

**Elkins High School Elite Dance Team**  
**2013-2014 Try-outs**  
**Information and Application Materials**

Dear Dance Team Candidate,

We are so excited that you have decided to try out for the Elite Dance Team! Attached you will find all the information you need for the 13-14 try-outs, including the application, cost information, parent agreements, and medical release. **Applications are due on or before April 29 to Mrs. Diamond.** You may bring them to the clinic or drop them off to Mrs. Diamond in the Dance Room, or at the EHS Front Office; make sure the application is clearly marked to ensure delivery.

Try-out Eligibility Requirements

- ✓ Must be on grade level with the required number of credits
- ✓ Must be a current 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> grade student enrolled at Elkins HS
- ✓ Must attend all clinic sessions.
- ✓ **Turn in ALL application materials on or before April 29, 2013.**
  - Application
  - Medical release form
  - Parent permission form

Mandatory Clinic Dates

When: April 29 – May 1

Where: EHS Girls Gym

Time: 2:45-4:30pm

Try-outs

When: Thursday, May 2

Where: EHS Girls Gym

Time: 3pm until finished (an estimate will be given at clinic meetings)

Attire

- Clinic Sessions
  - Appropriate dance attire (must not show the midriff or cleavage) or workout wear.
    - If you do not have dance shoes you may dance barefoot.
    - No leggings, biker shorts, crop tops or running shoes.
    - Hair must be tied back at all times!
    - No food, gum or jewelry allowed!
- Try-outs
  - A solid black leotard or tank top, solid black dance pants, black socks, and black jazz shoes.
  - Hair must be in a ponytail, no jewelry, and appropriate make-up

Tryout Material

During the clinic you will be learning a jazz combination and splits from the current Senior Officers. Prior dance experience is preferred, but not required. No matter the level of experience you have, remember to do your best! There are only 3 clinic days, so make sure you are ready to begin on time, pay close attention to the material and follow the instructions carefully.

Guidelines Test

All candidates will be tested over the team guidelines. These policies are absolutely necessary for the success of the team. You will need to print out a copy of the guidelines so that you can study them. The test will be given during tryouts on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*To access the guidelines, go to the EHS website. Then click Courses -> Fine Arts -> Dance Team M. Diamond -> Resources -> 2012-2013 Guidelines.*

### Judges Scores

The 3 judges will evaluate each candidate based on dance ability, flexibility, timing, showmanship and energy. You must be prepared to perform for the judges as many times as needed. Tryouts are closed the public. Scores are determined using the following:

Judge's Scores	300 pts.
Guidelines Test	50 pts
<u>Academic &amp; Discipline Scores</u>	<u>100 pts.</u>
Total Possible Points	450 pts.

### Academic & Discipline Scores

This is a "paper" judge. You will lose points based on low grades, disciplinary referrals, poor conduct and attendance. Each candidate can earn a maximum of 100 points. For grades and conduct, scores will be taken from 9 weeks grades only. For attendance and discipline records, we will be looking at the 12-13 school year entirely.

Academic Infractions: A=+1, B=0, C=-5, D=-10, F=-15

Conduct Infractions: E=0, S=0, N=-5, U=-10

Attendance: Tardy=-5; Unexcused Absence=-8 each or -10 per day

Discipline: -10 per referral

### Results

The number of girls chosen depends on the scores. The cutoff point will be determined by a natural break in scoring.

Results will be posted on the campus website within 2 hours after candidates are dismissed.

*To access the results, go to the campus website.*

*Then click Courses -> Fine Arts -> Dance Team M. Diamond -> Resources -> 2013-2014 Team Tryout Results.*

Mandatory Dates/Information for those who are selected

- May 6: 13-14 Parent Meeting
  - 6pm, EHS Commons
  - \$150 Deposit will be due at this meeting
  - Failure to attend will result in removal from team
- Tuesdays & Thursdays, May 7-30
  - 13-14 Team Practice; 2:45-4:30pm
- May 14
  - Physical night @ EHS
- May 30
  - Physical forms due
  - Failure to complete will result in removal from team
- June 8-July 26
  - Summer Technique classes
    - All team members must complete a minimum of 6 hours
    - Details TBA
- July 29
  - Summer practices begin
- August 26
  - After school practices begin

If there are any additional questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Diamond.

Good Luck!!!

Mrs. Diamond, Director  
melissa.diamond@fortbendisd.com  
281-634-2641

**Elite Dance Team**  
**Frequently Asked Questions...**

**Q: What is Elite?**

A: The Elite Dance Team is a Fine Arts organization that performs at various events at Elkins HS and in the community. These include, but are not limited to varsity football games, pep rallies, dance competitions, and our annual spring show.

**Q: Do I have to have dance experience to try out?**

A: No! While previous training is preferred it is not required. A strong work ethic and determination can go a long way!

**Q: If I make the team, will I be able to dance at every performance?**

A: All team members must try out for performances. In order to perform, team members must be able to correctly execute the skills in the choreography. This is to ensure accountability of all team members and to make sure that we present the best performance possible each and every time. Again, a strong work ethic and determination can make this happen!

**Q: What style of dance does Elite do?**

A: Elite dances and competes at an advanced level, using ballet and jazz technique, performing in the genres of pom, jazz, prop, military, modern, lyrical and contemporary.

**Q: What is the time commitment?**

A: Dance Team is a year-round sport! Elite is a co-curricular activity, which means that we meet both during and outside of the school day. Summer practices begin in late July/early August and continue through the year. The team has class 7<sup>th</sup> period and practices daily after school until 4:30pm. The calendar is given in advance so that members are able to plan accordingly.

**Q: Is it expensive to be on Elite?**

A: The first year is the most expensive, but payment plans and fundraisers help keep the financial strain to a minimum.

**Q: Can I participate in other activities while on Elite?**

A: It is possible to be involved with other organizations on campus. It is not possible to participate in athletic activities and some other organizations because of the conflicting practice times.

**Q: I've heard there are a lot of rules that Elite has to follow. What are they?**

A: As noted in the tryout packet, look up the team's guidelines on the campus website and print a copy to study. This will tell you a lot about what is expected. The guidelines are an extension of the district's Extracurricular Handbook.

**Q: What happens if I make the team?**

A: Make sure you and a parent at the mandatory meeting on May 6 at 6pm in the Commons. Be on time and bring your \$150 deposit for camp. Practices will begin on May 7, 2013 in the dance room – be on time, dressed and ready to dance!

## Elkins HS Elite Dance Team

### 2013-2014 Estimated Costs for a New Member

The practice attire and other estimated costs are listed below.

<u>Practice/Performance clothes:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
Lime/black top	\$24.00**
Royal top	\$19.50**
TBD top	\$24.00
Black tank leotard	\$20.50**
Black Clamdiggers (2 pairs recommended)	\$24.00**
Black Silkskyn pants (2 pairs recommended)	\$30.00**
Black Velour Pants	\$36.00**
Black split sole jazz shoes	\$30.00
Tan split sole jazz shoes	\$30.00
Convertible tights	\$12.00
Clear Strap Bra	\$15.00**
Team hoodie	\$35.00**
Team T-shirt	\$36.00**
Contest T-shirt	\$15.00
Spring Show T-shirt	\$12.50
Team backpack	\$30.00**
Performance Makeup	\$30.00
Hair Rhinestones	\$5.00**
Warm-ups	\$60.00**
Rain Poncho	\$13.00
Team Camp	\$100.00
Team Dues	\$75.00
Booster Club Family Dues	\$25.00

**Estimated Total: \$701.50**

- Please note: All prices are estimated.
- Additonal costs include big/lil sis gifts, social events, travel and competition fees.
- Payments will be made over the course of the summer. Costs decrease dramatically for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year members.
- \*\*These items may be purchased from graduating/former team members at a much cheaper price at the parent meeting on May 6.

**Elkins HS Elite Dance Team**  
**2013-2014 Try-out Application**

**Important: Please PRINT neatly in black or blue ink!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

13-14 Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Information:**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mom's work #: \_\_\_\_\_ Dad's work #: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phones: (Mom) \_\_\_\_\_ (Dad) \_\_\_\_\_

Mom's e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Dad's e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any prior Dance experience:

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What other clubs or activities do you plan to be active in during the 13-14 year?

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**Elkins HS Elite Dance Team**

**2013-2014 Medical Release**

**Candidate name:**

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I hereby give my consent for my child to participate in all approved activities and allow them to accompany the Elite Director(s) or other representatives of Elkins High School or FBISD to any and all team functions and activities.

I hereby grant permission for FBISD employees to secure medical services for my child if deemed necessary.

I understand that neither FBISD nor any of its employees assume any responsibility in case an accident occurs.

I agree to be responsible for the safe return of all uniforms and equipment issued by the school to my child. I understand that financial costs may be incurred for the replacement/repair of damaged or lost items.

Please list any significant illnesses, allergies or medical conditions that the Director(s) should know of. This information will remain confidential.

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Physician: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Company:

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Policy #:

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date

**Elkins HS Elite Dance Team**

**2013-2014**

**Student Agreement and Parent Consent**

I agree to abide by the policies, schedules and procedures as set forth by FBISD, Elkins High School and the Director(s) for the Elite Dance Team. I am aware of the time and financial commitment required to participate in this organization, and I understand that all UIL and TEA rules apply. I understand my responsibilities and duties as a member of the Elite Dance Team and, upon acceptance, will represent Elkins High School with integrity, honor and pride.

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Elite Dance Team Candidate Signature

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Date

I understand the responsibilities of my child. I am aware of the time commitments for this organization and accept all physical and financial responsibilities. I hereby give my permission for my child to audition for and, upon acceptance, participate in the Elkins HS Elite Dance Team.

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date