

# **O'Banion Cheerleading Tryout Packet**



**2009-2010**

# O'Banion Middle School Tryout Packet 2009-2010

- Step One:** Read this packet entirely.
- Step Two:** Sign all forms.
- Step Three:** Staple \$5.00 cash to signed forms.
- Step Four:** Return confirmation of understanding, medical form, and money to Ms. Joseph's Room by Thursday, April 2, 2009.

If you have any questions please contact

Jennifer Joseph  
972.279.6103  
jmjoseph@garlandisd.net

# Important Dates

**Monday, March 30, 2009**

Parent Information Meeting

OMS Cafeteria

6:00 PM

**Thursday, April 2, 2009**

Tryout Packet Forms Due

Ms. Joseph's Room 161

4:15 PM

**Monday, April 6, 2009**

**And Tuesday, April 7, 2009**

Clinic - Teach Cheer, Chant, and  
Dance

OMS Gym

4:00 to 5:30 PM

**Monday, April 13, 2009**

**Tuesday, April 14, 2009**

**Wednesday, April 15, 2009**

**Thursday, April 16, 2009**

Open Gym

OMS Gyms

4:00 to 6:00 PM

**Friday, April 17, 2009**

Mock Tryouts

OMS Gym

4:15 to 6:30 PM

**Saturday, April 18, 2008**

Tryouts

Austin Academy for Excellence

8:30 to 11:00

**Monday, April 20, 2009**

Parent Meeting for 2009-2010

Cheerleaders

OMS Choir Room

6:00 PM

**Friday, May 1, 2009**

Uniform Fitting for 2009-2010

Cheerleaders

Ms. Joseph's Room 161

4:00 to 6:00 PM

**August 3 - August 5**

NCA Cheerleading Camp

O'Banion Middle School

# Our Expectations

Before tryouts for cheerleading, it's imperative that everyone is well aware of what we expect and the standards that we hold our cheerleaders. The three most important requirements that both the candidate and his/her parents need to take into consideration for the duration of the 2009 - 2010 year are good character, financial deadlines, and our district's cheerleading constitution. If for some reason, you feel that your son/daughter cannot meet these expectations, you might want to reconsider trying out.

## Displaying Exemplary Character

It is the belief of both the coaches and administrators that being a cheerleader is not only a honor; it is a privilege as well. Therefore, should you be chosen to represent O'Banion Middle School, it is imperative that you follow all school rules and regulations. Disrespect for authority, school personnel, school policy, fellow students, etc. will not be tolerated and may result in temporary or permanent dismissal from the squad.

## Paying All Financial Obligations

Upon becoming a cheerleader, it is your responsibility to purchase the uniform and other required items that have been selected by the sponsor, as well as pay for summer camp tuition on the dates given to you by the sponsors.

## GISD Middle School Cheerleader Constitution

It is the responsibility of the candidate and parent to read and abide by the Garland Independent School District's Middle School Cheerleader Constitution, which can be found at [www.Garlandisd.net](http://www.Garlandisd.net).

Follow the Departments and Programs link and select Cheerleading. If you do not have access to this website, we will provide a copy for you.

The GISD Middle School Cheerleader Constitution makes you aware of your rights, discusses our objectives, our philosophy and purpose, and specifically states what's expected of every cheerleader in its domain. To avoid future conflicts, it is YOUR responsibility to become well acquainted with the contents of this document especially the "Deduction System" because it will be strictly enforced and anyone who chooses not to abide will be held accountable.

# Required Attire

## Cheer Clinic & Practice

April 6, 7, 13, 14, 15, and 16

Ponytail

No Jewelry

T-Shirt

Knit Shorts

White Socks

Athletic Shoes

## Mock Tryouts & Tryouts

April 17 and April 18

Ponytail

No Jewelry

Plain, White Polo-style shirt with sleeves

(No Visible Writing)

Royal Blue Knit Shorts

White Socks

Solid White Athletic Shoes

Candidate Number

## **Cheer Clinic**

Only candidates who are academically eligible may participate in the clinic, and although it is not a mandatory event, attendance is highly recommended because anyone choosing not to participate will have to rely on another candidate to teach them the material (Cheer, Chant, and Dance) that will be scored by the panel of judges.

Each participant will be charged a \$5.00 clinic fee that is to be turned in with the paperwork by April 2nd. This fee includes a CD of the dance music that each candidate may take home in order to practice during the week of the clinic. Cameras, camcorders, and picture phones are not permitted at any time.

## **Parent Participation and Involvement**

Parents are not to be in the building at anytime April 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, or April 11<sup>th</sup> thru April 17<sup>th</sup> while the candidates are assembled in the gym learning, preparing, or practicing their routines. This also applies to the actual tryout day itself at Austin Academy. ANYONE CHOOSING TO ENTER THE PREMISES IN SPITE OF THIS WARNING WILL IMMEDIATELY BE ESCORTED OUT BY A SPONSOR, ADMINISTRATOR, OR SRO. This may cost your child the opportunity to participate.

# Tryout Day Procedures

## Morning

All O'Banion Cheerleader Candidates are to arrive at Austin Academy dressed in specified attire by 8:30 to warm up. BE ON TIME!!! Tryouts will begin at 9:30 and the candidates will be permitted to leave when they have finished trying out in front of the judges. There will be NO call backs.

## Notification

Once the judges' scores have been tabulated and confirmed by the principal and sponsor, each candidate will be given an envelope with specific instructions to visit a website in order to find out the official tryout results.

## Judging

Cheerleader selections will be solely based on a performance before a panel of 5 judges. The high and low score of each candidate will be dropped, leaving the remaining 3 to be averaged and then calculated to 2 decimal points by a district-wide, computer generated program.

## Performance: Sequence of Events

Before any judging will take place, all candidates (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade) will perform the cheer, chant, and dance for the judges so that they will have the opportunity to see what the material should look like. Afterwards, the contestants will exit the gym and tryouts will proceed as follows: In numeric order, each contestant will make his or her entrance, demonstrate three jumps, and then perform the cheer. Once all individual categories are complete, the candidates will execute the chant and dance in groups consisting of 3 or 4.

# Who Will Make the Squad?

Each candidate will be scored on the following criteria:

## **Entrance**

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

## **Cheer**

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

## **Jumps**

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

## **Chant**

- Motion Technique (10)
- Timing (5)

## **Dance**

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

**For 7<sup>th</sup> Grade:** The contestants receiving the top 10 scores of 30% or greater

**For 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** The contestants receiving the top 10 scores of 35% or above will be named as the 2009-2010 8<sup>th</sup> grade cheerleaders.

# **COST**

All payments must be made with cash or money order - No personal checks will be accepted

## **Cheerleading Uniform:**

Top, skirt, turtleneck, bloomers, warm-up jacket and pants, and shoes

## **Spirit Shirt:**

To be worn on spirit Fridays and to camp.

## **Camp:**

August 3 - August 5: O'Banion Middle School

O'Banion Middle School is graciously paying \$81.28 per student of the total cost. Parents will be responsible for paying the remaining \$350 per student.

The first payment of \$119.45 will be due on Monday, April 20, 2009 in the form of **CASH** or **MONEY ORDER** made out to O'Banion Middle School!

# Disclaimers

## 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 credentials and references will be hired for all tryouts. They will be instructed to judge the candidates based only on the mastery of the skill they see during tryouts. Tryout results will not be challenged because of prior knowledge of judges and candidates

## Judges' Scoring

Scores and final results tabulated by a district-wide, computer-generated program will be non-debatable as every attempt of fairness has been attempted by having an administrator present at each phase of the tryout process.

## Insurance

As a cheerleader, your 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 Meeting

All candidates and parents are required to attend the Mandatory Parent Meeting unless prior arrangements have been made with the sponsor.

## Candidate Eligibility

Even if a candidate cannot attend the Cheer Clinic due to academic ineligibility, they can however participate in the Panel of Judges portion of the tryout process.

## Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation - Medical History

Please notice that cheerleading candidates are NOT required to have a physical exam unless they answer yes to the questions 1, 2, 5, 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.

**Tryout information and packets for all GISD middle and high schools are available at [www.garlandisd.net](http://www.garlandisd.net). Just follow the Departments and Programs link and select Cheerleading.**

# Confirmation of Understanding

I, the undersigned, have read the entire O'Banion Middle School Cheerleading Application Packet and understand the contents within.

I also acknowledge that:

Candidates must be registered to attend O'Banion for the 2009-2010 school year and may not tryout for another GISD squad.

Parents, family, and friends are NOT allowed in the building any day during the week of tryout activities. If we are, we risk sponsor or SRO removal.

I will not contest the final decisions resulting from the Panel of Judges.

To receive my son's/daughter's scores in a timely fashion, I should submit a signed request to Ms. Joseph as well as a self-addressed envelope, the Monday following tryouts.

I certify that all information I have provided to the sponsor is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Selected cheerleaders must:

- Always display a positive attitude
- Abide by the GISD Cheerleading Constitution or be subjected to the consequences therein
- Work hard in practice and in the classroom
- Attend scheduled events
- Provide their own transportation to and from games

\_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
ID #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date