Fillies Pre Try-Out Info 2025-2026

Dance Team Purpose:

• The purpose of the Fillies Dance Team is to promote school spirit and a positive school climate through performances and activities deemed appropriate by the Fillies Director. The Fillies are expected to serve as ambassadors of Lake Olympia Middle School.

Dance Team Expectations:

- Academic: All members must maintain passing grades at the end of each 6-week & 9 Week grading period. Failing to do so will cause ineligibility status, the UIL No Pass No Play rule applies!
- **Behavior**: All members must treat EVERYONE with respect. We have a "No Drama" policy! Members must not present themselves in any manner unfavorable, questionable, illegal, or in such a way as to bring discredit, dishonor, or disgrace to their peers, themselves, or the dance team organization. Any member violating these rules will be subject to disciplinary actions ranging from sitting out of a performance to dismissal from the team. *I review all discipline and academic reports for each candidate prior to auditions.
- Practices: We practice on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:15 to 6:00. Additional practices may be scheduled if deemed necessary. <u>All members are required to attend all scheduled practices. Practice dress code is always required. More information regarding the practice dress code will be given after the team has been announced. Dancers must be picked up from practice and performances promptly! Failure to comply can result in a member being dismissed from the team.
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- **Performances**: All members must be present at ALL performances! Each member's guardian is responsible for transportation arrangements to & from the performances, unless otherwise stated.
- Attendance: All members are required to attend/participate in all scheduled practices, performances, competitions & fundraisers. The Director may add additional appearances when necessary. If absent from school, a dancer may not perform at that day's performance should there be one. Unexcused absences can result in disciplinary action from sitting out of a performance to removal from the team.

<u>Try-Out Eligibility</u>

- Try outs are open to all incoming 7th, and 8th grade students in good academic and discipline standing.
- Discipline and attendance reports will be reviewed
- Candidates' campus principal must sign-off on student being eligible to audition. Eligibility form and physical due on or before April 17th.
- Students may not audition if he/she is failing as the 3rd 9 Weeks.

Try-Out Process

- There will be 3-day clinic preceding try-outs where girls will learn the required routine to be performed at tryouts.
 - $\circ~$ Try-outs will be held in LOMS practice gym on April 25th @ 4:30pm.
- Each day, dancers will warm-up, stretch, and practice dance technique and the try-out routine.
- The tryout routine has basic to advance skills implemented to help build skill set.
- I highly encourage all candidates to keep a growth-mindset, remain positive, and ask questions for help when needed.
- Please encourage your candidate daily!
- Leadership positions are open to all incoming 8th graders



- Candidates should come focused, and ready to learn.
- Candidates should be on their best behaviors and utilize effective listening skills.
- If any candidate presents themselves in any manner unfavorable, questionable, illegal, or in such a way as to bring discredit, dishonor, or disgrace to their peers, themselves, or the dance team organization, he/she will be asked to leave and will lose the opportunity to audition.
- 3-5 (8th grade) dance leaders will be selected to lead the team (officer line).
- Grade and conduct history will be highly considered.
- Officers must make the team first, before being considered for an officer
- Officer candidate try-outs include an interview and choreography portion.
- Candidates will be given a number; this will be their identifier.
- Candidates will try out in front of 3 judges, and are critiqued on:
 - Execution, Showmanship, Memory of choreography, Fundamental dance skills
 - We use a "yes" or "No" system. 2 judges must document "yes" in order for your child to make the team.

<u>Try-Out Gear</u>

- Dancers must be in proper dance attire for the entirety of clinic and try-outs. <u>Dancers are expected to wear a white</u> top and black bottoms April 22nd 24th. On the actual try-out day, April 25th, all candidates must wear all black.
- Proper Dance Attire includes*: Leotards, t-shirts (no crop tops), tank tops (no low cut), jazz pants, jazz shoes, leggings, biker shorts, Soffe shorts, hair pulled back, no dangling jewelry.

Try-Out Schedule

Clinic Day 1:	Tuesday, 4/22/2025 @ 4:15 – 6:00pm
Clinic Day 2:	Wednesday, 4/23/2025 @ 4:15 – 6:00pm
Clinic Day 3:	Thursday, 4/24/2024 @ 4:15 – 6:00pm
Try-Outs Day	Friday, 4/25/2025 @ 4:30 - end*

*All dancers auditioning will be required to stay at try-outs until everyone has auditioned

Fundraisers:

- All dance team members will be expected to participate in fundraisers throughout the year. ***Additional fees may be incurred throughout the year depending on fundraising efforts***
- Fundraisers help support the entire dance season, from after-school snacks, team parties, costumes, awards, and so much!

Expenses:

- New member cost is approximately \$875.
- The cost will be split up and the due dates are spread throughout May & June.
- Cost for returning members will vary; returning members will need "new items" and if you need replacement items.

Thanks for your time! I am EXCITED about the 2025-2026 LOMS Fillies! Should you have additional questions, please contact Mrs. T. Emery 281-329-4778 (school phone) torri.washington@fortbendisd.gov