

# Simon Dance Department

Guidelines and Expectations

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## ***Simon Mission Statement***

*The mission of Simon Middle School, a diverse, pioneering community built on relationships and acceptance, is to sculpt and cultivate motivated, contributing citizens through both success and failure while broadening horizons and building confidence.*

## **Dance at Simon**

This syllabus outlines the standards of conduct and behavior to which all SMS Dance group members are expected to adhere as representatives of their student body and of the Hays CISD. Continued membership shall be in accordance with this contract, and based on ability, skill, presentation, conduct, and/or other bases set forth below.

Failure to comply with the standards of conduct and behavior outlined in this contract may subject the member to disciplinary action.

## **Purpose of the Organization**

The purpose of the Simon Middle School Dance Department is to incorporate the study of dance to offer unique experiences and empower students to explore realities, relationships, and ideas. These disciplines engage and motivate all students through active learning, critical thinking, and innovative problem solving. The fine arts develop cognitive functioning and increase student academic achievement, higher-order thinking, communication, and collaboration skills, making the fine arts applicable to college readiness, career opportunities, workplace environments, social skills, and everyday life. Students develop aesthetic and cultural awareness through exploration, leading to creative expression. Creativity, encouraged through the study of the fine arts, is essential to nurture and develop the whole child.

## ***Expectations for class:***

- P. Be on time and prepared with all needed materials
- R. Respect Individual and School Equipment
- I. Keep hands, feet, and objects to self
- D. Follow directions immediately, given by any Simon Staff member
- E. Actively participate

## **Grading Procedures:**

60% Major Grades (skills Test, Written Tests, Performances)

40% Daily Grades (Dressing out, Daily Warm-up drills, Journals)

Students will receive daily grades for skills demonstrations, warm-up technique, dressing out and daily exit tickets. Dance is a performance based class therefore all students are required to participate in all movement activities. Students will start each class with a grade of 100%. Points will be deducted for incompleteness of daily drills or assignments, not dressing out, and wrong dance uniform.

## **GRADING STANDARDS**

Hays CISD expects students to give their best effort the first time an assignment is made or a project or test is given. To ensure this quality of work, the following rules apply:

1. Teachers are required to record a minimum of one daily grade per week and a minimum of three major grades per grading period for each content area.
2. Minor grades will count for 40% and major grades will count for 60% of the overall grade for a nine-weeks grading period. All semester exam grades will count as 1/7 of the semester grade.
3. Teacher discretion may be used to determine what assignments constitute a minor or major grade, except for district-required Curriculum Based Assessments which are to be recorded as a major grade and eligible for reassessment.
4. Students have five school days from the time an assignment or test is returned to the student to receive re-teaching and to re-do assignments or take re-tests. The re-teaching, re-submitting, and re-testing within the five school days is scheduled at the discretion of the teacher.
5. Corrections made to an assessment do not constitute a reassessment. Students must participate in re-teaching prior to any assessment.
6. Students may re-submit assignments and re-test only one time per assignment. The following assignments are not eligible for resubmission: major projects and midterm, final, and benchmark assessments. Grades on benchmark assessments will be derived from material that has only been previously taught.
7. Students have two school days from the time a missing grade is posted in the grade book to make up the missing work.
8. Students may receive a maximum grade of 70 on all missing or re-submitted assignments and tests.

## **Non- Participation:**

There is NO excuse for not dressing out besides illness and injury that has been reported to the teacher by a parent or doctors note. Every student enrolled in dance is required to actively participate. If a student is ill and cannot participate, the student can bring a parent note which will allow them to sit out for 2 consecutive days. As well as if a student is ill and cannot participate,

the student must bring a note from the Doctor for the entirety of their injury/illness. When a student is sitting out, an alternate assignment will be assigned.

### **Storage cubbies**

Students will use storage cubbies to store their items during the class period. This being said, dancers must bring and take their dance clothes each day to school. There are no locks so it is advised never to leave money or items of value in your cubbies. The dressing room will be kept closed and locked during class so belongings are kept secure. Cell phones are NOT allowed to be used or out in the dressing room under any circumstances.

### **Dressing Room/ Dance Class Procedures:**

- Dancers have 5 minutes to dress out in required attire from when the tardy bell rings.
- Wait until the 5 minute dressing room bell until dancers may proceed onto the dance floor.
- Upon entering the dance floor dancers will start on their daily drills in assigned spots.
- Dancers will be dismissed to the locker room 10 minutes before the release bell for the next period.

### **Cell Phone Policy:**

Cell phones are NOT allowed to be out during class at any time, unless specified for a class activity. Please leave your phones off and secure in your backpack. Any cell phones seen during class or in the dressing room will result in immediate removal of the device and sent to the office. Please refer to SMS Cell Phone Policy below:

1. Take the phone up and turn into the office for student pick up at the end of the day.
2. Take the phone up and turn into the office for parent pick up at the end of the day.
3. Take the phone up and turn into the office for a \$10 fine to be paid upon pick up. Money is to be donated to the Hays Clothing Closet. All repeat offenses will continue to receive a \$10 fine.

### **Dressing Out and Attire:**

All students are required to dress out for dance each and every day in the specified uniform. The students will be informed ahead of time if they do not need to dress out.

#### Dance 1,2 and Dance Team Requirements

- District Dance Shirt (purchased through the school, once in person instruction begins)
- Plain black t-shirt with sleeves (no crop top, no V-neck)
- Black tights (no holes, no see through, no designs)
- Hair ties
- Jazz tan shoes

**Performances:**

Dancers enrolled in Dance 1 and 2:

All dancers are required to dance in necessary performances for a major grade, which includes winter show and spring show. Auditions will be held for other performance opportunities. If for some reason a student cannot attend a major performance, a parent or guardian must contact the teacher well in advance.

Dancers enrolled in Dance 3:

All dancers are required to dance in necessary performances for a major grade which includes the Hays District Performance, Pep-rallys, LHS Spring Show, Winter Show and Spring Show. If for some reason a student cannot attend a major performance, a parent or guardian must contact the teacher well in advance.

Dance Class Resource:

**Simon Dance Website for more links on dance wear and information:**

<https://smsdance.weebly.com>