

# Varsity Drill Team

Varsity drill team members perform exciting routines at Varsity football games, basketball games, pep rallies. They also march in parades and participate in special events including an annual spring show. They learn all styles of dance and drill, such as high kick, jazz, hip-hop, prop, military, precision, pom, funk, and novelty. They wear uniforms, costumes, and spirit clothes. There is no doubt that members enjoy being a part of this special group. Additional information is included to explain this outstanding high school organization.

1. Freshmen at the end of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year, sophomores, and juniors are eligible and encouraged to audition.
2. All students wishing to audition must turn in an application to the appropriate high school and attend tryout practice sessions. Auditions for all high schools will be held on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Location is TBA. Each school will have a designated time on that day. Everyone is welcome to audition. When you earn a place on the team, your self-confidence is sure to increase from being a member of a special group and by participating in performances.
3. Members are required to pass all classes in order to perform at games, pep rallies, and shows. This is a great motivation for students to achieve academic goals.
4. Working as a team gives students an opportunity to meet a group of friends who are also interested in being good students and are involved in school activities. GISD high schools are large schools with many students; they seem smaller to students who have a group of friends with the same interests.
5. Drill team is a structured organization that allows students to have fun while learning responsibility and accountability under the watch of a concerned director.
6. Many drill team members are IB, MST, or AP students &/or are involved in other organizations. While school activities, IB, MST, and AP classes require time and dedication, we do welcome students to participate in more than one program.
7. Drill team members earn P.E. and/or fine arts credit for the drill team class period. This credit is required for graduation, and Drill team is a fun way to earn it. Varsity drill team is a double-blocked class, so it meets every day at schools that are on the block schedule.
8. Although there are costs involved with being a drill team member, there are also many financial benefits.
  - a. Members do not have to pay to attend any football game or other activity in which they perform. During football season alone, this is an average savings of \$7 a week.
  - b. Uniform costs include spirit wear that members wear to school every Thursday and Friday during the fall semester, plus at least one t-shirt. This reduces the necessary spending amount for school clothes.
  - c. Expenses also include a letter jacket that the girls wear often, but even this is an optional item at some schools.
  - d. Members receive a year of instruction in dance skills for every year they are on drill team. Similar classes in private studios can be very costly (usually \$10-15 per hour).
9. Members learn discipline, accountability, and responsibility that will benefit and prepare them for college and for being part of the work force.
10. Most of all, drill team is fun, fun, FUN!!!

Please encourage your child to join this fantastic organization! Information packets and applications for each high school may be acquired through your student's high school office or by contacting the corresponding Varsity drill team director:

**Lakeview – Kris Sims**  
**Naaman Forest – Alesia Baber**  
**North Garland – Kelly Powell**

**South Garland**  
**Rowlett – Gretchen Short**