in which he or she is selected only if he/she maintains continuous enrollment **during** the school year involved. In the event that enrollment is not continuous, reinstatement and conditions of reinstatement are at the discretion of the director and principal.

REMOVAL:

- A dance team member who receives a second failing grade in any subsequent nine-week period will be removed from the team.
- Dance team members who are removed from the team may tryout the following year if they meet all eligibility requirements.

CONDUCT, PROBATIONARY PROCEDURES, & REMOVAL

- Participation in dance team and other extracurricular activities is a privilege. Certain standards are necessary to maintain the integrity and reputation of any leading organization. Dance team members represent the school and district at all times. Each member must conduct him or herself in an exemplary manner at all times, whether during school, at a performance, or during leisure and social activities. The behavior, character, and personal appearance of each member should set a positive example for others at all times.
- Dance Team members should never be seen smoking, vaping, drinking alcohol, using any kind of illegal drug or other illegal substance, or engaging in any unlawful or prohibited activity.
- All members will adhere to the RISD Student Code of Conduct and Drug and Alcohol Guidelines.
- Students who have reoccurring issues with accountability, maintaining academic eligibility, or conduct unbecoming of a member will be counseled by campus administration, directors, and parents. A second disciplinary meeting may result in removal from the team and the ability to audition for future teams.

PROBATION:

- Students who have received consequences due to violations in the Student Code of Conduct and/or Drug and Alcohol Guidelines will not receive additional consequences from the dance team except as provided herein.
- Members may be placed on probation for behavior that is considered “conduct unbecoming”. The period of probation is at the discretion of the sponsor and campus administration, not to exceed two weeks.
- Prior to a dance team member being placed on probation or removed from the team, he/she will be notified in writing in a timely manner of the reasons for the proposed

action. A conference with the principal and the director will be offered to the parent and the student. The student will be given the opportunity to present his/her version of the events. A student or parent who is not satisfied with the outcome of the conference may contact the Fine Arts office to obtain information about any applicable grievance procedure.

- A dance team member who is on probation for disciplinary reasons may not participate in any team performance during the probationary period.
- While on disciplinary probation, a dance team member is required to attend the performance and must sit with the director until the team is released.
- While on probation, a team member may not wear the team uniform to school the day of the activity.
- During probation, the dance team member must attend practice as scheduled.
- Students who receive a second probation of any kind may be subject to removal from the team and will not be allowed to audition for the following school year.

DISCIPLINARY VIOLATIONS AND REMOVAL:

- A dance team member may lose performance privileges, be placed on probation, or removed from the team for violations of school and/or dance team guidelines or policies and procedures, serious misconduct, or other conduct or actions that creates disruption or interference with team operations.
- Removal from the team must be approved in advance by the sponsor, principal, and Executive Director of Fine Arts except as provided below.
- Dance team members who engage in conduct that results in expulsion will be automatically removed from the squad.

COUNTRY AND WESTERN DISCIPLINARY POINT SYSTEM

Infraction	Points
Unexcused absence from a required performance or event	2.5 points
ISS- Single Day	2 points
ISS- Multiple Days	3 points
OSS	6 points
CLMC	8 points

Upon accumulating a certain number of points, students may receive disciplinary probation or may be removed from the team.

- 5 Points - 3 Weeks probation
- 10 Points - Removal from the team

Students who receive a second probation of any kind may be subject to removal from the team.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

All anticipated costs for dance team membership will be discussed at the student/parent orientation meetings prior to tryouts.

REQUIRED EXPENDITURES: Required expenditures for dance team shall not exceed \$750 per member per dance team school year.

OPTIONAL EXPENDITURES: Expenses for trips, pictures, summer camp, and social events are considered optional, as students are not required to participate. A student's decision not to participate will not result in any adverse consequences.

FUNDRAISING

Country and Western Dance Team organizations and their parent booster groups may conduct fundraising events in accordance with the RISD and campus policies and guidelines. Funds may be used to pay for a recognition banquet for members, team uniform shirts, and to assist team members and/or the team to purchase additional items necessary for special events.

AWARDS AND GIFTS

- Team awards will be determined by the director and approved by the principal.
- If a student chooses to give gifts to other students or district employees, those gifts should only be an expression of appreciation, rather than a gift of significant monetary value. Expenditures by each student for gifts shall not exceed \$25 per year (all gifts).

UNIFORMS

- Country and Western Dance Team members must wear uniforms as designated by the director.
- The team will furnish uniform items used in public performances.
- The student will provide personal items such as socks, boots, hats, belts, jeans, etc.
- A record will be kept of all uniforms and equipment issued to members.
- All items issued by RISD must be returned in good condition with normal wear and tear excepted.
- A dance team member will be assessed the replacement cost of items not returned, items with excessive abuse, and/or items that might be unusable or destroyed due to improper use.

TRIPS

Country and Western Dance Teams may take an approved out-of-state trip no more than once every two/three years (BHS/RHS = 10-12 graders: once every 3 years; LHHS/PHS = 11-12 graders: once every 2 years). Exceptions must be approved by the Executive Director of Fine Arts and the Assistant Superintendent.

All trips will be completely voluntary for any member and the status of a member who chooses not to participate in a trip will not be negatively affected in any way.

APPROPRIATE SONG SELECTION FOR DANCE ENSEMBLES

The RISD Athletic and Fine Arts Departments expect that all directors, sponsors and staff will be mindful of appropriate content when selecting music to perform at public events. All music selections shall be appropriate for a school-aged audience. Song lyrics that portray questionable content shall not be used without advance approval of the campus administration prior to performance at any district or public event. This expectation applies to campus and off-campus performances.

Directors must consider the following filters when selecting songs or choreographing a routine:

- Any lyric or suggestive content referencing alcohol, drugs, or sexual content will not be allowed.
- Profanity of any kind will not be allowed. Bleeping or using the clean versions is acceptable as long as the content and message is appropriate.
- Songs without lyrics may be used at each sponsors discretion.
- Contact the campus principal and/or RISD Athletics or Fine Arts Department for guidance and approval if any question arises when selecting songs.
- Campus administration will have the final say in appropriate content and song selection.

Richardson ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct 2024-2025

Statement of Expectations:

The Richardson Independent School District believes that being involved in extracurricular activities is an honor. Participation in one or more of these activities should be considered a privilege, not a right. The following are expectations of our students:

- ✓ Obtain a quality education as the primary reason for attending school
- ✓ Compete at the highest level while promoting good sportsmanship and courteous behavior
- ✓ Exhibit positive leadership
- ✓ Develop and maintain high morals and ethical values
- ✓ Exhibit conduct becoming of a young adult
- ✓ Exhibit respect to coaches, faculty, officials, opponents and fellow students
- ✓ Develop and show school pride

Standards for District Extra-Curricular Activities:

Richardson ISD students are expected to adhere to the District Student Code of Conduct as it applies to school-related and/or school sponsored activities. Prior to participation in a Richardson ISD Extracurricular activity, students and parents must also agree to abide by all guidelines outlined in the Extracurricular Code of Conduct. Students involved in extracurricular activities are expected to maintain high standards of ethical conduct. Extracurricular participation is a privilege and not a right. Any misconduct that reflects negatively on the Richardson Independent School District will fall under these Codes of Conduct. These guidelines are developed to deal with misconduct that occurs within the school's jurisdiction as well as outside of the school's jurisdiction, regardless of time or location. Disciplinary action or suspension will be mandated to students who are involved in any disciplinary infraction on or off campus including, but not limited to possession or use of drugs, improper use of prescription medicines, alcohol or tobacco, violent behavior, any inappropriate behavior including presence at functions where illegal substances are being consumed and other offenses that result in the violation of the district Student Code of Conduct, which in turn results in a In School Suspension (other than tardies or dress code violations), DAEP, Off Campus Suspension or expulsion. In the event that a student is responsible for multiple violations prior to the initial investigation it may be determined that a higher-level consequence be deemed appropriate.

Automatic student removal from a program:

Any inappropriate behavior, including representation on social media, that is disrespectful to the district, school, program, or staff may result in immediate removal.

***RISD District-Wide Guidelines for Extracurricular Students:
Alcohol & Illegal Drugs
(Revised March 2023)***

RISD expects that all students, including students who participate in any Extracurricular Activities (Extracurricular Students) will conduct themselves at all times in an exemplary manner that brings honor to the District, their school, and themselves. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and is conditioned on the student's compliance with all rules and regulations of the activity and District policies and guidelines, including these guidelines. The use, possession, sale, or furnishing to others of alcohol or drugs of any kind and/or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances is strictly prohibited (the Prohibition). Any student who violates the Prohibition is not in compliance with the rules of extracurricular participation and will be subject to disciplinary measures, which could result in removal from the extracurricular activities in which the student participates.

These guidelines and statement of consequences apply to all extracurricular activities sponsored by the Richardson Independent School District and to all Extracurricular Students. The purpose of these guidelines is to deter and eliminate any use, possession, sale, or the furnishing to others of alcohol or other drugs, help students avoid drug and alcohol use, establish consistency in consequences across all activities for students who do not comply with the Prohibition, promote a high quality educational experience in all activities and assist RISD in maintaining order and a safe learning environment and to promote a high level of civic and individual responsibility among students.

Extracurricular students are subject to these guidelines at all times throughout the twelve-month calendar year, whether the extracurricular activity is "in season" or inactive and on weekends and during school holidays. Refer also to Board Policy FO (Local).

To ensure consistency among activities, these guidelines shall be used by all extracurricular groups. However, nothing in these guidelines prohibits an extracurricular activity sponsor from developing activity guidelines and rules to address topics other than alcohol or illegal drug activities.

The following definitions will apply to these guidelines:

- Leadership Position- A position or office an Extracurricular Student holds in an organization or group either by election or appointment. Such positions may include without limitation: captain, officer, squad leader, drum major, section chair, etc.
- In Proximity – To be captured via still picture, video, internet site, social media feed, site, etc., or any other electronic capture where the school determines based on reasonable evidence that the student knows or should know he/she is (i) in a place where alcohol, illegal substances, and/or drug paraphernalia are present, and/or (ii) possessing, using, and/or being under the influence of alcohol, illegal substances, and/or drug paraphernalia. (*e.g.*, Social media posts show student at social event where alcohol is visible and being consumed; social media post shows student posing in front of cases of unopened alcohol; Student captured holding and/or consuming alcohol or illegal substances at a sporting event; Picture of student holding drug paraphernalia).
- Parent- A student's biological or adoptive parent or parents, legal guardian, or other person in lawful control of the student.
- Period of removal- Period of time during which an Extracurricular Student is excluded from any participation in an extracurricular activity due to violation of the Prohibition. During a period of removal, an Extracurricular Student may not wear his/her uniform, travel with the team or organization, or otherwise act as a representative of the team or organization.

- Prescription Drugs- A drug authorized by a licensed physician specifically for that student. A student who uses a prescription drug in a manner prescribed by the student's physician and who has followed school policies in such use shall not be considered to have violated this policy.
- Possession- To have an item in or on one's personal being or property, including without limitation, clothing, purse, backpack, private vehicle, motorcycle or bicycle used for transportation to or from school or school-related events, telecommunication or electronic device, or other property used by the student such as a desk, locker, or storage area.
- Use (Alcohol/Substance) - Voluntarily introducing into one's body, by any means, a prohibited substance. For example, and without limitation, consuming or ingesting alcohol in any manner is "use" of alcohol; smoking or ingesting marijuana, an unlawful derivative or look-alike of marijuana, or other illegal substances is "use" of marijuana or other illegal substance.
- Extracurricular Activities- School sponsored activities including but not limited to Dance & Drill Teams, Bell Guards, Cheerleaders, Spirit Groups, Sports, Fine Arts, Clubs, UIL governed Activities, Mock Trial, ACDEC, and other school sponsored student activities unique to a campus.

An Extracurricular Student violates the Prohibition if he or she:

- Uses, possesses, sells, or furnishes alcohol or illegal substances to another;
- Receives an MIP (Minor in Possession), MIC (Consumption of Alcohol by a Minor), DWI (Driving While Intoxicated), DUI (Driving Under the Influence of an Illegal Substance), or other citation for the illegal use or possession of alcohol/drugs, or furnishing alcohol/drugs to another in a non-school setting; *Note:* An Extracurricular Student who receives an MIP, MIC, DUI, DWI, or other alcohol/drug citation shall promptly notify the activity sponsor. An Extracurricular Student who fails to do so may be subject to further disciplinary action once the activity sponsor or administrator learns of the offense; is observed by a faculty or staff member using, possessing, or furnishing to another student any drugs, including alcohol, on or off school property (observation via internet site, video, still picture, or other media will be considered);
- Receives any citation for or is arrested for illegal alcohol/drug activity or substance on or off school property (*See Note* above);
- Performs or participates in an extracurricular activity while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- Is determined to be In Proximity to alcohol, illegal substance, and/or drug paraphernalia.

Process: When an activity sponsor or campus administrator learns that an Extracurricular Student has violated the Prohibition, the sponsor or administrator will attempt to gather as much information as is available about the suspected violation and shall immediately communicate with the student and his/her parent to review the information. The sponsor or administrator will take reasonable steps to ensure the student and his/her parents are notified of the suspected violation of the Prohibition and to offer the student and his/her parent a meeting with the administrator and/or sponsor and give them an opportunity to provide information about the student's suspected actions. Parents and/or students who refuse to promptly meet with the sponsor or administrator forfeit their opportunity for a conference. The administrator or sponsor will determine the start date for the consequence and will notify the student and his/her parent in writing of the start date and reasons for any consequences imposed.

When a student self-reports a violation of these guidelines that does not result in the issuance of a citation or other penalty from law enforcement before the District otherwise learns of the student's actions, the District may, in its sole discretion, consider the student's self-report as a mitigating factor to support a reduced probationary period for a first offense.

A student or parent who is not satisfied with the outcome of the conference or the principal's decision may appeal the decision through the District's Student and Parent Complaint Policy (FNG (Local)), but the

consequence will not be delayed during any appeal. Copies of the policy are available on the District's website or may be obtained from the school.

CONSEQUENCES

All Extracurricular Students are expected to comply with these guidelines. An Extracurricular Student who does not do so is subject to disciplinary action. While some offenses may be so severe that they will result in immediate removal from the extracurricular activity and/or Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) placement, where appropriate, the District will consider allowing a student who violates the Prohibition to serve a last chance probationary period if the violation is the first instance in which the student has failed to comply with these guidelines.

First Offense: Probationary Removal. Except where the severity or circumstance of a student's offense is so severe that immediate removal to DAEP or expulsion is required, a student's first violation of the Prohibition will result in the Extracurricular Student's (i) removal for the remainder of the school year from all leadership positions he or she holds, including any such positions that the student might seek or be appointed to later in the school year; and (ii) except where the first violation also results in DAEP placement or expulsion, removal from all extracurricular activities for 20 school days or UIL Competition dates. (*See below.)

- The 20 school days or UIL Competition dates removal period start at the parent /student / principal conference. If the parent/student forfeits the conference, the principal will determine the start date;
- During the 20-day removal period, the student and the parent must attend and successfully complete the RISD alcohol / drug educational program. Students may be required to have follow-up sessions with the Intervention Specialist on campus. The student is responsible for all fees associated with the program. A student and parent must complete the educational program before the student will be reinstated after the removal period.
- If the leadership position from which the student is removed is connected with a credit bearing class, the student may continue to remain enrolled in the class and the sponsor will determine appropriate activities for the student.
- Students must participate in practices for the extracurricular activities while on probation.
- Students may not wear or display identifying team or activity uniforms, attire, or accessories.
- If competition or performance is scheduled during the summer or on a school holiday (excluding weekends), any days on which the student's team or group actually competes or performs will be counted toward completion of the 20-day probation period.
- "UIL Competition Date" means a day on which the individual or group actually competes or performs in a UIL or Non- UIL sponsored activity when the school is represented.
- If the conduct results in the student's placement in a DAEP, the period of removal will be for the duration of the DAEP placement.

If the student violated the Prohibition due to him/her being determined to be In Proximity without possession, use or being under the influence, and the student has not already violated the Prohibition due to being In Proximity, the student may avoid the applicable consequence (Probationary Removal or Removal) for the In Proximity violation provided the student and his/her parent/guardian (i) participate in an administrative conference with the principal, and (ii) successfully complete the alcohol/drug program by the date assigned along with any follow up with the campus intervention specialist as determined by the principal. A second Violation due to the student being In Proximity will be treated as a first or second offense and subject to the applicable consequence (Probationary Removal or Removal).

An Extracurricular Student can receive only **one** probation period for violating the Prohibition during the students' high school career.

Second Offense

A second offense will result in removal from all extracurricular activities for 60 days and removal from leadership positions for the remainder of the school year.

- If the infraction occurs and/or is discovered 60 or less days prior to the end of the school year, the student will be removed from all extracurricular activities and leadership positions for at least 60 school days or UIL Competition dates. The removal days may extend into the next school year.
- Students may not wear or display identifying team or activity uniforms, attire, or accessories.
- Students may not travel with the team or organization, or otherwise act as a representative of the team or organization.
- At the beginning of a new school year, an Extracurricular Student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities and to pursue future leadership positions after a second offense if the student has “sat out” of all extracurricular activities for no less than 60 school days or UIL Competition days and has otherwise complied with all conditions of his/her removal for the second offense.

Third Offense

A third offense may result in the student’s removal from all extracurricular activities for the remainder of their school career.

**2024-2025 Extracurricular Activity Acknowledgment
and Agreement Form**

Student Statement:

My signature below certifies that I have read and understand the RISD District-Wide Guidelines for Extracurricular Students. I agree to comply with all rules and regulations in these guidelines and any additional rules adopted by my school as a condition of participation as a member of an extracurricular activity. I understand that my failure to comply with these guidelines may result in disciplinary action, including dismissal from all extracurricular activities.

Printed Name of Student

Student Signature

Date Signed

Parent/Legal Guardian Statement (for students under 18 years of age):

My signature below certifies that I have read and understand the RISD District-Wide Guidelines for Extracurricular Students. I understand that my student must comply with all rules and regulations written in these guidelines and any additional rules adopted by my student's school as a condition of participation in an extracurricular activity. I understand that his or her failure to comply may result in disciplinary action, including dismissal from all extracurricular activities.

Printed Name of Parent or Legal Guardian

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date Signed

2024-2025 RISD HIGH SCHOOL COUNTY WESTERN HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

This Handbook is provided for your information. We hope it will make your experience in the Dance Team as beneficial as possible. Organizational information, descriptions and schedules are covered in this Handbook. Please read them and sign the following acknowledgement form and return it to the dance team sponsor. All forms must be on file before the first day of school. If you have any questions, please contact your director or the Fine Arts office for more information.

Student's PRINTED Name:

I HAVE RECEIVED AND READ THE 2024-2025 RISD HIGH SCHOOL DANCE TEAM HANDBOOK AND WILL OBSERVE ALL GUIDELINES FOUND THEREIN.

Student Signature

Date

I HAVE RECEIVED AND READ THE 2024-2025 RISD HIGH SCHOOL DANCE TEAM HANDBOOK AND UNDERSTAND HOW IT APPLIES TO MY STUDENT.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date