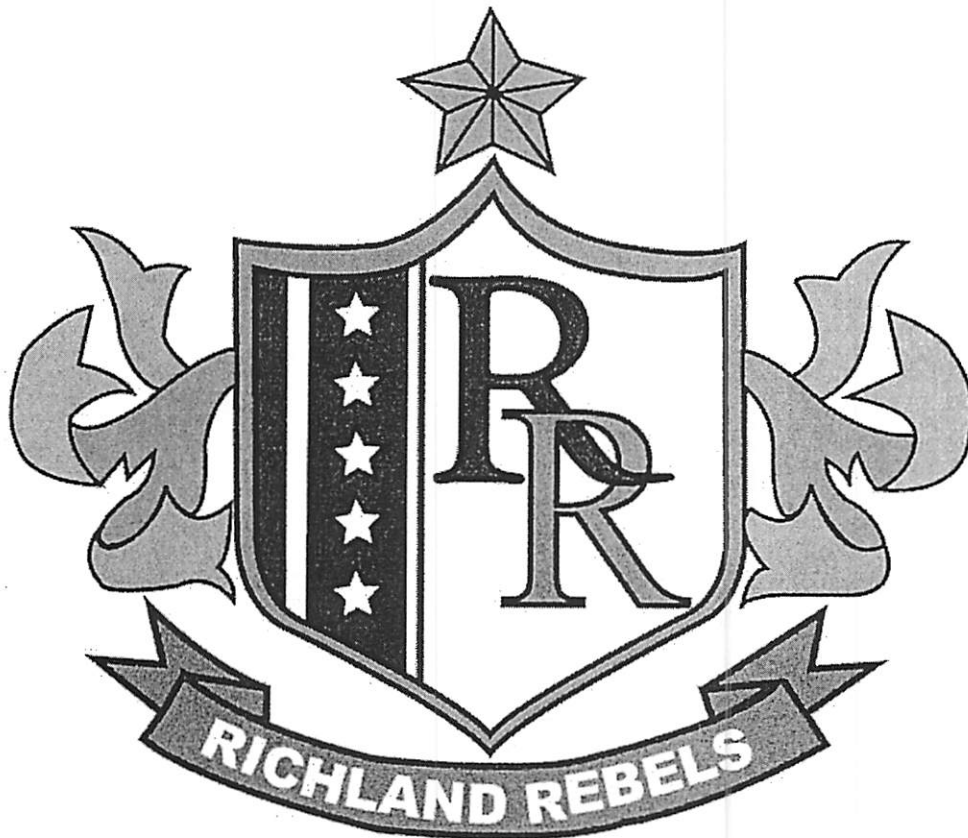


Richland High School



Cheerleading Tryout Packet

2015-2016

Please note: Mandatory Parent and Candidate Meeting Monday, February 23 at 6:30pm in the RHS Omni Room

2015-2016 Richland High School Cheerleading Tryout Packet Checklist (Cover Page)

Complete this page and turn in as the cover page of your packet.

Name _____ Grade for 2015-2016 School Year: _____

Check One:

Varsity/JV Cheerleader Candidate _____

Freshman Cheerleader Candidate _____

Candidate and parent must both initial the following boxes if you have read, understand, agree to, and filled out the information provided on each page.

To be turned in by Friday, March 6th, 2015:

_____/_____ Recent photo attached to back of application

_____/_____ RHS Cheerleading Candidate Application Form

_____/_____ RHS Cheerleading Medical Release Form

_____/_____ RHS Cheerleader/Mascot Waiver Form

_____/_____ Candidate/Parent Commitment Form

_____/_____ Copies of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Six Weeks Report Cards (4 total)

_____/_____ Candidate Discipline Form (must be given to Assistant Principal by Wednesday, February 25)

_____/_____ Teacher Recommendation Forms (must be given to all teachers by Wednesday, February 25)

For your records:

_____ Letter from Sponsor

_____ RHS Cheerleading Contacts

_____ RHS Cheerleading Tryout Information

_____ RHS Cheerleading Payment Schedule

_____ RHS Cheerleading Practice Schedule

_____ Judges' and Academic/Discipline Sample Scoring Sheets

_____ Extracurricular Honor Code

_____ Birdville ISD Cheerleader/Mascot Constitution

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Your child is interested in becoming a member of the Richland High School cheerleading squad for the 2015-2016 school year. If selected, your child must assume specific responsibilities and obligations in order to qualify and remain part of the squad.

Please read the attached pages carefully. These pages provide insight on the rules and regulations which govern RHS cheerleading.

The approximate cost for each cheerleader is in the range of \$800.00 - \$1,800.00. This amount includes the required uniforms, summer cheerleading camp, camp uniforms, and activity fee, and possible additional fees throughout the year including, but not limited to, stunt camps, outside cheerleading classes, personal items, etc. Fundraisers will be available to offset these costs.

Being a high school cheerleading parent requires not only a financial commitment but also a large time commitment. Cheerleaders will be required to attend summer camp, scheduled summer practices, practices before and/or after school during the school year, outside cheerleading classes, and various school events.

After reading and fully understanding the rules and regulations which govern RHS cheerleading, please discuss with your child the responsibilities and time commitment expected of RHS cheerleaders. If your child fully understands what is expected of her/him as a high school cheerleader and chooses to tryout for cheerleading, please complete all the forms included in this packet and return them to **Katie Grant**, Varsity Cheer Sponsor, no later than **Friday, March 6, 2015**.

Being a member of the RHS Cheerleading Squad has many rewards and is a valuable experience that your child will remember for a lifetime. We wish you a very positive experience. We appreciate your time and support.

Sincerely,

Richland High School Cheerleading Sponsors

Katie Grant, Varsity
Tess Flynn, Junior Varsity
Justine Barchus, Freshman

Richland High School Cheerleading Contacts

Richland High School

Attn: RHS Cheerleading; Katie Grant
5201 Holiday Lane East
North Richland Hills, TX 76180

Katie Grant

Varsity Cheer Sponsor
Office Phone: 817.547.7404
Email: kate.grant@birdvilleschools.net

Tess Flynn

JV Cheer Sponsor
Office Phone: 817.547.7619
Email: tess.flynn@birdvilleschools.net

Justine Barchus

Freshman Cheer Sponsor
Office Phone: 817.547.7217
Email: justine.barchus@birdvilleschools.net

RHS Cheerleading Tryout Information

Who: Anyone entering grades 9-12 that meets the BISD eligibility requirements

When: Mandatory Parent/Candidate Meeting: **Monday, February 23, 2015 @ 6:30pm,**
RHS Omni Room

Tryout Practices: **Monday – Wednesday, March 23-25, 2015 4:45pm – 7:00pm,**
RHS Dance Room. During tryout practice, candidates will learn a dance, cheer, and technical skills. Candidates **MUST** attend every tryout practice to be eligible to tryout. Practices are **CLOSED** to the public. Excused absences and extenuating circumstances must be approved by Mrs. Grant in advance.

Mock Tryouts: **Thursday, March 26, 2015 3:00pm – 6:00pm,** RHS Dance Room

Tryouts: **Saturday, March 28, 2015 9:00am @ Richland High School (arrive 8:30am)**

Tryouts will be closed to the public (no parents or family/friends allowed in the gym). Results will be posted as soon as made available to the coaches.

Mandatory Parent Meeting for NEW 2015-2016 RHS Cheerleaders: **Thursday, April 2, 2015 @ 6:30pm,** RHS Omni Room. **A \$250 deposit will be made at this meeting (This deposit secures a spot at camp as well as uniforms).**

Where: Mandatory Parent/Candidate Meeting: RHS Omni Room

Tryout Practices and Mock Tryouts: RHS Dance Room

Tryouts: Richland High School

Mandatory Parent Meeting for NEW 2015-2016 RHS Cheerleaders: Omni Room

What to Wear: Tryout Practice and Mock Tryouts: You must wear navy shorts, a plain white shirt, red bow and athletic shoes. Crop tops and sports bras are not allowed to be worn by themselves. **NO JEWELRY, GUM, OR NAIL POLISH** during practice or auditions. Your hair must be in a ponytail.

Tryouts: You must wear navy shorts, a plain white shirt, red bow and athletic shoes. **NO JEWELRY, GUM, OR NAIL POLISH.** Hair must be in a secured ponytail with bangs pinned out of your eyes. Your makeup should be darker than what you wear on a daily basis (heavy blush, mascara, eyeliner, eye shadow and pink or red lipstick).

RHS Cheerleading Candidate Application

Grade for 2015 – 2016 School Year (check one): 12th ____ 11th ____ 10th ____ 9th ____

Current School _____

CANDIDATE:

Name: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN:

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

All candidates: Please attach a recent photo of yourself to the back of this form. Please note: your photo **will not** be returned.

Richland High School Cheerleading Medical Release Form

This is required for participation in tryouts for the 2015-2016 RHS Cheer Squad if you **do not** have a current physical on file with the school.

(Note: If selected for a cheer squad, a complete athletic physical is required for the 2015-2016 school year).

Medical Release:

To the best of my knowledge,

_____ (cheerleader candidate) is physically capable to participate in the strenuous activities associated with Richland High School Cheerleading Tryouts and, if selected as a member of the cheer squad, may continue to practice until May 1, 2015.

Physician's Name (please print)

Physicians Signature

Phone Number

Date

Richland High School

Cheerleader/Mascot Waiver Form

I am fully aware of the risk, including the risk of catastrophic injury, paralysis and even death, as well as damages and other losses associated with participating in cheerleading activities and events. I further agree that Richland High School and the coaches, along with employees, agent officers, and directors, shall not be held liable for any losses or damages occurring as a result of my participation in the event, except where such loss or damage is the result of the intentional or reckless conduct of the school or individuals involved.

I also give permission for a health center or hospital to administer necessary immediate aid to my child (please print) _____ should she/he become injured or sick during any cheerleading/mascot related activity for the 2015-2016 school year, and do so without having to wait until we are contacted.

Cheerleader/Mascots Signature

Date

Parent/Guardians Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

Home Phone

Insurance Company

Policy Number

Family Doctor

Phone Number

Please List Any Medical Allergies

Person to notify other than parent/guardian in case of an emergency:

Name

Phone Number

Richland High School Cheerleading Tryout Candidate Commitment:

I have read the following information completely: BISD Cheerleader/Mascot Constitution, BISD Extracurricular Activity Honor Code, RHS Cheerleader/Mascot Guidelines. I understand the responsibilities and privileges of being a Richland High School Cheerleader, and will abide by these rules and regulations to the best of my ability.

I will cooperate fully with the coach and all persons and organizations concerned to promote spirit and good sportsmanship.

At all times, whether at school or away from school, I will conduct myself in a manner that best represents the students and faculty of Richland High School.

Signature of Candidate

Date

Parent Commitment:

I/We, _____, the parent(s) of _____, give my/our permission for our child to try out for a position on the RHS Cheerleading Squad. We have read and understand the following documents: BISD Cheerleader/Mascot Constitution, BISD Extracurricular Activity Honor Code and the RHS Cheerleader/Mascot Guidelines for the school year and accept the rules and regulations. We will also encourage our child to be a leader and example of good character as a representative of Richland High School.

I/We also understand that the financial obligations that I/we must fulfill if my/our child qualifies for the team is in the range of \$800- \$1800. Such items include camp expenses, uniforms, private gym classes, and other items used by my/our child during the year. I/We are willing to provide these things as they become necessary. I/We understand and agree to the payment plan included in this packet and know that my account balance must be paid by the first day of school in August to avoid my child's probation.

I/We understand that failure to follow the rules and regulations of the BISD Cheerleader/Mascot Constitution, Extra Curricular Honor Code, and RHS Cheerleader/Mascot Guidelines will result in suspension or dismissal from the squad.

Should my/our child be selected, I/we understand that my/our child must have a current UIL Medical History and Physical Examination Form on file with the coach.

Signature of Parent

Date

Signature of Parent

Date

Richland High School Cheerleading Payment Plan Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Amount Due</i>
Thursday, April 2 rd Parent Meeting, RHS Omni Room	\$250
Thursday, May 7 th	\$250
Thursday, June 4 th	\$250 or amount that fulfills a minimum of 50% of total account balance
Thursday, July 9 th	\$250
Thursday, August 6 th	\$250
Monday, August 24 th (First Day of School)	Remaining Balance

Note: Upon making the squad, the above financial plan will be enforced to ensure the timely payment of cheerleading dues. These payments are minimums only and the account balance can be paid off at any time. This payment plan is to show that a payment of \$250/month is required until your balance is paid off – it does NOT indicate that there will be a minimum of five \$250 payments; your balance may be less than this, so you will complete your payments sooner than August.

A minimum of 50% of the account balance must be paid by June 4, 2015, and the total balance must be paid by August 24, 2015.

Richland High School Cheerleading

Practice Schedule

Below are the scheduled practice times for the remainder of the spring semester and the summer practices for camp and pre-season preparation. These practices are **MANDATORY**. Please make note of these dates and adjust your schedules accordingly.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Time</i>
Thursday, April 9	Camp Clothes Fitting	RHS, Room ST 202	5:00pm – 7:00pm
Tuesday, April 14	Practice	Dance Room	4:15pm – 5:45pm
Thursday, April 16	Practice	Dance Room	4:15pm – 5:45pm
Tuesday, April 21	Practice	Dance Room	4:15pm – 5:45pm
Thursday, April 23	Practice	Dance Room	4:15pm – 5:45pm
Tuesday, April 28	Practice	Dance Room	4:15pm – 5:45pm
Thursday, April 30	Practice	Dance Room	4:15pm – 5:45pm
Tuesday, May 5	Practice	Dance Room	4:15pm – 5:45pm
Thursday, May 7	Practice	Dance Room	4:15pm – 5:45pm
Tuesday, May 12	Practice	Dance Room	4:15pm – 5:45pm
Thursday, May 14	Practice	Dance Room	4:15pm – 5:45pm
Tuesday, May 19	Practice	Dance Room	4:15pm – 5:45pm
Thursday, May 21	Practice	Dance Room	4:15pm – 5:45pm
Sun. – Wed. June 7-10	CHEER CAMP	SMU	ALL DAY
Mon – Thurs, Aug 3 - 6	Practice	Dance Room	9:00am – 11:30am
Mon – Thurs Aug 10 - 13	Practice	Dance Room	9:00am – 11:30am
Friday, August 21	Practice	Dance Room	9:00am – 11:30am

Special Instructions for Teacher Recommendation Forms and Candidate Discipline Form

Teacher Recommendation Form

Attached with this packet is a copy of the Teacher Recommendation Form that will factor into your Academic/Discipline Score. All teacher evaluations will be averaged to form one (1) Teacher Evaluation score. Each candidate needs to make copies of this form and deliver to each of their teachers for the 2014-2015 school year by **Wednesday, February 25.**

DO NOT TAKE A COMPLETED FORM BACK FROM A TEACHER. IT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. THE FORM MUST BE DELIVERED BY THE TEACHER!

Incoming Freshmen: Your teachers can deliver the forms to your school secretary to be sent to Mrs. Katie Grant at RHS through intercampus mail.

Candidate Discipline Form

Attached with this packet is a copy of the Discipline Form. Each candidate is responsible for giving this form to his or her Assistant Principal to complete. The completed form requires an Assistant Principal and candidate signature. **All students must submit this form to their Assistant Principal by Wednesday, February 25.**

Current RHS students: Forms should be given to Betsy Thompson in the AP Office. Incoming Freshmen: Your Assistant Principals can deliver the form to Mrs. Thompson at RHS through intercampus mail.



BISD High School Cheerleading Teacher Evaluation Form

The student listed below is auditioning to become a **2015-16** high school cheerleader. You currently teach this student in one or more courses. Thank you for taking a moment to complete this evaluation for this student and return it to the cheer sponsor's mailbox. Since this evaluation will count as a portion of the student's overall audition score, it is very important you give an honest and fair evaluation based on their performance in your class or classes. This evaluation should align with student's report card conduct grades. Your evaluation will be kept confidential to the extent possible.

Please complete this form and return it to the cheer sponsor's box no later than **March 6th**. Please **do not** give the completed form back to the student!

Student: _____

Grade: 8 9 10 11

Teacher: _____ Date the form was received from student: _____

Please rate the student on each of the following expectations:

Expectations:

Meets expectations: (Please check the appropriate box)

Arrives to class in a timely manner:	<input type="checkbox"/> Almost Always	<input type="checkbox"/> Most of the Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes
Show respect to authorities:	<input type="checkbox"/> Almost Always	<input type="checkbox"/> Most of the Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes
Completes assignments, fulfills contracts:	<input type="checkbox"/> Almost Always	<input type="checkbox"/> Most of the Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes
Accepts constructive criticism:	<input type="checkbox"/> Almost Always	<input type="checkbox"/> Most of the Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes
Assumes responsibility:	<input type="checkbox"/> Almost Always	<input type="checkbox"/> Most of the Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes
Is motivated to achieve:	<input type="checkbox"/> Almost Always	<input type="checkbox"/> Most of the Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes
Has good work habits; is disciplined:	<input type="checkbox"/> Almost Always	<input type="checkbox"/> Most of the Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes
Has positive sense of self:	<input type="checkbox"/> Almost Always	<input type="checkbox"/> Most of the Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes
Shows respect for classmates:	<input type="checkbox"/> Almost Always	<input type="checkbox"/> Most of the Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes
Is a positive role model for others:	<input type="checkbox"/> Almost Always	<input type="checkbox"/> Most of the Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes

Please check one:

I ☐ Recommend ☐ Recommend with reservation ☐ Do not recommend
that this student is a good candidate for BISD Cheerleading.

Teacher's Statement

Special consideration should be given to this student because:

Signature _____

Date _____

RETURN TO: _____

**Richland High School
Cheerleading
Candidate Discipline Record**

Candidate Name _____ Current Grade _____

Note for Middle School Assistant Principals: Please send this completed form by inner school mail to RHS (002)/Thompson by Tuesday, March 3rd. RHS will compile the AP score. Please do not return this form to candidate. Thank you for your assistance with cheerleading tryouts.

Discipline Referrals

Action Taken

_____ No discipline referrals for the 2014 – 2015 school year.

Assistant Principal Signature

Student Signature

JUDGES' SHEET FOR CHEERLEADER TRYOUTS

RATE ON A SCALE OF 1 (LOW) – 5 – OR 10 (HIGH)
(70% OF EACH CANDIDATE'S TOTAL SCORE)

CANDIDATE NUMBER	POINT VALUE	
*TUMBLING TECHNIQUE	10 PTS	
*TUMBLING DIFFICULTY	10 PTS	
JUMP FLEXIBILITY (Height, Spread)	5 PTS	
JUMP TECHNIQUE (Execution, Control)	10 PTS	
APPEARANCE (Neatness)	5 PTS	
SPIRIT AND ENTHUSIASM	10 PTS	
VOICE AND PROJECTION	10 PTS	
CHEER MOTION TECHNIQUE (Sharpness, Rhythm, Timing)	10 PTS	
KNOWLEDGE OF CHEER	10 PTS	
DANCE TECHNIQUE* Form, Sharpness, Rhythm, Timing (add substitute for male auditioner)	10 PTS	
KNOWLEDGE OF DANCE* (add substitute for male auditioner)	10 PTS	
TOTAL SCORE		

SAMPLE

***Members will be held accountable to use tumbling skills demonstrated during tryouts at cheerleading functions, with or without mats.**

SAMPLE

ACADEMIC / DISCIPLINE SCORE
(30% OF EACH CANDIDATE'S TOTAL SCORE)

CANDIDATE NO.	POINT VALUE	STARTING SCORE OF 100
GRADES	-8 for each F -2 for each C (For AP classes and Pre Calculus) -1 for each C -2 for each F	
TEACHER EVALUATIONS	Average of all forms Max deduction: 60 pts	
REFERRALS Assistant Principals will do this scoring. Their decision is final.	-5 for each referral -5 points for Friday Night School, Saturday School or ISS -10 points for suspension -15 points for each violation of the Extracurricular Honor Code -20points for resignation from previous year's cheerleading squad -20 points for disciplinary removal from previous year's cheerleading squad -20 for DAEP placement Disqualified for JJAP placement	
TOTAL SCORE		



BIRDVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

DARRELL G. BROWN, PH.D., SUPERINTENDENT

6125 East Belknap • Haltom City, Texas 76117-4296 • 817-547-5700 • Fax 817-831-5755 • www.birdvilleschools.net

CHEERLEADER AND MASCOT CONSTITUTION

I. PHILOSOPHY/PURPOSE/GOALS

The purpose of Birdville Independent School District's Cheerleaders and Mascots will be to promote positive school spirit for Birdville ISD's three high schools. Cheerleaders and spirit groups exist to promote good sportsmanship, good citizenship, wholesome and enthusiastic school spirit and are first and foremost representatives of their school. Because of these responsibilities, members of the cheerleading squad and mascot(s) will be expected to maintain a higher standard of behavior (both on and off campus) and academic achievement than that of their peers. Cheerleaders and Mascot(s) will help develop a good sense of sportsmanship among the student body.

Support of Birdville, Haltom or Richland High School activities will take precedence over any outside activity, including, but not limited to, jobs, community commitments, and family functions.

Varsity Cheerleaders will lead cheers and perform routines at selected scheduled varsity events and pep rallies. This includes volleyball games, girls' and boys' basketball games, football games, some baseball games, some soccer games, some softball games, all playoff games and all other events deemed necessary by school administration or cheerleader coach. Mascots will attend all events with Varsity Cheerleaders.

Junior Varsity Cheerleaders will attend designated home junior varsity and sophomore games. Buses will be supplied for one away game each semester. They will attend other events deemed necessary by school administration or cheerleader coach.

Freshman Cheerleaders will attend only designated home freshman games and they may attend certain away games. They will attend other events deemed necessary by school administration or cheerleader coach.

II. MEMBERSHIP

The Varsity cheerleading squad may consist of 10th-12th grade students. The Junior Varsity squad may consist of 10th - 12th grade students. The Freshman squad will consist of 9th grade students. At high schools with a total enrollment of 2,400 or more students, the squad composition will be as follows: Varsity: a maximum of eighteen (18) cheerleaders; Junior Varsity: a maximum of fifteen (15) members; Freshmen: a maximum of twelve (12) members or a total not to exceed 45 cheerleaders per campus. At high schools with a total enrollment of less than 2,400 students, the squad composition will be as follows: Varsity: a maximum of sixteen (16) cheerleaders; Junior varsity: a maximum of thirteen (13) cheerleaders; Freshman: a maximum of eleven (11) cheerleaders or a total not to exceed 40 cheerleaders per campus.

All candidates will be selected with a score that combines a judges' panel score and an academic/discipline score. Judges' scores will have a 70% weight and the academic/discipline score will have a 30% weight. The judges' score will be derived the day of tryouts from a panel of impartial professional cheerleader consultants. The academic/discipline score will be derived from the report cards, teacher evaluations, and any referrals on file with the cheerleading liaison Assistant Principal's Office. Senior candidates' final scores will be weighted by .075, junior candidates' final scores will be weighted by .050, and sophomore candidates' final scores will be weighted by .025. At high schools with a total enrollment of 2,400 or more students, a maximum of eighteen (18) of the highest scoring sophomore through senior candidates will make up the Varsity squad; a maximum of fifteen (15) of the remaining highest scoring sophomore through senior candidates will make up the JV squad, and a maximum of twelve (12) freshmen candidates will make up the Freshman squad. At high schools with a total enrollment of less than 2,400 students, a maximum of sixteen (16) of the highest scoring sophomore through senior candidates will

make up the Varsity squad; a maximum of thirteen (13) of the remaining highest scoring sophomore through senior candidates will make up the Junior varsity squad; and a maximum of eleven (11) freshmen candidates will make up the Freshman squad. The top scoring mascot candidate(s) will be selected as mascot(s). Mascot candidates do not receive weighted scores. Mascot scores will consist of 70% judges' score and 30% academic/discipline score. The day of tryouts, all candidates will perform cheers and/or routines before the judges' panel in the gymnasium at a centralized location.

III. ELIGIBILITY - TRYOUTS

1. Secure an information packet, complete all required forms and return them to the high school campus by the designated deadline.
2. Have a signed permission slip from a parent or guardian.
3. Attend a mandatory pre-tryout meeting. Parent and candidate are both required to attend the meeting before being allowed to try out.
4. Have a signed doctor's release stating candidate is in good physical condition and able to withstand strenuous activity. If selected, a UIL Preparticipation Physical Evaluation-Medical History Form must be filed annually at each high school.
5. Students auditioning for Varsity and Junior Varsity squads must have attended the high school where seeking a position for at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding six weeks prior to tryouts, one of which must have been the fourth (4th) six weeks. Students who move into the district because of a bona fide residence change from outside the district or who reside in the district and have been enrolled in private school are eligible to try out provided all other eligibility criteria are satisfied.
6. Students auditioning for the Freshman squad must have attended a BISD middle school feeding into the high school they are auditioning for at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding six weeks prior to tryouts, one of which must have been the fourth (4th) six weeks. Students who move into the district because of a bona fide residence change from outside the district or who reside in the district and have been enrolled in private school are eligible to try out at the high school within their attendance zone provided all other eligibility criteria are satisfied.
7. Attend practice sessions conducted before tryouts.
8. Must not have outstanding fees or fines with BISD or any BISD campus.

IV. EXPECTATIONS OF CHEERLEADERS/MASCOT

The student must be able to provide all required uniforms, emblems, paraphernalia, etc. This includes uniforms, equipment, and refreshments for various events. The student will be provided fund raising opportunities to offset costs associated with cheerleading as needed. The student will be expected to support cheerleader fund raising projects under the direction of the cheerleader coach.

Purchasing uniforms from graduating cheerleaders can save money.

Sizing of uniform must be agreeable to cheerleader coach (and parent, if available) at order placement. Changes due to weight or height gain or loss are not the responsibility of the uniform vendor or Birdville ISD. The

cheerleader coaches' standards of correct fit must be followed. Any necessary uniform alterations are to be arranged and paid for by the parent and approved by the cheerleader coach beforehand.

Uniforms must be paid for by the 1st day of school in August. 50% of the bill must be paid before camp. An outstanding balance after the 1st day of school will cause the cheerleader to not perform until the balance is paid.

Payment for each cheerleader's individual account becomes the responsibility of that cheerleader/mascot and his/her parents at the time of order, whether or not that cheerleader or mascot completes the year as a cheerleader or mascot.

Cheerleaders are to follow the National Federation Cheerleading Rules, which has rules pertaining to safety issues. (www.nfhs.org)

A student accident insurance program is available to students. Those who choose not to participate in this program must indicate so on their audition application.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES OF SELECTED CHEERLEADERS/MASCOT(S)

Loyalty is a key ingredient to the success of a group like the Cheerleaders and Mascot(s).

Cheerleaders and mascots:

- Need to give unqualified loyalty to your high school, its athletic teams, administrators, fellow cheerleaders, coach, and other school groups.
- Must abide by the district's rules stated in the BISD Code of Conduct and Honor Code handouts
- Attend all summer activities, which begin as soon as school is out in May.

It is the cheerleader's and mascot's responsibility to notify the cheerleader coach ahead of time of any absence from practice. The following are excused absences: personal illness, injury, funeral or death in the family, special school activities with prior notice to the coach, and religious holidays. The cheerleading class/practices will be treated the same as any other class and the campus administration will make the final determination about excused and unexcused absences. The coach must receive written notices no later than the second day a member returns from the emergency absence. If the excuse is not received by the second day, the absence will be unexcused.

Cheerleaders and mascots are expected to:

- Be on time and prepared to participate in all scheduled cheerleader team practice sessions and events
- Participate in and share equally in preparation of cheer activities
- Participate in all cheerleader-sponsored fund raising activities
- Perform at all school events scheduled by the cheerleader coach
- Exhibit high moral standards and abstain from tobacco, illegal drugs, and alcoholic beverages at all times, both on and off campus
- Cheerleaders will provide their own transportation to and from the games in the BISD district when school transportation is not provided.

Cheerleader/mascot leadership class is a ½ credit elective course applying to high school graduation. All cheerleaders and mascot(s) must be enrolled in the class during the fall and those not enrolled in a sport for the spring semester are required to remain in the class for the spring semester. The class will meet daily. If enrolled in

a sport during the spring semester, the cheerleader or mascot is responsible for attending some practices and all cheerleading commitments unless approved by the cheerleading coach.

Attendance Policy for being eligible to participate: Each cheerleader/mascot(s) must be at school at least ½ of his/her scheduled day to participate in any cheer event on that day.

Eligibility rules for number of games cheerleaders can participate in per week: one day between Monday – Thursday, and any amount of games Friday after 3:30 p.m. through the weekend. Play-off games are excluded from this rule.

When wearing the school-approved uniform, a student is not allowed to wear jewelry, including strings/rope chains. Cheerleaders must also have hair pulled back in a tight ponytail or away from the face for short hair. Fingernails, including artificial nails, shall be kept at a length appropriate and within safety rules. All cheerleaders in uniform will not be allowed to chew gum during school-sponsored activities.

Cheerleading uniforms, defined as anything purchased through your high school, are only to be worn at assigned times.

Cheerleaders must not:

- **wear any part of your uniform to school or any other activities without specific permission to do so.**
- **lend any part of your uniform to someone who is not a cheerleader or mascot.**

Remember that you represent your high school and BISD and must act appropriately when putting on the cheerleader uniform.

VI. MAINTAINING ELIGIBILITY

Cheerleaders must maintain a scholastic grade of 70 or above in every class*. Any student receiving an individual grade lower than 70(F) is ineligible and will be placed on probation for three weeks according to the “No Pass – No Play Rule” (state law).

*Excluding exempt courses. See Board Policy FM (Legal)

- Probation means no participation in cheerleading activities both during and after school (excluding practices).
- A cheerleader's grade probation is lifted at the end of the probationary period if every subject grade is 70 or above.

Two ineligible six weeks will result in automatic dismissal from the squad.

Cheerleaders and Mascot(s) must abide by the Disciplinary System in their respective schools. (Candidates receive a copy of the Disciplinary System and Cheerleading Guidelines in their tryout packets.)

Cheerleaders and Mascot(s) must meet district eligibility requirements published in the *BISD Secondary School Handbook*.

Cheerleading is a commitment for a full year. Award letters and jackets will be presented at the beginning of the year for a full year's service as a Varsity Cheerleader/Mascot.



2014-2015 EXTRACURRICULAR HONOR CODE

Extracurricular Honor Code

Participation in extracurricular activities in the Birdville Independent School District is a privilege, not a right. The term "extracurricular activities" means, without limitation, all interscholastic athletics, cheerleading, drill team, academic clubs, special interest clubs, musical performances, dramatic productions, student government, and any other activity or group that participates in contests, competitions, or community service projects on behalf of or as a representative of Birdville ISD. The term includes any non-curricular event and membership or participation in groups, clubs, and organizations recognized and approved by the school district or campus. All extracurricular activity participants are subject to the provisions of this Extracurricular Honor Code.

Jurisdiction

Student participation in extracurricular activities is encouraged. Birdville ISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program, with this important difference; participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, while participation in the extracurricular program is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct. Students engaging in extracurricular activities represent not only themselves, but also other students and the school district when performing, competing, or participating in extracurricular activities and while wearing uniforms or other clothing that identifies the student to the community or public in any setting as Birdville ISD students.

Important goals of the extracurricular program are to give students direction in developing self-discipline, responsibility, pride, loyalty, leadership, teamwork, respect for authority, and healthy living habits.

Based on this philosophy, extracurricular participants must do the following at all times:

- Demonstrate the importance of academic excellence by maintaining eligibility through high academic standards.
- Practice good citizenship in all environments by respecting the property and rights of others.
- Be free from activities that result in felonious charges.
- Demonstrate knowledge of and be accountable for the individual rules of the extracurricular organization as outlined by the sponsor.

It is the responsibility of students, parents, sponsors/coaches, and the respective directors to ensure this high level of expectation. This code applies to all participants of extracurricular activities throughout the calendar year.

Non-Inclusive Example of Disciplinary Consequences for Off-Campus

1st Offense incident that occurred on March 15:

	PARTICIPANT	DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCE
Student 1	Fall Sport	15 day suspension begins date of the first competition
Student 2	Spring Sport	15 day suspension begins immediately if competition has begun
Student 3	Band Student	15 day suspension begins immediately if any competitions remain, if concluded, it will begin on first football competition
Student 4	Cheerleader/Drill Team	Student may still try-out for cheerleader/drill team and 15 day suspension begins on date of first football competition
Student 5	Student Council Member	15 day suspension begins immediately

The preceding table provides examples; but the campus principal, director of student services, and appropriate director may adjust the dates in order to ensure district-wide consistency (based on a consensus of the group). A student who is in multiple activities will serve the penalty once and at the earliest possible time.

Appeal Process

The parent or guardian may appeal the extracurricular suspension using the format in the Code of Conduct Booklet (DAEP placements).

1. Level I – The parents have three days to appeal the suspension to the campus principal.
2. Level II – The parents have three days from the principal's decision to send an appeal to the Director of Student Services.

Any decision by the Level II Hearing Officer/Panel is final and may not be appealed. The student remains suspended from extracurricular activities during the appeal process.