

EISENHOWER HIGH SCHOOL DANCE TEAM TRYOUTS

Please Read ALL Information.

ABOUT THE TEAM: The Eisenhower Varsity Dance Team is an award winning and competitive program. We had an extremely successful season last year, as we were state champions in D4 Pom and second runner up in D2 Jazz at the WACPC state dance competition. We have also placed in the top 5 at State in D3/4 Pom and D2 Jazz for the last 10 years, including 6 state championship titles in D3/4 Pom in 2017, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2026, and 4 State Championship Titles in D2 Jazz in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023.

WHEN and WHERE: The Tryouts for the 2026-2027 Eisenhower Varsity Dance Team will be held in the Eisenhower High School lower gym on Monday, May 18th from 5-7:30pm, Tuesday, May 19th from 5-7:30pm and the final judging will take place on Wednesday, May 20th at 5pm and will continue until all candidates have auditioned. The official 2026/2027 team will be posted by Friday, May 22nd, on the Eisenhower Dance website and Instagram.

WHAT TO EXPECT: You will learn two dance routines, in the pom and jazz styles, that will be approximately 1 min each. Candidates will try-out in groups of two/three and will be evaluated by a panel of judges which does not include the current coaches. You will be scored on the dance routines, as well as the following skills: Toe touch, firebird, double/triple pirouette, and fouettes. These skills will be taught/reviewed on Monday and Tuesday before the final audition. The team will be picked based on the scores from the judges and also your effort during the first two days of tryouts. There is no set number of girls being accepted for this year's team.

WHAT TO BRING: Fill out the tryout application google form found online on our website or Instagram bio, bring the signed contract (included in this packet), and a water bottle to the first day of tryouts. If you have a spring sports commitment, please do not jeopardize that team's practice schedule or game schedule to attend the tryout. If you must miss a day(s) of tryouts, then it will be necessary for you to find someone to teach you the routine outside of the scheduled time. If you have a conflict with any of the tryout dates you must email ikedanceteam@gmail.com prior to the first day of tryouts.

WHAT TO WEAR TO THE FIRST TWO DAYS OF TRY-OUTS: Non-restrictive and non-revealing clothing that allows you to learn and dance comfortably. Tennis shoes and dance shoes are required. Please have hair pulled back and remove all jewelry.

WHAT TO WEAR ON THE FINAL DAY OF TRY-OUTS: An **all black** dance attire is required for the last day of tryouts. The top should be fitted and either shorts or leggings are acceptable. Make sure your stomach is completely covered. Hair must be pulled back in a bun. Dance shoes must be worn during tryout routines. **No jewelry!**

ELIGIBILITY: Tryouts are open to any student in grades 9-12 who will be attending Eisenhower High School during the 2026-2027 school year. Each student must maintain a 2.0 GPA or better throughout the entire season, per the Student Athlete Code of Conduct.

JUDGING CRITERIA: The following criteria will be considered during judging:

1. Appearance
2. Interview Question
3. Technique - double/triple turn, toe touch, fouettes, firebird, jump of choice & skill of choice
4. Pom Routine
 - a. Principles of Pom
 - b. Placement
 - c. Technique
 - d. Degree of Accuracy
 - e. Showmanship & Presentation
5. Jazz Routine
 - a. Principles of Jazz
 - b. Placement
 - c. Technique
 - d. Degree of Accuracy
 - e. Showmanship & Presentation

SIGN-UP/TRY-OUT FORMS: A tryout contract is included in this packet and must be turned in at the first day of tryouts to the coaches. Submitting the form on time is an important part of the tryout process. These are the characteristics we will be looking for when selecting the 2026-2027 team.

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS: If you are selected, you should be aware that practices, performances, and competitions are not optional - **they are mandatory**. Exceptions should only be made for illness or emergencies, and communication is expected in those cases.

SUMMER PRACTICE SCHEDULE: Summer practices will start Tuesday June 16th. The summer practice schedule will be Tuesdays 6-9pm, and Thursdays from 8-9:30am.

SCHOOL YEAR PRACTICE SCHEDULE: The schedule will be Tuesdays from 6-8pm and Thursdays from 7-9 pm once school begins.

JANUARY PRACTICE SCHEDULE: Practices will continue to be on Tuesdays from 6-8pm and Thursdays 7-9pm. (Practices may be extended or added any Friday, Saturday, or Sunday due to a high velocity of competitions during this month).

OUTSIDE OF PRACTICE: It is **REQUIRED** in the summer and **highly recommended** in the fall by the coaches that all dance team members take a technique or tumbling class at a studio at least once per week as well. Please don't hesitate to ask for studio recommendations from the coaches.

ALTERNATES: The team will consider using alternates as part of the program. We will be watching each dancer's technique, abilities, and work ethic which will determine whether or not they will be an alternate for either of the routines this season. Please note that no spots are guaranteed at any point in the season.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS: Besides the district's support with state, competition fees, a budget for team game uniforms, and bus transportation, the team is self-supporting. You should anticipate that there will be an expenditure of approximately \$1,600 (not including nationals costs) for a first year dancer. This includes the cost of summer camp. After their first year, this amount significantly drops. No girl will be turned away due to financial constraints. Personal payment plans can be worked out; please contact the coaches if this is a concern. See Financial Commitments page for more information.

There will be NO REFUNDS at any point during the season. If at any point your dancer cannot continue to be a part of the team, all payments made up to that point are not refundable as this impacts the payments for the rest of the team.

We will not be accepting cash payments during the season. Payments can be made by check or through Zelle.

PHYSICAL CARDS & FORMS: These do not need to be turned in until August, when the new school year starts. In order to be a part of the team all participants **MUST** have a current physical card on file in the Athletic Office. You must also have a code of conduct form signed, Concussion Law Agreement form signed and WIAA Eligibility Bulletin form completed. You will need to pay the participation fee to the school in order to participate in a high school sport. All of these forms **MUST** be turned into the Athletic Office. If you are unsure if you need a physical, please email Mr. William Bush in the athletics office.

We will be available via email leading up to the tryouts for any questions you might have. Good luck and thank you for your interest in becoming a member of the Eisenhower Varsity Dance Team.

For more information on the Eisenhower Varsity Dance Team, please visit our website at www.ikedanceteam.com

NEW BERLIN EISENHOWER VARSITY DANCE TEAM
TENTATIVE COMPETITION SCHEDULE & FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Practice Schedule:

Summer (First Practice June 16th)

Tuesdays: 6 - 9pm

Thursdays: 8-9:30am

Fall Break: September 1st - 7th

School Year (First Practice Tuesday September 8th)

Tuesdays: 6-8pm

Thursdays: 7-9pm

Tentative Competition Schedule:

UDA Camp: July 24th-27th

Franklin Competition: November 7th

Wauwatosa West: November 21st

Ashwaubenon: December 5th

Little Chute: December 12th

Menomonee Falls/Kakauna: January 16th

Regionals (Middleton): January 23rd

State (La Crosse): February 5th and 6th

Approximate Financial Commitments:

Uniform User Fee: \$150 (covers pom uniforms and portion of football uniforms that school doesn't cover)

Shared Dance Team Expenses: \$150

Camp: \$525

Apparel: \$400

Jazz Costume: \$200-\$250

Tumbling/Workouts: \$150

Tryout Paperwork Checklist:

_____ Application Google Form (online)

_____ Tryout Contract (below)

Before School Year Checklist:

_____ Physical Card or Alternative Year Form

_____ Code of Conduct Form

_____ WIAA Eligibility Bulletin

_____ Pay Participation Fee to the school

_____ Concussion Law Agreement form signed

EISENHOWER VARSITY DANCE TEAM TRY-OUT CONTRACT

Parents and Dance Team candidate: Please read the following carefully. It is imperative that both parent and student understand the commitment, time, rules and expense that are required to be a successful and contributing member of this team.

For Dancers:

- 1) I understand that the coaches make the final decision for the team selection and that there is no set number of girls selected.
- 2) I understand that I may be an alternate for the competition routines for the upcoming season and will still participate on the team with the same commitment level as I would if I were competing in both routines.
- 3) I have read the Ike Dance Team Tryout Packet and feel confident that I can adhere to the rules and standards laid out in it. **DO NOT TRY OUT IF YOU CAN NOT FOLLOW THESE EXPECTATIONS!**

For Previous Members:

- 4) I understand that being on the team previously does not mean I have a guaranteed spot on the team the following year.
- 5) I understand that my work ethic, attitude, and commitment from the previous year will be taken into consideration as well as my tryout, when selecting the final team and alternate positions.

For Parents:

- 6) If my daughter is selected, I will be responsible for all expenses incurred for uniforms, camp, etc. Please see the expense page of this packet for information on total cost. I will let the coach know if financial constraints will be an issue, so arrangements can be made. I am also aware that if my daughter is unable to continue being a part of the team at any point, all payments made are nonrefundable.
- 7) If my daughter is selected, I will commit to helping her be the most successful team member she can be. I will support the coach in helping my daughter to follow ALL rules and expectations. I understand the importance of school attendance and will encourage regular attendance throughout the year. I realize that my daughter will be expected to attend ALL practices and performances, and will help her schedule her day-to-day activities/appointments to meet this requirement.

- 8) I will agree to assist on at least one committee throughout the school year. I will also agree to assist with fundraising opportunities that arise during the season.
- 9) I understand that parental involvement is a huge factor in the success of the team. I understand that every decision the coaches make is made in the best interest of the team and not for my specific daughter and will support them in that decision.
- 10) I also understand that the coaches make the final decision for the team selection and alternates and that there is no set number of girls selected.

I HAVE READ THE INFORMATION REGARDING TRYOUTS FOR THE NEW BERLIN EISENHOWER DANCE TEAM, AND AM WILLING TO PUT FORTH THE TIME AND EFFORT THAT WILL BE REQUIRED IF I AM SELECTED FOR THE TEAM.

Student's Signature

I HAVE READ THE TRYOUT INFORMATION AND AM AWARE OF WHAT IS INVOLVED, BOTH IN TIME AND COST, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE TEAM. MY DAUGHTER HAS MY PERMISSION TO TRY OUT FOR THE TEAM.

Parent's Signature