



# **2019-2020 Spear-it Dancer Tryout Packet**



## **Tryouts:**

**Clinic Dates (learning the material):** April 29, April 30, and May 1, 2019=  
4:00pm-6:00pm

**Final Tryout day:** Thursday, May 2= 4:00- ???

(if you are in a spring sport and have a conflict with any of the above dates please contact Tosha Borgfield = [tborgfield@jr2mail.org](mailto:tborgfield@jr2mail.org) to make an alternate schedule)

**All dance sessions will be held at the High School Multipurpose Gym**

**For those who make the team (mandatory):**

1. **Dance Fitting: Monday, May 13, 2019 at 4:00pm @ East Elementary**
2. **Parent Meeting: May 20, 2019 at 6:00pm @ East Elementary**

Dear Potential JHS Spear-it Dancer:

Welcome to the 2019-2020 dance tryouts! We are so excited for next year, and can't wait to see all of the amazing talent you possess. **Please read and understand** all the enclosed information before tryouts.

If you have any questions, please contact Tosha Borgfield at 243-5271 (East Elementary) or email [tborgfield@jr2mail.org](mailto:tborgfield@jr2mail.org).

We look forward to seeing you!

Sincerely,

*Spear-it Team Coaching Staff*

### **Dance Tryout dates:**

\*tryouts will be closed; no spectators will be allowed

April 29-May 2, 2019 @ **the High School Multipurpose gym** (please note the times mentioned on page 1). If you are unable to make the tryout dates, please contact Tosha Borgfield at 243-5271 (between the hours of 8:00 and 3:30) or email [tborgfield@jr2mail.org](mailto:tborgfield@jr2mail.org) by Monday, April 22nd for further information.

### **Eligibility Requirements:**

- 3.0 Credits-(not the same as GPA) will need to see report card from most recent completed semester
- Current Physical Form (MSHSAA form attached)
- Completed Teacher Recommendation forms from all teachers
- Permission form (attached)
- Proof of Insurance (you can still tryout if you do not have insurance)
- Tryout application filled out

Teacher recommendations for tryouts must be received by **April 26, 2019** to Tosha Borgfield and physicals must be turned in the first day of tryouts. **If you have a physical on file from this school year, it will work for tryouts but will need one before summer practices begin.** **If ANY of these forms, grades, or attendance does not meet the requirements, you will not be allowed to try out.**

### **Selection of dancer:**

As does every sport or extracurricular activity here at Jackson, the coaches will be making the selection.

### **What to wear for clinic dates and try outs:**

Plain white tank top (sports bra under needs to be white/black/gray or red), plain black bottoms with or w/o tights; tennis shoes or jazz shoes. Hair needs to be worn in a high, tight ponytail. If wearing a bow, it needs to be red, black, gray, or white (or combo of those colors). **All piercings must be removed.** \*You will be evaluated for your appearance and ability to follow directions for appearance.

**Teacher Recommendations:** Attached you will find teacher recommendation forms for all your teachers. Please hand these out as soon as possible to your teachers so they will have time to complete and return to Tosha Borgfield at East Elementary before the deadline (April 26). You are not to see any of the recommendation forms after they have been filled out. Your recommendations will be factored in to your final evaluation of tryouts. Please have your name and grade on each form before you give it to your

teachers. **If you are trying out for 9-12th grade cheer and already turned in teacher recommendations you do NOT have to do them again.**

**Parents:** Being in high school, there is more responsibility placed on the dancer. Please understand we will do all of our communication through the dancer and will expect them to relay the messages. Also, practices are CLOSED! No one is allowed in during practices. The dancer will contact either Tosha or another dance coach when unable to attend practice or any dance event. If ill, we will need a doctor's excuse (if applicable). Other obligations will not always be excused. You must have VERBAL consent from 1 of the coaches for it to be excused. If you do not have VERBAL consent, then it is not excused and if you do not show up to the event, you will be dismissed from the team.

Dancers must voice their concerns to the Dance Coaching Staff when there is a problem/conflict.

Please trust that we will handle problems/issues with the dancer if such shall arise.

Dancers are responsible for letting their parents know of the practice, competition and games schedules.

**What will be expected of you if you make the team: (This is all MANDATORY)**

- Adhere to Jackson High School Role model- moral code, JHS Spear-It Dancer contract and guidelines noted in tryout packet, JHS and MSHSAA guidelines
- **Mandatory choreography camps** The dates are **TBA** (normally a Friday evening and all day Saturday in July or August); Another mandatory choreography camp will be arranged in the fall (this normally takes place on a Friday evening and all day Saturday in October or November; a Sunday could also be a possibility). If a dancer misses a camp they will still be responsible for the choreography fee and **they** will need to arrange for another dancer to learn and teach them their part (it will be unexcused if advance notice isn't given; you will need to make sure at tryouts you see Tosha immediately if you have any conflicts this summer or fall. Also note- if the dancer quits or is dismissed from the team or is unable to compete due to sickness (etc) choreography fees will not be refunded. If all dances are learned there may be an option to add another dance to the season (fun non-competition dance; pep rally dance)- there may be another weekend when this would be learned. 2019-2020=Dates that I know we would **NOT** have a camp= 1.July 4-13 Tosha has a mission trip 2. dead week Aug.3-Aug.11.

- We have the option of participating in 2-3 competitions ranging in dates usually the 2<sup>nd</sup> and/or 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in January and State is usually mid to last Saturday in February. We will discuss as a team what would be best for the 2019-2020 dance team. **Please note:** at tryouts the coaches will determine how we will operate the team. Here are some examples of scenerios we could have 1. two teams= game performance team and a competition team (two years ago we had one large team who did two routines for game performances then we also had select members of that team learn an additional routine that competed -the members who didn't make it on the competition team were alternates). 2. One team (with or without alternates) that does both game performance and competition 3. One team (with or without alternates) that only does game performances and we do not compete.
- ALL practices, games, fundraisers and any other dance function. We dance ONCE at the SEMO Christmas Tournament (held around Dec.26-30). You will need to block Dec.26-30th off for dance. I will not know the exact date until the first-second week of December (when the tournament bracket is made; we normally dance at Jackson's 2nd or 3rd game of the tournament).
- Dance season starts mid August and usually ends in late February/early March. (We will also condition with the cheerleaders throughout the summer.) Practices are usually twice a week throughout the season (there is a little more wiggle room in Sept/Oct to miss a practice with advanced notice -and taking strike(s) that can be worked off; season fully starts in November and practices should not be missed). Additional practices may be added if needed! Depending on the team's progress we may have to add practices on days we are out of school and/or meet during Christmas break 1-2 times to prepare for our SEMO tournament appearance. We are hoping to have practices on Mondays and Wednesdays (but days may be changed due to scheduling/finding a gym). Times may also change- sometimes we can do after school and other times may be in the evening. Practices normally run 1.5- 2.5 hours long twice a week. The 2018-2019 season we had practice on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from August to October and then Mondays and Wednesdays Oct-March 3:30-5:30. I have the new middle school gym secured for practices at this time for 2019-2020 (same times/days as 2018-2019 schedule). (We sometimes get booted out of our gym- so location could change).

**Attendance:** Your attendance is REQUIRED at all dance functions! Missing a function is cause for immediate dismissal.

\*We will need a calendar of what your upcoming summer looks like. We will also ask for another calendar in the fall of any scheduled events/family functions. If you're planning on taking a summer vacation please mark it on your calendar. Once the basketball schedule comes out I will give the dancers their fall/winter calendar of events.

**Price outline: (approximate prices)** Please know that we will try to keep these prices as close to the estimate as possible but all amounts are estimates only..... We will try to fundraise if we have enough interested. You may pay in payments over the summer (or longer if needed- please see Tosha if a different payment schedule is needed). ALL optional items will need to be paid at the time of ordering.

**Estimate:**

Choreography: school may pay the majority for this (some years it has been completely paid for and some years average \$150 per dancer; I should know the answer in July).

Music: already being paid for by the school

Warm-up jacket (we used in 2018-19): \$120 (it is the last year for this warm-up jacket; next year 2020-2021 we will get a new jacket that will be used for 3 years)

Leggings for hip hop= \$55 (new for 2019-2020)

Top for hip hop= \$50 (new for 2019-2020)

Tennis shoes for hiphop= \$65 (new for 2019-2020)

Bows: \$42 (1 white rhinestone bow; 1 black rhinestone bow- these are the same bows from 18-19)

Poms: \$20.00 (same as 2018-19)- one metallic red/one metallic black

Shoes: tan jazz pair=must be Revolution brand (\$25) - and a black pair (\$25)= same as 2018-19

Black dance pants= Varsity brand \$60 (new for 2019-2020)

Tights: 2 pairs of tan \$16.00 (same as last year); and a black pair (\$8)

Makeup kit- girls will be required to buy a RED lipstick and a gray smoky eye kit

Eyelashes-girls will be required to buy black eyelashes for performance use.

Optional backpack: sparkle from Varsity= \$95 (with JSpear and name)

Sequin body crop \$65

\*\*Everything that is purchased by the dancer gets to be kept by the dancer. (We have a team dress and a team sequin top that dancers will borrow and then turn back in at the end of the year. They will also be given team practice poms. A fee may be issued for team items turned in damaged or uncleaned.)

**Fundraising:**

We will be in charge of working at one home football game in the concession stand.

This will be for **parents** to help out with. When we have that date, we will let the parents know and they can sign up to work in shifts. It is very important that we have enough parents to work the concession stand as **The Tribal Council** helps support our squad monetarily. (This money helps with competition fees, Senior banners, hotel costs, etc). Any other fundraisers may be an option if enough interested (to go towards your fees mentioned above).

Jackson Senior High School  
Spear-It Dancer Contract  
2019-2020

## **Philosophy**

- a. Being a dancer is an honor and a privilege.
- b. Dancers will strive to boost school spirit, encourage sportsmanship, and encourage student participation at every event.
- c. Dancers and Cheerleaders are the school's most effective leaders.
- d. Appropriate behavior and attitude are required and expected at all times.
- e. Scholastic achievement comes first and is a key component of dance. Please keep us informed if you are struggling with a class (if your grade is a C or below). If you are failing a class, you need to let one of the coaches know ASAP.
- f. Dancers need to abide by all school rules and cooperate with school officials at all times.
- g. By working together, we are teaching teamwork and pride in quality performance through maintaining higher standards.
- h. The main goals of the coaching staff are to develop responsibility, teach respect, encourage honesty, and develop character.

## **Scholastic Requirements**

- a. 3.0 credits must be maintained (per MSHSAA guidelines). We will do grade checks periodically with your teachers.

## **Attendance**

- a. All games, practices, meetings, pep rallies, fundraising events, and all other dance related activities are mandatory.
- b. Arriving late and/or leaving early from above events for doctor's appointments, other extracurricular activities, etc., is not excusable. Practices are usually only twice a week. PLEASE schedule any appointments around practice days and performances.
- c. If a dancer is sick and unable to attend an event the dancer or her parent must notify the coach in advance. Relaying a message through other dancers or friend will not be accepted.
- d. A member must be in attendance of school for at least four hours to participate in any dancing events that day.

## **Excused Absences**

- a. An illness documented by a doctor's note (if applicable).
- b. A death in the family

**\*\*Work, homework, doctor's appointments, other extracurricular activities are not excused. If it is a school related activity, it will be dealt with on a case by case situation. We will try our best to work with you if given plenty of advance notice.**

## **Reasons for Dismissal from the Squad**

- a. Unacceptable GPA (not meeting grade guidelines set by MSHSAA)
- b. Inappropriate behavior deemed by the coach in or out of school that reflects poor citizenship in her community. This also includes insubordinate attitude toward coach, faculty member, staff member, school official, or other team member.
- c. Unsportsmanlike conduct.
- d. Failure to follow the Drug/Alcohol Policy as required by the school.
- e. Not following any rules established by the Jackson School District or MSHSAA.
- f. Three strikes (For instance, if the dancer has 2 strikes on her record and the coach allows her to work them off, however, the dancer doesn't set up a time with the coach w/n two weeks of the strike being issued to work them off and gets a 3<sup>rd</sup> strike then the dancer may be dismissed from the squad).

## **Game/Practice/Character Policies**

- a. All members must arrive fully dressed in uniform or practice-wear.
- b. Uniform needs to be worn completely to the game and kept in good/clean condition. Every girl should feel a sense of pride by this appearance. Hair and makeup should be done before arriving at the game. (If uniforms borrowed from the team are turned in at the end of the season damaged, a fee will be charged).
- c. Excessive talking and horseplay will not be tolerated. Safety is our primary concern.
- d. NO jewelry should be worn at practices, games, and/or any other dance events per MSHSAA guidelines.
- e. Everyone will work hard to achieve personal and team goals.
- f. Dancers should not be engaged in any form of Public Displays of Affection.
- g. Members must be courteous and friendly to other teams, squads, and visitors.
- h. Team members must display a positive moral character on social networking websites (i.e. Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.) through photos and speech. Please remember that you are representing your school in a leadership role.

## **Strikes**

Strikes can be issued throughout the year by the coach for a variety of reasons: forgetting items needed for a game/performance (poms/bow/shoes/tights/etc), negative attitude, late/tardy to a game/performance/practice, poor display of character in social networking etc. The coach will issue a strike or strikes at the time of the occurrence and verbally tell the dancer. **If** the coach allows the dancer to "work off the strike(s)" the dancer will be RESPONSIBLE to arrange a date/time b/n herself and the coach to work the strike off (2 weeks is given after the strike is issued to work the strike off). This will be discussed in further detail at the parent meeting as well. By signing the permission

to tryout form you are consenting to the strike policy. Please note that the Coach has the discretion after issuing a strike/strikes to either allow or not allow the dancer to "work off the strike". This is to avoid dancers thinking if they miss a practice/game (equals 3 strikes) that they can continue to take strikes and work them off during the season. (Working off one strike takes approximately 30min-45min). Any strikes remaining on a dancer's record at the end of the season will need to be worked off through community service (set up through the dance coaching staff) in order to attend the end of the year banquet/receive awards, etc.

## **Banquet**

Our end of the year banquet will be in the middle to late March (sometimes early April). 9<sup>th</sup> grade-12<sup>th</sup> grade girls may be assigned a duty for the banquet (i.e. juniors typically are in charge of decorating; 9-10<sup>th</sup> grade girls may be responsible for bringing drinks/cups/ice). Senior girls may bring their picture board for display (can be the same used as for Senior Night). We have done a dessert banquet in the past to decrease the cost per person. If a dinner menu is provided then there will be a higher cost per person attending the banquet. We have also done a potluck signup in the past. More information will be given at a later date.

The purpose of this contract is to set guidelines so we can be the best team possible. It is important to realize that dancing is an honor and a privilege. In order for everyone to achieve her goals we must work together and encourage teamwork and personal responsibility in a positive atmosphere.



# JHS SPEAR-IT DANCER TRYOUT APPLICATION

\*this tryout application/permission form must be completed/signed in order to tryout.

## Personal Information (please print clearly)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level (2019-2020): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Phone Numbers (Home/ Cell):

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Numbers (Home/ Cell):

\_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name and phone number (relationship to you):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Medical Information:

1. Are you allergic to any medications? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes please list: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Are you currently taking any medications? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes please list:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Are you currently being treated for any injuries? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes please list:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Dance Participant:

I have read and understand the preceding JHS Spear-it Dancer Rules. By signing this contract, I agree to abide by the rules and safety standards of MSHSAA, the policies and expectations of JHS, and the coaches' decisions for the good of the program. If I choose not to follow these guidelines, I understand there will be consequences for my actions. I realize the consequences of poor behavior or inappropriate actions may be severe.

Dancer's Printed Name/ Date

Dancer's Signature and Date

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## Parent Section:

I have read the JHS information packet, and I agree to allow my child to participate in the JHS Spear-it Dancer Tryouts/Program. I also agree to allow my child to be governed by the policies outlined (but not limited to the content) in the JHS Spear-it Dancer Contract if she were to be chosen. I understand all the requirements and consequences of improper actions. I understand the advisor has final say in my daughter's remaining on the team.

Parent/Guardian's Printed Name/Date

Parent/Guardian's Signature and Date

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**List your teachers here so we may check them off as we receive their evaluations:**


## Check List for Tryouts:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- Teacher Recommendations- (If you completed these for 2019-2020 High School cheer tryouts you do not need to do these again). These are for the candidate to pass to all teachers they meet with throughout the school day. You may want to check to make sure your teachers have completed the form. Teacher will send to Tosha Borgfield through interoffice mail to East Elementary. NO CANDIDATE IS ALLOWED TO SEE THE FORMS ONCE THEY ARE FILLED OUT! They should NOT be turned in by the candidate at all! These are due by April 26, 2019. Please give to your teachers as soon as possible!
- MSHSAA physical- use the form attached- make sure all 4 pages are completed!
- Copy of report card- Last semester 3.0 credits
- Tryout application/tryout packet read/signatures
- Proof of insurance (if you have insurance)
- Summer calendar (dancer will provide)



# Spear-it Dancer Candidate

## Teacher Evaluation

Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade entering 2019-2020 \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Course/Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Date received: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade in class: \_\_\_\_\_

Please rate the dance candidate on the following:

- |                       |      |      |      |           |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|-----------|
| • Behavior in class   | poor | fair | good | excellent |
| • Attitude in class   | poor | fair | good | excellent |
| • Treats others       | poor | fair | good | excellent |
| • Would represent JHS | poor | fair | good | excellent |

Comments:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and return this form, through interoffice mail, to **Tosha Borgfield at East Elementary by Friday, April 26th**. Do not give back to the student to hand in. All information given will remain confidential and will only be viewed by the Spear-It Squad Sponsors. Thank you! If not in Jackson R2 district or if you prefer you can email [tborgfield@jr2mail.org](mailto:tborgfield@jr2mail.org).