

# Aldine 9<sup>th</sup> Grade School Dance Department

## Dance Class Syllabus

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**School Year:** 2017-2018

**Textbook:** N/A

**Dance Department Philosophy:** The purpose of the dance department is to enhance student awareness, to improve individual skill level, to develop a positive self-esteem through dance, and to gain an appreciation and knowledge of dance. While encouraging excellence, a nurturing environment is provided where students can explore, learn, and develop their strengths and interests.

**TEKS Dance Standards:** After completing the course, students will be able to do the following:

- 1) Have a developed awareness of the body's movements and use sensory information while dancing.
- 2) Apply body sciences and fitness principles to dance and know the skills of dance elements and choreographic process and forms in a variety of dance styles.
- 3) Demonstrate an understanding of cultural, historical, and artistic diversity and developed skills to participate in a diverse society.
- 4) Make informed judgments about dance's form, meaning, and role in society.

**The following units are covered throughout the school year:**

FALL-

Intro to Dance and Stretching/Alignment and Nutrition	(Aug. 21-25)
Ballet Technique and History	(Aug. 28- Sept. 1)
Jazz Technique and History	(Sept. 5- 8)
Hip Hop History and Movement	(Sept. 11-15)
Choreography, Creative Movement, Improvisation	(Sept. 18-22)
Teaching Dance Project	(Sept.25-Oct 6)
Fall Show Routine	(Oct. 9-27)
Stage rehearsal and review theater etiquette	(Oct. 30-Nov 3)
Holiday Show Performance and Assessment	(Nov 6-10)
Review ballet, jazz and hip hop techniques	(Nov.13- Dec. 15)

SPRING-

Review Stretching and Techniques Learned	(Jan. 2-12)
Modern Dance Technique and History	(Jan. 16-26)
Hip Hop Movement	(Jan 29-Feb 2)
Musical Theatre and Broadway Jazz Styles	(Feb. 5-16)
Leaps and Turns Technique	(Feb 19-Mar 2)
Choreography Group Project	(Mar. 5-23)
Choreography, Creative Movement, Improvisation and STAAR	(Mar. 26- 30)
Teaching Choreography Project	(Apr. 2-6)
Spring Show Routine	(Apr. 9-27)
Review Choreography and STAAR testing	(Apr. 30- May 4)
Yoga, Pilates and Strength training for Dancers	(May 7-31)

## **Description and Objectives:**

### **❖ Dance 1**

Dance 1 is an introduction to dance history and technique. This is a performance based class, designed for those who want to experience a dance environment. Students will gain knowledge of dance terminology and basic dance styles; including but not limited to jazz, modern, lyrical, character, cultural, ballet, and hip-hop. It will give students the opportunities for group choreography and performance. Students are required to perform in the end of semester dance show for the Fall and Spring

## **Evaluation and Assessment:**

**50% Participation** – includes 1) showing up for class daily, 2) on time, 3) in proper dance attire, 4) and participating fully in class activities. Students will have eight minutes to be dressed in full dance attire in the studio or they will be marked tardy. Students will have eight minutes to get dressed in proper school attire for their next class.

Each day will be worth 100 participation points – 200/ 300 points per week.

- ❖ The student will lose 50 points every unexcused absence.
- ❖ The student will lose 50 points for a partial non-dress out, not having the correct footwear, or being tardy.
- ❖ The student will lose 50 points for refusal to participate in the daily activities.
- ❖ The student will lose 50 points if he or she is more than twenty minutes late to class.

**25% Performance/Skill** – Students will be evaluated on knowledge of dance skills and combinations presented in class.

- ❖ The student will have dance skills tests, or an evaluation at the end of learning each dance or combination.
- ❖ If a student misses a test, he or she will not receive any points until he or she makes the test up within two school days of his or her return.
- ❖ The end of semester dance show is the dance class final each semester. These will be crucial to a students' grade.

**25% Written Work/Exams** – Vocabulary/terminology quizzes, dance history, in class assignments, choreographic techniques, video analysis, self-reflections, video/book reviews, and written essays.

**Extra Credit** – At the discretion of the instructor.

## **Mandatory Aldine 9<sup>th</sup> Dance Department fee-**

- ❖ Dance class fee of \$40 is mandatory for each dancer as it provides essential tools for the fall and spring shows. This fee includes: two t-shirts (fall & spring) and dinner for the fall & spring shows. Students are allowed to split dance fee into two payments of fall and spring semester.

## **Mandatory Dance Performances –**

- ❖ **November 9, 2017** “Fall Show” at 6 pm – End of fall semester performance. *This performance will be in the evening after school.* The student will be required to stay after school till the entire performance is done.
- ❖ **Mandatory Dress rehearsal November 2, 2017 3:00-5:00 pm.**
- ❖ **April 26, 2018** “Spring Show” – End of Spring semester performance. *This performance will be in the evening after school.* The student will be required to stay after school till the entire performance is done.
- ❖ **Mandatory Dress rehearsal April 19, 2018 3:00-5:00 pm.**
- ❖ These performances are mandatory and are the students’ major/final exam grades. Work or going out of town are not legitimate excuses for missing the show. Make arrangements to take off work now for these dates in advance.

## **Classroom Expectations and Student Responsibilities:**

- ❖ To attend class in proper clothing (See clothing)
- ❖ To get to class and be in roll call on time
- ❖ To complete all class responsibilities, required work and assignments
- ❖ To be responsible concerning attendance practices, with the awareness that poor attendance will affect their grade
- ❖ To obtain prior permission before missing a class for school related business
- ❖ To keep dance room clean – no gum, food, or drinks
- ❖ Take care of all bathroom needs before class begins – students will not be allowed to use the restroom after class has started. If a student must use the restroom in the event of an emergency he or she will receive one tardy.
- ❖ To treat all individuals with respect
- ❖ Conduct grades are lowered by profanity, gum chewing, tardiness, disruptive behavior, talking, and dress code violations. Any combination of three conduct problems will result in a N and six problems will result in a U
- ❖ A tardy will be given if a student is late to class (meaning not in the locker room by the time the bell rings), if a student is late to dance class (meaning not in the dance room and in assigned seat after the allotted dress out time), or if a student does not have the proper dance attire on.
  - First Tardy – warning
  - Second Tardy – warning
  - Third Tardy – D-hall

**Clothing:**

Each student will be expected to participate in the dance program wearing the correct dance attire. The student must be dressed to participate in class activities, no exceptions.

- ❖ Required – All black dance clothing – dress code shorts, capris, full length jazz pants or sweats, and PE shorts can be worn as bottoms. Leotards, tanks, short-sleeve or long-sleeved black shirts can be worn as tops within the school dress code standards (no collar required). If choosing to wear dance shorts, tights must be worn underneath.
- ❖ Required – Appropriate footwear – jazz shoes, ballet shoes, dance sneakers or bare feet. NO SOCKS Hip Hop only- light colored tennis shoes may be worn (no black soled tennis shoes)
- ❖ Required – No jewelry permitted.

**Lockers:**

Each dance student is allowed to choose a locker for his or her dance attire and personal items.

- ❖ Student must provide his or her own lock and the teacher the locker number after selection of locker.
- ❖ Students are responsible for his or her personal items. The only secure place for personal items is locked in one's locker. Do not leave items in the locker room unattended.
- ❖ The locker room will be locked between classes, but this does not prevent theft from other students' usage from other classes.
- ❖ Do not leave items in the locker room or the dance room unattended.
- ❖ The teacher is not responsible for items lost or stolen.

**Medical Notes:**

Students will dress and do as much as possible with a medical note. A physician's note, specifying limitations and modifications must be presented if illness/injury occurs.

Long Term – Students who need to be medically excused for a period longer than 4 weeks will be taken out of their dance class or have a counselor discussion on what is appropriate for the student. The student will be withdrawn from the class and welcomed back another semester when he or she will be able to successfully complete the semester.

Pregnancy – A student who becomes pregnant will be allowed to participate in class with a physician's note specifying capabilities. For the safety of the student and the unborn child a note is required to participate. A physician's note will also be required for student to prove pregnancy to be granted permission to withdraw or dismiss participation in dance class.

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**I have read and understand the responsibilities, expectations, and grading policy for the Aldine 9<sup>th</sup> Grade School Dance Classes. I further understand the dress code, tardy and medical note policies.**

**PARENT SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT EMAIL ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT PHONE NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **PERIOD:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT ID#** \_\_\_\_\_

This portion is due on September 5, 2017. It is worth 100 points and is your homework assignment.