

The Classical Center at Brandenburg



Cheerleader Tryout Packet Spring 2009

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.

Dear Parents,

This packet has information you will need to look over to decide if your child will have your permission to tryout to be a Brandenburg Cheerleader. We hope that you, as a parent of a prospective cheerleader, are aware of the time and energy it takes to be an effective student leader at games and at school.

In addition to all the practices and games, CCBMS cheerleaders will have other duties which they will be required to perform throughout the school year and summer. These duties include, but are not limited to, planning pep rallies, painting signs for games and pep rallies, and acting as hostesses for various school activities.

A great amount of time and energy will also be asked of the parents/guardians in providing transportation to and from all activities and in other miscellaneous functions during the year.

A list of spring and summer obligations for CCBMS cheerleaders will be given to each new member when the information becomes available. It is very important that all newly selected cheerleaders attend all practices and functions noted. The absence of any member affects the productivity of the entire squad.

The estimated cost of cheerleading for the 2009-2010 school year is \$600. The stated cost includes all fees for uniforms, camp clothes and camp instructions. We will have a fundraiser to help with the cost of camp (\$210 which is included in the total). The total uniform balance will be due on April 21st, the day of the fitting (\$381.93 for 8th; \$376.93 for 7th). The \$95 deposit for camp will be due to the sponsor on Tuesday, May 5. The balance (\$115) for camp will be due by the Friday, May 29th. **ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE BY MONEY ORDER.**

We hope that you will discuss the expectations and obligations of being a CCBMS cheerleader with your child and agree that it is a worthwhile organization. Cheerleading helps students to form friendships, to improve communication skills, and to develop leadership skills that will prove to be beneficial later in life.

Please do not have flowers and/or balloons delivered to the school the week of tryouts or the week after. The front office staff will not accept deliveries. The students can not carry them to classes and they are a distraction.

We look forward to meeting each of you at the parent meeting on Tuesday, April 7th in the Brandenburg library at 6:30. We will discuss expectations and will answer any questions you may have. If possible, please have all paperwork and the \$10 workshop fee (**cash only**) ready to turn in at this meeting. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (972)926-2630 or email me at JAFarrar@garlandisd.net

Sincerely,

Jennifer Farrar

Important Dates

Parent Meeting	Tuesday, April 7 (6:30 pm)
Cheer workshop (CLOSED) We will meet in the Cafeteria (Tryout cheer, chant and dance will be taught)	Monday, April 13 (4:00 pm-5:30 pm) Tuesday, April 14 (4:00 pm-5:30 pm)
ALL PAPERWORK AND \$10 CLINIC FEE IS DUE BY 4:00pm, April 13th	
Mock Tryouts	Friday, April 17 (4:15 - ???)
Judges' Tryouts (CLOSED)	Saturday, April 18 (9:45 - 12:45pm) @ <u>Austin Academy</u>
Tryout results posted	Sunday, April 19 (2 pm)
Uniform Fitting and Parent meeting	Tuesday, April 21 st (4pm)

After school practices will be on May 5th, 12th, 19th from 4 – 5:30pm
Summer camp dates will be **July 28-30 at SMU in Dallas (transportation will not be provided)**

*****PLEASE NOTE:**

No one is allowed in the gym during CLOSED activities except for the sponsor, candidates, administrators, and other designated personnel. THERE IS NO VIDEOTAPING OF ANY OF THE TRYOUT ACTIVITIES. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Garland Independent School District will hold a centralized tryout for the selection of the 2009-2010 cheerleading squads. All twelve middle schools with cheer squads will participate in the tryout process. The tryout will be held at a north side and south side middle school location. The goal of the centralized tryouts will be to provide a consistent, equitable and monitored tryout process for all middle school cheerleader candidates across the district.

Tryout uniform

- White polo shirt (NO visible logos or labels)
- Red shorts (elastic waist/cotton)
- White socks
- White athletic shoes
- Hair must be securely pulled out of the face
- Your tryout number—must be securely attached to the front of your shirt. You will be given a number to wear—YOU MAY NOT SWITCH NUMBERS WITH OTHER CANDIDATES.

Agenda

Tuesday, April 7, 2008 – Informational Parent Meeting

This meeting is not mandatory in order to tryout for cheerleader. Meeting will be in the library at 6:30pm. Sponsors will be available to go over all the information and to answer any questions.

PLEASE NOTE: Only candidates who are passing all of their classes are eligible to attend the workshop, practices, and mock tryouts. If a student is failing one or more classes, he/she may try out for cheerleader, but he/she will not be allowed to attend the workshop, extra practices, or mock tryouts. It will be their responsibility to learn the tryout material from another candidate. Sponsors or current 8th grade cheerleaders will not be able to help these candidates. Also, academically eligible candidates are not required to attend the clinic and practices in order to try out for cheerleader.

Monday, April 13th and Tuesday, April 14th – Tryout workshop (4:00 – 5:30pm) Cafeteria at Brandenburg

Candidates will be taught the tryout cheer, chant and dance from a choreographer. A copy of the music will be provided for the candidates. All completed paperwork (cheerleading application, medical release form, the 4th six weeks report card and 5th six weeks progress report if there are any failing grades on the report card) and the \$10 tryout fee **in cash** (this covers the cost of the choreographer) are due no later than 4:00pm, Monday, April 13th. **Any candidate who does not have all of these completed items turned in by 4:00pm on Monday, April 13th will not be allowed to tryout.**

Proper attire should be worn during the workshop and practices. The attire consists of a t-shirt, shorts, socks, and athletic shoes. Hair must be securely pulled out of the face and absolutely no gum or jewelry is allowed. Candidates will randomly draw numbers for the tryout line-up. (No video taping allowed for the clinic or mock tryouts)

Friday, April 17 (4:15 - ???) – Mock Tryouts in the competition gym at Brandenburg

Candidates will have the opportunity to practice the tryout procedure.

Saturday, April 18 (9:45 – 12:45 pm) – Judges' Tryouts at Austin Academy

Candidates must be dressed and stretching in the cafeteria at Austin Academy no later than 9:45 am. ALL candidates will remain in the girl's locker room during tryouts. 8th grade candidates will be in one gym, 7th grade candidates in the other gym. **YOU MUST REMAIN IN THE LOCKER ROOM UNTIL A SPONSOR DISMISSES YOU. This is a closed tryout. Only candidates will be allowed in the building.**

Sunday, April 19 (2 pm)

The results of the tryouts will be posted on the west door of Brandenburg. Each grade level will have an alphabetical listing announcing the names of the cheerleaders who have been selected for the 2009-2010 school year.

Judges' Tryout Procedure

ANY DEVIATION FROM THE TRYOUT PROCEDURE/REQUIREMENTS MAY RESULT IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF THE CANDIDATE.

1. All candidates will walk into the gym and perform all the material for the judges as a group. This is to show the judges what the material should look like and no one will be judged at this time. Full-out jumps and tumbling is not necessary, but can be done during this demonstration.
2. Individual performances:
 - The candidate will enter the gym and wait for notification from the judges that they are ready. At this time, the candidate will run in showing spirit and enthusiasm doing whatever tumbling pass they wish to do if they are able. Once they are finished with their entrance, they should stop in the center of the gym and wait for notification from the judges.
 - Once the nod has been given, the candidate should do whatever jump they wish to do first and then wait for a nod before doing the second and third jumps giving the judges enough time to score each jump. Each candidate must do a toe touch, right-leg OR left-leg herkie, and a jump of the candidate's choice.
 - Once the nod has been given, the candidate should begin the cheer. The cheer will have a section for incorporation allowing the candidate to either include a second jump or a standing tumbling trick of their choice.
 - After the cheer, the candidate will WALK off the gym floor and enter the girls' locker room.
3. Once all candidates have completed steps 1 and 2, then we will begin the group portion of the tryout!
4. The candidates will enter the gym in groups of 3 or 4, and will walk to the center of the court. Once the nod has been given, they will perform the chant together.
5. After the chant, the group will perform the dance. Once this has been performed, the candidates should remain in their spots until they are told to leave the floor to ensure the judges correspond the scores with the candidate numbers.
6. This process will continue until all candidates have performed with the group.

DISCLAIMER: Every attempt is made to hire judges that have not worked with any 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 credentials 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.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Scoring—there will be 5 qualified judges used in the tryouts. There are 100 points available from each judge. The high and low score will be dropped. The remaining three scores will be averaged. **Candidates must earn a minimum score of 30 (7th grade) or 35 (8th grade) to be placed on the squad.**

Entrance

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

Jumps

- Toe Touch (10)
- Right/Left Herkie (5)
- Choice of jump (5)

Cheer

- Motion Technique (10)
- Voice/projection (5)
- Incorporation (jump/standing tumbling) (5)
- Memory (5)

Chant

- Motion Technique (10)
- Timing (5)

Dance

- Motion technique (10)
- Projection (5)
- Memory (5)

Tabulation of Scores

- An administrator will be present at the tryouts.
- Scores will be tabulated SIMULTANEOUSLY by the sponsor AND the principal, or at least one other campus professional designated by the principal. The other campus professional will not be another cheerleader sponsor.
- A district-wide computer generated formula will be used to tabulate the final score for each candidate.
- At the conclusion of all the tryouts, each candidate may request his/her judging score sheet. The sponsor needs to have a self-addressed, stamped envelope by the end of the judges' tryouts. All score sheets will be mailed by April 20, 2009.
- The top 10 scoring candidates with a minimum score of 30 (7th grade) or 35 (8th grade) from each grade level will be selected for the squads.

Cheerleading Application

Name _____

Parent/Guardian name _____

Address _____

Home Phone Number _____

Alternate Phone Number _____

I have read, fully understand and will abide by the constitution rules and regulations for the 2009-2010 cheerleading year. As a parent, I realize that it will take my full support and commitment to the CCBMS cheer program, and that I will do everything necessary to help my child meet his/her responsibilities and obligations. I understand it will be my responsibility to provide transportation in a timely manner to and from all cheer functions. I also confirm that the Classical Center at Brandenburg was chosen as the school of choice for the 2009-2010 school year. I also understand that parents, family and friends will not be allowed in the building for any closed event the week of cheer tryouts.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

I have read, fully understand, and will abide by the constitution rules and regulations for the 2009-2010 cheerleading year. As a prospective cheerleader, I realize that it will take my full support and commitment to the CCBMS cheer program and I am willing to accept all responsibilities and obligations that are required to make the squad one of excellence. I also confirm that the Classical Center at Brandenburg was chosen as the school of choice for the 2009-2010 school year.

Candidate Signature _____

Date _____

**A copy of the cheer constitution can be found on the following website:
www.garlandisd.net/cheerleader. Please print a copy to read and then sign this form with your child.

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