

2024 - 2025

River Ridge High School Dance Team

Tryout Dates: May 21,22,23

Time: 1:45pm- 3:00pm

Location: River Ridge High School Dance Room



Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Your student has expressed a desire to become a member of the River Ridge High School Dance Team. The attached packet of materials has been put together to give you an understanding of the personal and financial responsibilities of becoming a dance team member. Please read all the information regarding costs and policies with your student. Your signature is required to ensure that you and your student have both read and understood the expectations.

Auditions will be held on Thursday May 23rd, starting promptly at 1:45. Clinics will be held 2 days prior to the audition, May 21st and May 22nd, starting at 1:45. The expectation is that your student will attend both days of the clinic. This is when your student will learn the choreography for the audition. Clinic and tryouts will be closed to spectators

While deciding whether to be a part of our program, please remember and consider the time commitment this will require from both student and parent. Your commitment will involve participation in practices, pep rallies, summer camp, fundraising, after school performances, sports games, community performances, competition, and team bonding. If you have any concerns financially, please don't hesitate to reach out. We never want this to hinder a student from auditioning to be a part of the team. I look forward to an exciting clinic/audition and wish everyone the best of luck! If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at setaylor@pasco.k12.fl.us

Sincerely,

Sara Taylor

2024 - 2025 River Ridge High School Dance Team Tryout Candidate Information

Name: _____

Grade: _____ Age: _____ Current School: _____

Candidate's Email: _____

Parent/ Guardian Name: _____

Parent/ Guardian Email: _____

Parent/ Guardian Phone Number: _____

Answer the questions below honestly, they are just so we can get to know you!

1. Why do you want to be a member of the River Ridge High School Dance Team?

2. What do you think it means to be a member of the River Ridge High School Dance Team?

3. List your dance experience. (Optional, not required)

This tryout form must be completed, signed, and turned in by May 20th to qualify for Auditions. Forms may be turned into the RRHS front office, RRHS Dance office, or digitally at setaylor@pasco.k12.fl.us

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Tryouts: What to Expect

Dancers will learn a short jazz/ hip hop style combination and a lyrical combination. All combinations will be taught and reviewed throughout the 2-day clinic. We are looking for technique, potential, determination, and stage presence.

Some possible technical elements that could be in one or more of the combinations include:

- Grand Jete
- Turning 2nd jump
- Right & Left Splits
- Double Pirouettes
- Calypso
- A La second turns
- Head Springs

* Remember that dancers of all levels will be trying out. Do not be intimidated by or look down on others who are not at the same level of dance as you are. Showcase what you do best and give it all you've got!

- The entirety of tryouts is closed to the public.
- Dancers will audition all combinations in front of a panel of qualified judges and Mrs. Taylor.
- All dancers must exit the building at the conclusion of tryouts.
- Do not be late as we will begin promptly at 1:45pm every day.
- Communicate all tryout date/ time conflicts and expected absences at least 1 week in advance so that alternative arrangements can be made.

What to Wear:

- Any form fitting tank top or t-shirt and leggings or athletic shorts
- Jazz Shoes / Twyla's / barefoot / dance socks / no regular socks! - Hair securely pulled back & out of face in a ponytail, braid, or bun.

All tryout results are final. If you wish to inquire about the results, it must be done within one week of the tryout date. When inquiring, you and your dancer can only receive information that pertains to your individual tryout results. Please email setaylor@pasco.k12.fl.us with any questions or concerns.

If selected as a member of the 2024 - 2025 River Ridge High School Dance Team:

If you are fortunate enough to make the tryout and become a member of the River Ridge High School Dance Team, remember to be gracious and kind. Never take the team for granted because there are many young dancers who would do anything to be in your spot. Should you make the team, you must understand that it is a full-year commitment and that you are committing yourself to a team. Teammates do not quit and treat each other with respect and encouragement. If you are to become a member of the River Ridge High School Dance Team, you will be representing River Ridge High School Dance. You will be held to a higher standard and are expected to practice and perform to your absolute best. Being a member of the River Ridge High School Dance team will bring you many new friendships and experiences, and I promise that all the hard work will be worth it!

Weekly Practice Expectations:

Dance Team members that want to participate in jazz, contemporary, and lyrical with the team must take dance class at RRHS. These members will also compete in lyrical and jazz dances. Those that don't take dance class at RRHS will only be in the Hip Hop dances done for school events and possibly compete.

- NO phones in practice! They must be in your bag and out of reach unless you need to take a video of choreography.
- Be on time or early and come with a good attitude. As soon as you enter the room you should be warming up and stretching.
- Wear dance appropriate clothes, hair pulled back away from your face.
- Remember all choreography and have it ready to perform.
- If you are sick or have an excused absence it is your responsibility to come to the next practice knowing the choreography. It will not be retaught in practice.
- Participation in fundraising events.
- Continuously improve dance technique, fitness levels, and choreography retention.
- Maintain academic eligibility & behavior expectations of River Ridge High School to perform.
- 2 unexcused absences result in dismissal from the team.
- If you have a conflict with a performance, this must be communicated in a timely manner to Mrs. Taylor. 3 missed performances results in dismissal from the team.
- If you have a conflict with a practice, you must communicate with Mrs. Taylor at least 3 days before. If not, it will be an unexcused absence.
- If you are sick, you must communicate with Mrs. Taylor before practice, or it will result in an unexcused absence.
- If given an academic behavioral consequence by administration, further consequences will ensue with the dance team. If given ISS or OSS, possible suspension from the team can take place - subject to discretion.
- If you miss a rehearsal before a performance, you will not perform it, but you must still be there to cheer on your team.
- If you miss school the day of a performance you will not participate in that performance.
- You must sit with your team at all games and stick together during competitions for team unity.

- HAVE FUN!!!! (Remember there is a reason for all the rules, and ultimately that is to help us have a successful and fun year!) If you have any questions or concerns regarding auditions or expectations, please email Sara Taylor setaylor@pasco.k12.fl.us

River Ridge High School Dance Team *Estimated Yearly Costs*

\$200 – Includes: Jersey, Hoodie, Tank Top, shorts, pants

Shoes are purchased on your own

Optional: Jacket and/or backpack

Estimated Competition Fees \$200: If you are selected to go to competition, you are responsible for those fees too. We do fundraisings to cover fees/ individual fees. Typically, costumes are rented from the RR dance department. At times you will have to purchase costumes on your own.

If you make team, we will have our first team meeting 5/28 @ 1:30pm

Parents/Guardians are welcome to attend

Once school starts practices are held after school Tuesday and Thursday 1:40-2:40 in the RRHS Dance Studio

Currently Competition is scheduled for Jan 20th, 2025

Football HOME Schedule:

8/16 - Kick-off Classic

8/30 - Steinbrenner

9/20 - Hudson

10/4 - Mitchell

10/25 - Gulf

11/1 - Wiregrass

Winter Dance Showcase: Dec. 14th, 2024

FAME Showcase: Feb. 28th, 2025

Spring Dance Showcase: May 10th, 2025

****There will be a 2-3 days of dance bootcamp to get ready for the football season. Time is 9am-3pm.**

Once selected as a member please give me all the summer schedules so I can coordinate boot camps.***

