

KMS Dance Team Information and Contract

Eligibility Requirements

- A. No student shall be eligible to participate if they will be 15 on or before **August 1st**
- B. Candidates must have an **overall** academic average of a **“C”** or better to be eligible for tryouts. This average is required to be maintained throughout the season. Copy of previous semester final **grade report** should be submitted with tryout documents.
- C. Candidates must have the **Sports Physical Form** filled out by a medical doctor that states they have passed a physical examination. This must be given to the sponsor on **Monday, April 28th** in order to try out. Most Walk-in Clinics will perform a sports physical as well.
- D. Each candidate and parent/guardian must have submitted the **KMS Dance Contract agreement page, Registration, Physical, tryout fee, grade report, and Waiver** by **Monday, April 28th**. **Printed copies of the full Contract are available by request.**

Tryout Schedule and Information

- A. All dance skills necessary to tryout will be taught during the mandatory **after-school** clinics on **Monday, 4/28, Tuesday 4/29, and Thursday, 5/1**. Clinics will be held from 3:45-5:30 in the KMS Gym. Wear comfortable clothes and tennis shoes/jazz shoes/turn shoes. Bring a water bottle.
- B. Tryouts will be held on **Friday, 5/2 from 3:45pm-approximately 6pm** depending on the number of candidates.
- C. Candidates should wear **black t-shirts without design and black shorts** and tennis shoes/turn shoes/jazz shoes for **try-outs**. **Hair should be pulled back. No jewelry.**
- D. Candidates may change in the large bathroom across from the library for tryouts and be in the gym no later than 3:45.
- E. All candidates are expected to be on time and present for all clinic days and tryouts.
- F. Clinics and tryouts are closed to everyone other than judges and school administration. No parents/guardians, students, or friends are allowed to watch or be present inside the building.
- G. Dancers are chosen by the score they receive from the judges. Judges have extensive dance experience. The Dance Team Coach contributes 25% of the score from Clinics. Tryout scores from judges are weighted 75%. These figures are set by School Board Policy.
- H. The members selected for the 2025-2026 Team will be posted by the participant's tryout number on the front door of the building and our webpage no sooner than **8:00pm** on the day of tryouts.
- I. The decision of the judges is **FINAL**. Harassment of judges, sponsor, teacher, administrator, and/or dancers selected demonstrates poor sportsmanship and will not be tolerated.

Financial Responsibility

- A. Being part of the KMS Dance Team requires an understanding that it is a financial obligation. Dancers are responsible for uniforms (including poms, shoes, and other accessories), camp, team fee, and Athletic Insurance. The estimated cost of uniforms and gear is \$400, camp \$180, team fee \$25, and insurance \$60.
- B. Dancers are required to participate in Knox County Schools' Athletic Insurance Program. It is a **mandatory** athletic secondary insurance. It begins in the fall and only covers while at supervised dance practice at the school and while performing at ballgames. The cost is estimated to be \$60.00 per athlete. This will be collected from all dancers that are selected for the team in the fall.
- C. All costs accrued for returned checks will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

Expectations

- A. Being part of the team is a time commitment. Mandatory practices will be held twice per week during the school year, typically Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30-5:45 beginning 5/6.
- B. Summer practices will be held weekly on Wednesdays from 9am-12pm with the exception of mandatory TSSAA dead period from June 22nd-July 5th.
- C. We will attend a **MANDATORY** camp at a local Dance Studio on August 8th and 9th. **If your dancer is not able to attend camp, you should not try out for the team.**
- D. Parents/guardians will assist the team by transporting dancers to events, running concessions at some basketball games, helping with fundraisers, taking photos and videos, chaperoning events, and assisting with wish list items.

Attendance

- A. Dancers must be present AT LEAST half a day of school on the day of a game in order to perform.
- B. The sponsor must approve absences from games. A written note must be given to the sponsor.
- C. Dancers must attend all practices. Only the sponsor has the authority to excuse the dancer from practice. A written note must be provided for missed practices.
- D. If student leaves school early on the day of practice or game, the sponsor must be notified of the absence via Remind App. Do not relay messages through another dancer.
- E. **Excessive absences, including leaving practice early, may be cause for dismissal from the team.**
- F. In addition to home basketball games during regular season, the team will participate in any home basketball playoff games, the Karns Christmas Parade, Fantasy of Trees, and other community events with prior notice to families, as well as competitions.

Behavior and Sportsmanship

A dancer is a school representative and must uphold the standards set by **Karns Middle School**. It should **NEVER** become necessary for a dancer to be suspended or to have disciplinary action brought against them. Should this happen, appropriate action will be taken at the discretion of the sponsor and administration.

Dancers must exhibit and promote good sportsmanship at all times, especially during games. Poor sportsmanship includes booing, gestures, negative chanting, or any other bad behavior seen by sponsor, game officials, or school personnel. Negative remarks towards other dance teams or cheerleading squads are NOT acceptable.

Discipline

In order to assure that the dancers' responsibilities are equally shared, a Demerit System will be used. This includes absences from scheduled and called practices, failure to fulfill assigned duties, unbecoming behavior at school, on the bus, school functions, practices and games, and failure to participate in events. A dancer's behavior should be an example for others to follow and must therefore be above reproach. Each dancer is expected to adhere to the rules of the school, as well as, the Dance Team's rules and responsibilities.

If a Dancer is dismissed from the team for any reason there will be no refund of any fees paid.

- A. Any dancer receiving OSS (Out of School Suspension) **will be dismissed** from the team for the remainder of the season, no questions asked. If dismissed from the team, you may not try-out again.
- B. ISS (In School Suspension), First Offense: **1 game suspension**, Second Offense: **Dismissal from the team** for the remainder of the season AND may not try-out again.
- C. Any Dance Team member who fails to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner will be immediately dismissed from the team at the coach's discretion.
- D. A total of **(15)** accrued demerits will result in automatic dismissal from the team.
- E. Demerits may be given for offenses not mentioned if the sponsor sees fit. The demerit system is as follows:

5 Demerits

- Unexcused absence from a ballgame (this will additionally result in the dancer sitting out the next ballgame. The dancer will be required to attend, in uniform, but not be allowed to perform)
- Rudeness or inappropriate behavior at school, bus, or school events that does not result in OSS/ISS
- Each unsatisfactory conduct grade
- Talking badly about another member of the team, the team in general, or sponsor
- Inappropriate social media behavior whether wearing KMS Dance gear or not

4 Demerits

- Unexcused absence from practice
- Going to the Dance Room without permission OR bringing non-team members into the team room

3 Demerits

- Failure to wear assigned uniform or team attire to events when instructed
- Leaving class early for dance activities (unless dismissed by sponsor or school personnel over the intercom)

2 Demerits

- Failure to dress appropriately for practice
- Excessive talking, laughing, horseplay, use of phone without permission, and general goofing-off during practice or game.

1 Demerit

- Failure to turn in documents by required dates (permission forms, report cards, etc.)
- Late pick up from practice or event

Should you have any questions, please email me at
Brittany.williamsjaynes@knoxschools.org

I look forward to meeting the dancers and am excited for a great clinic and tryout!

Best of Luck,

Brittany Jaynes

KMS Dance Team Sponsor

KMS Dance Contract

Cut on the above line and return by **Monday, April, 28th** along with the following:

1. \$20 registration fee in envelope marked with participant's name (cash or check made to KMS)
2. Completed Sports Physical signed by physician within the past year
3. Copy of most recent grade report
4. Registration Form (attached)
5. Signed tryout waiver (attached)
6. Dance Contract (read the document online, cut off the lower portion of this form and return)
Contract can be found at: <https://www.knoxschools.org/Page/5597> on the team web page or by scanning the QR code with your smart phone:



We have read and understand the information included in the Dance Team Contract. We agree to all of the rules, expectations, and guidelines listed. We understand that the above forms and fee must be turned in by April 28th at 3:30pm in order to participate in Clinics and Tryouts.

I have read and understand the Dance Team Information and Contract provided online: **(please check)**

-Attendance and involvement commitments____

-Financial commitments____

-Behavior expectations____

-Academic expectations____

Dance Candidate Printed Name: _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____ Signature _____ Date _____