

2024-2025 Chapin Legends Dance Company Handbook

Director- Mrs. Jessica Warner

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At Chapin High School, being a Legend is an earned privilege. Our dancers represent every aspect of Chapin High School, and therefore must set a great example in our school and community at all times. Each dance member will be expected to uphold the standards of the school while attending school, as well as in the community. The following guidelines have been established so that selected Legend members will have an understanding of the expectations, requirements, and responsibilities that surround being a part of the Legends Dance Company. The opinions and decisions of Mrs. Warner and the administration will be upheld in all matters. The term "dancer" will refer to both female and male participants when applicable.

I. PURPOSE

- A. To create concert-style dance performances
- B. To refine and expand dance skills for future dance endeavors at the college or professional level
- C. To develop relationships among other dancers and local dance professionals
- D. To support Chapin HS and represent Legends in a professional manner

II. MEMBERSHIP

- A. **Selection to the company does not guarantee performance time.** Every dancer must audition for each performance.
- B. Previous participation in the company does not guarantee placement in the company for the following school year.
- C. Dancers must have a completed UIL physical exam on file with the CHS Athletic Training Office by the start of school. **Physicals should be obtained after May 31st of the given year.** Dancers may not participate until physical is on file.
- D. **Dancers must be enrolled in the Legends class, which is typically 8th period**

IV. EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

- A. Dancers will host and perform in a Fall and Spring semester dance performance
- B. Football games, select basketball games, pep rallies, campus & district events
- C. Dancers will perform at the EPISD Dance Festival and other various events, depending on preparation, readiness and effort
- D. TDEA Conference in Houston, TX- One selected All-State Dancer
- E. Depending on upcoming opportunities and budget, dancers will be able to attend local dance workshops and performances
- F. Any time that buses are not available for events, transportation will be the responsibility of the individual dancer and/or parent

V. ACADEMIC

- A. Each dancer must maintain a grade of **70% or better in every subject (Pre-AP & AP courses do not count towards eligibility)** for all UIL eligibility grading periods.
- B. Dancers are encouraged to attend tutoring if they are failing or are in danger of failing. However, tutoring should be scheduled as to not conflict with rehearsals and performances.
- C. Ineligible dancers are not allowed to perform while ineligible.

VI. ATTENDANCE

- A. Dancers must attend all rehearsals made available. Failure to attend these rehearsals will affect participation in performances.
- B. All personal appointments, tutoring, make-up work, etc. should be scheduled on non-rehearsal, non-dance class time. If this is not possible, arrangements must be made with Mrs. Warner and it will impact a dancer's ability to perform.
- C. Dancers who are unable to attend any company activity must notify Mrs. Warner beforehand unless there are extenuating circumstances.
- D. Dancers who are involved in other activities, organizations, dance studios, athletic teams or are employed in a job that compromises his/her effectiveness to Legends must resolve conflicts. Rehearsals and performance dates are provided monthly so personal schedules may be adjusted.
- E. Dancers are expected to report to all classes on time, including Legends class. Unexcused absences and tardies are unacceptable.
- F. Failure to adhere to the preceding attendance policies will result in disciplinary action.

VII. MEDICAL

- A. All dancers must have a current physical on file at school in order to participate. Physicals should be obtained from doctors practicing in the United States.
- B. If a dancer is in a state that prevents them from participating for an extended period of time, a doctor's note must be provided.
- C. Any dancer who becomes pregnant during the company year will be removed from the company.
- D. Any dancer who is injured and unable to dance may wear their dance warm-ups to school, performances or other events. **Injured dancers must remain with the company/Mrs. Warner during performances/events unless their physical states them from doing so.**

VIII. REHEARSALS / PERFORMANCES / EVENTS

- A. Dancers should take pride in the CHS dance studio as well as all performance areas. Therefore, it is expected for dancers to take care of the dance studio- no gum, food, sodas, street shoes in the dance studio.
- B. Dancers are expected to stay for the duration of the event that they are attending (no arriving late or leaving early) and must remain in the

designated “dance” area for the duration of the event unless there is an emergency or uncontrollable circumstance.

- C. Dancers who auditioned for a piece and were placed as alternates must still attend performances/events.
- D. Dancers must devote their attention to the performance/event and may not visit with friends, family or spectators, talk on cell phone or text.
- E. Dancers may not wear any jewelry during dance class, rehearsals, or performances. Stud earrings are acceptable.
- F. It is important to be flexible as rehearsals, performances, and events may be added on short notice.
- G. Failure to adhere to the preceding policies will result in disciplinary action.

IX. OUTFITS / CLOTHES

- A. **Dancers must meet all financial responsibilities for necessary company dancewear or dancer will be removed from the company due to ordering deadlines. No exceptions. Cost varies from year to year. Returning members can reuse some dancewear items from one year to the next. Pricing will be given at the parent/dancer meeting following auditions for selected dance company members.**
- B. Dancers will be issued some school-purchased outfits for their use during the Legends calendar year. These outfits are the property of Chapin High School and must be returned at the end of the Legends calendar year, or in the event that the dancer is removed from the company. If the outfit is not returned, there will be a deficit with the CHS Business Office. Seniors with unpaid balances will not receive their diplomas until outfit is paid for or returned in good condition.
- C. Items purchased by company members/parents will be the property of each company member. All items purchased by the district or school, or by fundraising monies, will become the property of CHS. Personal dancewear or CHS dancewear that becomes lost, damaged, etc. must be replaced by the company member at the replacement cost.
- D. Dancers are required to be in full, correct outfit at performances and events (selected by director).
- E. Each company member is responsible for the maintenance of their assigned costume (which includes care throughout the year and cleaning the costume before turning it in at the end of the dance calendar year), and their purchased uniform. Uniforms must be returned in good condition. Uniforms (to include shoes, etc.) may not be worn if they are soiled.
- F. Company members may not wear any part of their uniform off campus or after school other than for company related activities. Dancers may wear warm-ups as they wish, but must follow all company rules, act accordingly and follow school dress code.
- G. Company members should not lend any part of their uniform to company or non-company members.

X. CAPTAINS

- A. Dance Captains will be selected from the company to act as student leaders through additional audition requirements. These dancers must show excellent leadership skills and mastery of the dance styles the company performs. Only former company members will be eligible to audition for dance captains. Dance captains will be in charge of keeping the group on task and will assist with rehearsals, choreography, warm-up, the planning of group events and delegating different tasks to other company members.

XI. MEDIA / TECHNOLOGY

- A. Cell phone use is prohibited during company activities including rehearsals, performances and events. Cell phones must be placed in the “silent” position prior to arrival at company activities.
- B. Inappropriate use of technology (i.e. cell phones, text messaging, internet use (Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, snapchat or any other social network) with photos, video, etc. that either violates the Chapin High School code of conduct and/or is unbecoming, will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to, status updates, pictures (tagged in, on a wall, album, etc.), videos, bullying, references to drugs, alcohol, or tobacco use, etc. Dismissal from the company or demerits will be assessed for any inappropriate use, at the discretion of Mrs. Warner. Use of drugs and/or alcohol will result in automatic removal. Dancers are expected to always act and speak like respectable young adults.

XII. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- A. Demerits
 - **1 demerit will be earned when a dancer:**
 - is seen wearing jewelry (other than stud earrings) in dance class, rehearsal or while in costume/warm-ups
 - fails to wear dance attire, including hair pulled back, during dance class and rehearsal
 - is chewing gum during class time, rehearsals, performances or events
 - is on cell phone during class time, rehearsals, performances or events (acceptable during breaks and at conclusion of activity)
 - **2 demerits will be earned when a dancer:**
 - wears the wrong costume or piece of costume to a function
 - is seen kissing or showing inappropriate affection (in or out of outfit/warm-ups)
 - **3 demerits will be earned when a dancer:**
 - does not follow directions during class time, rehearsals, performances or events
 - **4 demerits will be earned when a dancer:**
 - wears warm-ups or costumes to unapproved event
 - does not attend mandatory company event (extenuating circumstances are excusable)
 - is rude/disrespectful to dance director, teachers or administration

- **5-9 demerits:** Suspended for one week, cannot wear warm-ups or costumes to school, performances, etc.
 - **10-14 demerits:** Suspended for two weeks, cannot wear warm-ups or costumes to school, performances, etc.
 - **15+ demerits:** Removed from Legends Dance Company
 - Mrs. Warner will keep records on all demerits throughout the school year
 - Company members will be privately informed of offences in person
- B. Suspensions (three weeks)
- Receives one Disciplinary Action Report (referral)
- C. Automatic Removal
- Placement in In-School Suspension or the Alternative Placement Program
 - Receives a second Disciplinary Action Report (referral)
 - Any dancer who becomes pregnant during the company year
 - Accumulation of 15+ demerits

The preceding handbook has been established so that the Legends Dance Company members of Chapin High School, and their parents, will understand the qualifications and requirements for the position of a dance company member. While these regulations cover the various aspects of dancing at CHS, they may not be totally inclusive. The opinions and decisions of Mrs. Warner and administration will be upheld in all matters.

Being a Legend Dance Company member at Chapin High School should be a fun and rewarding experience. The aforementioned handbook will provide the guidelines for a positive and successful year.