

Lyles Middle School



*Lumberjack
Cheerleader
Tryouts*

April 18, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians of Cheerleader Candidates,

Your child has expressed an interest in becoming a member of the Lyles Middle School 7th or 8th grade cheerleading squad for the 2009-2010 school year. Please ensure that Lyles Middle School has been confirmed as your child's campus for the 2009-2010 school year. Students are only allowed to tryout at one GISD campus.

If selected, there will be certain personal and financial responsibilities and obligations, which your child must assume in order to qualify and remain a member in good standing. Some of these will require your help and management.

Being a cheerleader makes your child a leader in our school. Because we believe our school and students are "Better than the Best," we expect the cheerleaders to set good examples of student conduct at all times. We have set forth guidelines that will make our cheerleaders role models in our building. We want our cheerleaders to be exemplary citizens exhibiting high moral and academic standards.

All cheerleaders will be expected to abide by the standards and guidelines outlined in the Garland ISD Cheerleader Constitution. If you are interested in viewing the Cheerleader Constitution prior to tryouts, please visit the following website: <http://www.garlandisd.net/cheerleader/>. All cheerleaders will receive a copy after the squads have been formed. Cheerleaders who fail to adhere to the standards and guidelines will be penalized.

Tryout information packets to each middle and high school in the Garland Independent School District are available on the district website: www.garlandisd.net. Follow the General Information link and select Cheerleading.

A parent meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the library to go over changes and discuss any questions you may have. All candidates and the parent or guardian are asked to attend unless prior arrangements have been made with the sponsor.

We wish all candidates the best of luck. Please read this packet carefully and be sure you fully understand each rule and procedure before signing.

Raven Sparling
Sponsor

Nikki Jones-Hunter
Principal

Clinic Information

Clinic Fee \$10

These practice sessions are NOT required. No videotaping of any clinic is allowed anywhere on campus. Candidates must be academically eligible on their 4th six weeks report card, or 5th six weeks progress report. Only eligible candidates will be allowed to attend clinic.

Monday, April 13th 4:15-5:30 p.m.

- First practice with all cheerleader candidates in the gym.
- **BE DRESSED AND READY FOR PRACTICE BY 4:15**
- Attire: shirt, shorts, tennis shoes (not Keds), and socks
- Hair must be worn up
- **Your parent permission form, a copy of your current report card or progress report and the medical release form must be turned in on or before this day.**
- Absolutely no gum, candy, soft drinks, or food will be allowed in the cafeteria during practice. There will be water breaks.
- Words to cheer and music for dance will be given on this day. If you want a copy of the music, you need to bring a cassette tape with you to the clinic. No tapes will be made after the second day of clinic. A CD of the music can be purchased for \$1
- Candidates will draw for numbers on this day. There will be absolutely **NO** switching of numbers after the order has been recorded.

Tuesday, April 14th 4:10-5:30 p.m.

- Same procedure and attire as previous day

Friday, April 17th 4:10-6:30

- **Mock tryouts** – we will go through all tryout procedures today

All paperwork and money needed for the tryout process must be turned in by the first day of the clinic *before* the clinic begins. No student will be penalized as long as the information is turned in by the clinic date *before* the clinic begins.

Parent meeting: Wednesday, April 1st at 6:00 p.m. in the library

Saturday, April 18th *Judges Tryout*

- You will tryout before a panel of qualified judges. Every attempt is made to hire judges that have not worked with students in the Garland area. However, with the hundreds of camps in the state of Texas, attended by thousands of cheerleaders and taught by hundreds of instructors, it may be possible at some time that a member of the judging panel may have had some contact with a candidate who is trying out. Professional judges with outstanding credential and references will be hired for all tryouts. They will be instructed to judge the candidates based only on the mastery of the skills that they see demonstrated during the tryouts. Tryout results will not be challenged because of prior knowledge of judges and candidates.

An administrator will be present at all tryouts.

- Tryouts will begin approximately at 1:15 and will end at approximately 2:45pm. **You will need to report to the Austin Academy of Excellence (1125 Beverly Drive Garland, TX 75040) at 12:15 to warm up.**
 - These tryouts will be closed. No parents or friends will be allowed in the gym or in the building during tryouts. A principal will be present at all tryouts.
 - You will be required to do the following:

Sequence of Events for Middle School Tryouts

1. All candidates should walk in and perform all material for the judges as a group. It should be explained that this is only so the judges can see what the material should look like and that they will not be judged at that time. Full-out jumps and tumbling is not necessary but certainly welcome during this demonstration. Judges should put their pencils down during this time.
2. Candidates will enter the gym individually.
3. They will spirit, or tumble in, and approach the center of the gym floor, where they will wait for the judge's notification.
4. The candidate will then perform their three jumps. (toe touch, L/R herkie, and a jump of their choice)
5. The candidate will then perform their individual cheer, and then exit the gym.

***** Once all candidates have completed 1-4, then we will begin with the group portion of the tryout!

6. The candidates will enter the gym in groups of 3 or 4, and will walk to the center of the gym floor.
7. The candidates will perform their sideline/chant as a group.
8. The candidates will then perform the dance as a group, and then exit the gym.

***** There should be no tumbling or spiriting in, in this portion of the tryouts. The candidates should merely walk in, perform the sideline/chant and dance, and then walk out.

- Wear the required outfit with no jewelry and no nail polish. Your number should be pinned to the front of your shirt. Candidates must **NOT** exchange numbers once they are assigned a number.
- When a school is ready to tryout, the host sponsor will notify the candidates in the warm-up area. The sponsor will escort the candidates to the appropriate gym for the tryouts. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCE WILL ANY OUTGOING 8th GRADE CHEERLEADER BE ALLOWED INSIDE THE HOST SCHOOL.** Sponsors will wait in the designated waiting area.
- Parents should be waiting outside to pick you up between 4:15pm and 4:30pm.
- All scores will be calculated to two decimal points. There will be no callbacks. In case of a tie, both candidates will be selected as stated in the cheerleading constitution.
- Scores will be tabulated by a computer-generated formula by a person not connected to the tryout.
- Judges scores will be entered into the GISD cheerleader scoring spreadsheet. Totals on the spreadsheet will be verbally confirmed with those on the judges score sheets. The tabulation spreadsheet will automatically throw out the scores of the lowest and highest scoring judges. Results will be based on the average of the remaining three scores. **Each candidate for 7th grade must score a minimum of 30% (30 points) of the highest possible score (100 points) in order to be placed on a cheerleading squad. Each candidate for 8th grade must score a minimum of 35% (35 points) of the highest possible score (100 points) in order to be placed on the cheerleading squad.**
- Final results for each school will be published on the GISD Internet Website. Candidates will be given the website address at the conclusion of the tryouts.

- Requests for scores will be honored as outlined in the cheerleading constitution. Those candidates wishing to receive their scores quickly should provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the sponsor prior to the tryouts. Individual score sheets will be mailed no later than Monday. Other requests for scores can be made through the school principal.
- *All candidates chosen for cheerleader will be required to attend a fitting on Monday, April 20th at 4:00pm in room A1. This is the only time for uniforms to be ordered. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend this fitting. Payment in full is due at this time. Only cash or money orders will be accepted.*
- **NO JEWELRY, BOWS, OR RIBBONS MAY BE WORN!!!**
- **NO GUM!!**
- **FLOWERS, BALLOONS, ETC. WILL NOT BE DELIVERED TO STUDENTS IN CLASS AND SHOULD NOT BE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL AT ANY TIME.**
- **CANDIDATES SHOULD NOT BRING GIFTS TO EXCHANGE DURING SCHOOL HOURS.**

Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation Medical History Form – Please notice that cheerleading candidates are NOT required to have a physical exam unless they answer yes to questions 1,2,7,11, or 17. If none of these apply, they only need to turn in the first page. If they answer yes to any of these questions, they must have a physical exam and must turn in both pages of the form.

Judging Criteria for Middle School Cheerleaders

Entrance

Presence/Poise (5) Tumbling during run-in (10) Spirit/Enthusiasm (5)

Jumps

Toe Touch (10) Right/Left Herkie (5) Optional Jump (5)

Cheer

Motion Technique (10) Voice/Projection (5) Incorporation (Jumps/Standing Tumble) (5) Memory (5)

Chant

Motion Technique (10) Timing (5)

Dance

Motion Technique (10) Projection (5) Memory (5)

REQUIRED OUTFIT FOR TRYOUTS

8TH GRADE

blue shorts
white polo-type shirt
white socks
tennis shoes
hair pulled back

7TH GRADE

red shorts
white polo-type shirt
white socks
tennis shoes
hair pulled back

No logos allowed on any part of the outfit. Shirt **must** have collar.

UNIFORMS

1. The individual cheerleader must provide all personal items and uniforms. The cost for uniform and camp clothes will not exceed \$450. Below is an estimated guide for expenses:

Shell	\$60.00
Skirt	\$60.00
Warmups	\$100.00
Shoes	\$60.00
Briefs	\$15.00
Camp Clothes	\$90.00
Poms	\$20.00
Bag	\$20.00
<u>Camp</u>	<u>\$140.00</u>
TOTAL COST	\$565 .00

2. Cheerleaders must keep their uniforms and shoes in a clean and neat manner.
3. Hair must always be pulled back away from the face at all practices and games.
4. No jewelry will be worn during any practice sessions or games.
5. No gum while in uniform or at practice. Nothing except clear nail polish while in uniform.

SUMMER CAMP

All cheerleaders are expected to attend summer camp and practice sessions. Anyone not attending camp will be benched for the first three games of the season. Anyone missing summer practice sessions will be benched a ½ game per miss. Cheerleaders will also be expected to purchase the required camp clothes. We will be attending NCA camp June 11-13. Camp will be held at the Garland Special Events Center.

SPIRIT SIGNS

1. Each cheerleader will make one or two signs per activity or game.
2. Signs must be neat (stencils are required and will be cut out of poster board) and well made and consist of more than one word. Cheerleaders will need to have poster board to make a set of stencils from sponsor if they do not already have a set.
3. The school will provide paper. **The cheerleader will provide paint.** Paint colors will be red and royal blue.
4. Messages will be spirit and school related.
5. All cheerleaders will participate in making run-through signs.
6. Signs must be cleared through sponsor.

TRANSPORTATION

Each parent or guardian must provide transportation to and from all practices, games, and cheerleader activities. Sponsors may not transport cheerleaders.

FUNDRAISERS

In order to help with incidental expenses, all cheerleaders will participate in scheduled fundraisers. Fundraisers may require some extra time and energy of both the cheerleaders and their parents.

All cheerleaders will receive a copy of the constitution so they are aware of expectations and consequences.

PAYMENT

Payment in full is due on April 20th at the fitting.

For more information, tryouts packets for each middle school and high school in the Garland Independent School District are available on the district website:

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PARENTAL PERMISSION FORM
Lyles Middle School
Cheerleader Tryouts
2009-2010

Candidate's Name _____ ID# _____

Name of parent/guardian _____

Address _____

Telephone H: _____ W: _____

I, _____, have read the information packet and understand the responsibilities, guidelines, and time commitment associated with being a cheerleader. I agree to fulfill these responsibilities to the best of my ability and to abide by all rules established by the district and school.

Candidate's Signature Date

I, _____, give my child, _____ permission to tryout for cheerleader at Lyles Middle School. I have read the information packet and discussed it with my child. I agree to support the guidelines as stated, and understand what my responsibilities will be in regard to expenses, time, and transportation. I confirm that my child has chosen Lyles Middle School as their choice for the 2008-2009 school year. **I also understand that I will not be allowed in the building on the day of tryouts.**

As a cheerleader, you child is covered by the school insurance, providing that the proper GISD channels are followed. However, you are encouraged to have you own insurance or to take the additional school insurance.

Parent's Signature Date

THIS FORM AND THE MEDICAL RELEASE FORM *MUST* BE SIGNED AND RETURNED ALONG WITH A COPY OF YOUR CURRENT REPORT CARD TO MRS. SPARLING OR MRS. RASSHAN BY FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2009.

THERE WILL BE A PARENT MEETING ON APRIL 1ST AT 6:00PM IN THE LIBRARY.