



**Fall 2023  
Majestic 35th Line  
Audition Packet**

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October 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Your student has expressed a desire to audition for the McNeil Majestics Dance/Drill Team. As a member of this dance/drill team, the Majestic will dedicate themselves to hard work, growing individually, and having many, many memorable experiences. If your student is selected for the Majestics team, the candidate must abide by strict rules and regulations. The handbook outlines all of the rules and guidelines that must be followed as soon as the new line is announced after auditions. These rules and guidelines were created to uphold fairness and consistency to produce a respected Dance/Drill team for McNeil High School. The handbook is designed for the protection of each team member; therefore, each student and parent are asked to read it carefully, discuss it fully, and keep it close to refer to often. As the Directors of the Majestics, we would like you to know how much we enjoy working with the Majestics. We have many goals to set and reach as well as many memories to make. If you have any questions about this organization, please contact us at McNeil High School, 512-464-6419, and we will return your call as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Baleigh Simmons  
Director  
McNeil High School

Jasmine Matthews  
Assistant Director  
McNeil High School

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# **The Audition Process**

## **Eligibility**

**To qualify for membership and participation as a Majestic, a student must:**

1. Submit all required paperwork for auditions on or before the deadline.
  - a. Dance Team Application - Google Form
  - b. Insurance/medical release form- Google Form
  - c. 1st 9 weeks report card & most recent IPR (Nov 2023)
  - d. Recent Picture submitted through form
2. Each student must be enrolled in RRISD prior to try-outs. Exception: Proof of living within the district boundaries.
3. Each student must attend the audition clinic in its entirety, which will be conducted on days, times and locations set by the Directors. Only prior notification of an acceptable absence (deemed by Directors) will be excused.
4. Students will not be eligible if they have been dismissed for disciplinary reasons from ANY high school extracurricular activities including but not limited to dance team, colorguard, band, choir, cheerleading, or athletic teams for one school year prior to infraction.
5. Any student who has been suspended from school for the current school year, or has attended RROC is not eligible for the dance team.
6. You MUST pass ALL of your classes the first 9 weeks for you to be eligible to audition. If you failed any class for nine weeks, you must pass all classes on the next progress report.
7. A student who has been attending high school for seven or more semesters is not eligible to become a dance team candidate.
8. Students who have been or will be in high school for more than four years are not eligible for dance team membership.
9. All current Majestics do not need to re-audition as long as they are in good standing.
10. The students earn a letter jacket. These are not provided by the Majestics or RRISD and must be paid for by the student and their family.

## **Audition Clinic**

1. All materials for auditions will be due by 5:30 pm on November 13th, 2023. There will be no late applications accepted after this time.
2. No previous dance training is required, but experience is helpful.
3. All candidates will learn audition etiquette, a jazz/hip hop, contemporary, progressions and kick combination.

## **First Cut - Grade and Conduct Requirements/Applications**

1. Each candidate must pass a rating done by their administrator based on the areas of responsibility, cooperation, and respect of authority in order to audition. All candidates should not have a record of chronic display of misconduct.
2. You must be passing ALL classes on your 1st 9 weeks report card or most recent IPR.

## **Clinic:**

1. Each candidate must attend a 4-day clinic held at McNeil High School.
2. The clinic will be held **November 13th – November 16th** in the dance studios from 7:30am – 8:45 am.
3. Attire: Each candidate must wear solid black dance attire during the clinic. Their hair must be pulled back and up, and **NO jewelry may be worn.**
4. Each candidate will learn basic technique for a jazz/hip hop, contemporary, progressions and kick combination.
5. Viewers are **not** allowed during **ANY** practices.

## **Auditions: Will be held November 16th from 4:45 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. ish**

1. Attire: A solid black form fitted shirt or leotard, black leggings or jazz pants, and some sort of shoe: jazz, pirouette, or foot paw are required for the auditions. The candidate's hair must be worn in a ponytail or bun and no jewelry may be worn. The candidate must have on performance make-up.
2. Each candidate will receive a number that will be pinned to the front of the candidate's torso and will perform in a small group based on height. The number is to ensure anonymity.
3. All candidates are subject to call backs at the end of the auditions. This is no reflection of the candidate's performance, but is only used to help the judges properly rate each candidate. Call backs can look differently and are presented based on how the judges would like to see the material.
4. Auditions are closed to all spectators.
5. Three to four independent judges with no affiliation to the team(s) will judge auditions. **The decision of the judges is final.**
6. The numbers that are selected for the Majestics Dance Team will be posted on the Majestic website on Friday evening at 5pm.

## **Transfers:**

If a member who is in good standing on another dance/drill team transfers to RRISD after the auditions, the dancer may have a private audition with the Directors. The dancer must meet the following requirements:

- A letter of recommendation from the previous Director
- Meet the required technique set forth by the Majestics
- Meet the grade and citizenship requirements for the team

## **New Majestic Class:**

Once a candidate has been chosen to be a member of the Majestics, the candidate will be enrolled in the Maji Mini class for the spring semester. This class will prepare the dancers to step onto the team by the beginning of summer as a full-fledged Majestic. The candidate must be able to fit this class into their schedule. Maji Minis will be put on a probationary contract that they must fulfill in order to become a full fledged member in June. All candidates selected for Majestics will be held to the standard and rules set in the Handbook upon results being posted.

## The Audition Clinic Schedule

### **Wednesday, October 16th, 2023**

Majestic Audition Packet, Application, Information Meeting will be available to public

### **Monday, November 13th, 2023**

Audition Clinic 7:30am-8:45am- wear all black, hair up in ponytail/bun, no jewelry, and dance shoes of your choice

Majestic Audition Application is due by 5:30pm - no late applications will be accepted. You should receive a confirmation email after you have successfully submitted your application.

### **Tuesday, November 14th, 2023**

Audition Clinic 7:30am - 8:45am - wear all black, hair up in ponytail/bun, no jewelry, and dance shoes of your choice

### **Wednesday, November 15th, 2023**

Audition Clinic 7:30am - 8:45am - wear all black, hair up in ponytail/bun, no jewelry, and dance shoes of your choice

### **Thursday, November 16th, 2023**

Audition Clinic 7:30am-8:45am - Mock Audition - practice exactly how auditions will go. Wear all black, hair up in ponytail/bun, no jewelry, and dance shoes of your choice

**\*\*\*Auditions are on Thursday, November 16th, 2023 and will begin at 5pm in the New Studio (Call time is 4:45pm)\*\*\***

### **Link to Audition Application:**

<https://forms.gle/gnXXejrNGFFsogpU7>

### **Link to Bootcamp Registration:**

[Click Here!](#)



**COVID-19 Clause- If you are quarantined at any point of the audition, we will work with you on how you will complete the audition safely.**

# Majestic Dance Skills Expectations

## **Overall Dance Technique/Style**

- You need to be familiar with transition steps (chasse, pas de bourree, ball changes, etc..)
- You need to be working on being a stylized dancer
- Must be familiar with all styles of dance: Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Modern, etc...
- Must have a clear sense of control and awareness of body placement.
- An understanding of dynamics and use of plie while dancing

## **Turns**

- Clean double pirouette
- Chaînés- in plié; relevé; fast or slow
- Piqués
- Inside pirouettes
- \*Have all turns on R and L with correct technique!

## **Leaps**

- Grand jeté
- Press leap
- Calypso
- Firebirds
- \*Have all leaps on R and L with correct technique!

## **Splits**

- Flat/close to flat on R and L

**\*\*\*Must be able to do all of the above with strength, confidence and projection**

**\*\*\*\*We are looking for dancers that have the potential to adapt to the Majestic style easily.**

## **Non Dance Skills**

- Respectful toward Teammates and Directors
- Willingness to try anything
- Comes prepared
- Turns forms and uniform pieces in on time
- Takes responsibility of mistakes
- Communicates with Directors and Officers
- Willingness to go above and beyond for Teammates and Directors
- Clean Social Media Accounts
- Respect toward McNeil Administration, Teachers and Staff.



# Majestic Auditions 2023

1- poor 2- below average 3- average 4- above average 5- excellent							
#	Progressions/Splits/Kicks		JAZZ/ HIP HOP COMBO		CONTEMPORARY COMBO		Rating
	PIROUETTES R/L SAUTE CHAT R/L CALYPSO R/L SPLITS - R / L KICKS		Strength, alignment, technique, flexibility, timing, isolation, coordination, execution		Coordination, technique, memory, projection, strength, execution, style, timing, transitions, placement		

# SCORING

RATINGS	JUDGE 1	JUDGE 2	JUDGE 3	JUDGE 4	TOTAL
Excellent	5	5	5	5	20
	5	5	5	4	19
	5	5	4	4	18
	5	4	4	4	17
Above Average	4	4	4	4	16
	4	4	4	3	15
	4	4	3	3	14
	4	3	3	3	13
Average	3	3	3	3	12
	3	3	3	2	11
	3	3	2	2	10
	3	2	2	2	9
Below average	2	2	2	2	8
	2	2	2	1	7
	2	2	2	1	6
	2	1	1	1	5
	1	1	1	1	4

4 Judges break  
 20 MAJESTICS  
 19  
 18  
 17  
 16- IN  


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 15- OUT  
 14  
 13  
 12  
 11  
 10  
 9  
 8  
 7  
 6  
 5  
 4

3 Judges break  
 15 MAJESTICS  
 14  
 13  
 12-IN  


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 11- OUT  
 10  
 9  
 8  
 7  
 6  
 5  
 4  
 3

## **Majestics Audition Clinic Schedule- 2023**

Pick up an audition packet from the dance room and apply online.

<b>10/16</b>		Information Meeting, Audition Packet, Application are available to public
<b>10/31-11/2</b>	4:30-6:30 pm:	Majestic Audition Bootcamp-Optional but recommended. Must Register <a href="#">HERE</a> (\$30)
<b>11/13</b>	5:30 pm	<b>COMPLETED</b> Audition Packets Due to Mrs.Simmons/Ms. Matthews. Material will be emailed to candidates that have completed the application.
<b>11/13-11/16</b>	7:30am-8:45am	Learn Majestic Audition Material
<b>11/16</b>	5pm	Majestic Auditions- CLOSED TO ALL SPECTATORS

### **Tryout Checklist**

- Audition Packets will be available on the Dance Department website and Majestic Website beginning 10/16
- Majestic Application Google Form is due to Mrs. Simmons /Ms. Matthews 5:30 pm on 11/13 or may be turned in earlier
  - o Majestic Application Form
  - o Copy of 1st 9 weeks report card- (included in the Google form)
  - o Medical release form-(included in the Google form)
  - o Handbook Signature Page-(included in the Google form)
  - o Picture-above the waist and not a selfie -(Google form)
- Black form fitted top/Leotard, black leggings/jazz pants, and dance shoes
- Attend 4 days of tryout clinic Monday-Thursday before auditions. Have fun and work hard!
- Tryout for Majestics on Thursday, November 16th, 2023.

\* If you make the team in the Fall, you will be required to be in the 7th period Maji Mini class for the Spring semester.

## PURPOSE OF MAJESTICS

The purpose of the Majestics dance team is to encourage quality performance, high academic standards, loyal school spirit and high personal values among its members. Through the development of dance technique, leadership, cooperation, self-discipline and sportsmanship in each individual member, the Majestic organization will fulfill its purpose for the benefit of McNeil High School and the community of Round Rock Independent School District.

## Practices and Performances

Rehearsals are held daily, Monday- Friday, at 7:30 am or 8 am. Majestics is a double blocked class and practice runs into the first block of each day (Periods 1 & 5).

## The Seasons of Majestics Year-at-a-glance

### EOY/Summer

**New Team Practice\*** This will be the first time our new team is together! We will be learning 2 football routines from 7-8:45am during the week of May 6th.

**Summer Dance Camp is June TBA\*** The team will teach 1<sup>st</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> graders in the community. This is a great fundraiser for the team. **Dates tentative on Athletic Calendar.**

**Team Building and Rehearsals begin July/August.\*** Is usually a week or two before school starts. This is a very important time for the Majestics, as they will learn football routines, stand routines, pre game lines, etc...

**Meet The Mavs\*** is the athletic pep rally the week before school starts.

**Colt Camp\*** volunteer to help freshmen go through orientation. This happens in the month of August before Professional Development occurs.

**Welcome Back Breakfast\*-** We serve the best breakfast to our teachers on the first day back of Professional Development. The teachers look forward to this morning all year.

\*These dates are mandatory for all incoming Majestics and are subject to change.

## **FOOTBALL SEASON**

**Football Games:** Majestics attend and perform at each varsity football game. We encourage all parents to attend all football games, both away and home. Majestics stay after school to eat dinner, get ready together, and ride the bus to and from all football games. There are always 10 Varsity football games. There is also the possibility of play-off games!

**Majestic for an Evening:** A community wide clinic and performance opportunity for our future Majestics to perform with the team! Majestics and Parents are required to attend and volunteer for this mandatory event.

**Pep Rallies:** The Majestics perform at each school pep rally. These are held during or before the school day and are open to parents.

## **SPRING SEASON**

**Competitions:** Dance teams from all over the state compete with one another in the spring semester, and we compete every year. Depending on our calendar- it could be a light or heavy competition season.

**Basketball games:** The team can perform at 1-3 basketball games during the months of December, January and February. The games are usually on Tuesdays and Fridays.

**Trips:** Every two-three years the district allows the team to take an out of state trip, and this will usually occur in the spring. Some former destinations have been Hawaii, Los Angeles, New York City, and Chicago. The cities/ trips are chosen by cost, time, and opportunities for the Majestics in each specific city. We will be traveling OUT OF STATE- 2025-2026!

**Illusions:** An annual spring concert coordinated, choreographed, and presented by the Majestics and the Directors. Parents play an integral part in pulling off this event: from new to senior parent, everyone plays a part! Again, please plan to attend. You'll love it!! **Illusions is on April 12th and 13th** and will be performed at the RRISD Performing Arts Center.

## Tentative Majestics Uniform Expenses

There are two types of expenses for Majestics. There are **Uniform Expenses** and **Mandatory Sponsor Payments**. Both types of expenses are discussed in full under the heading EXPENSES in the constitution. Below is a detailed breakdown of the **Uniform Expenses**.

The following required items must be purchased once selected as a member of the dance team. All prices are estimates. This list is tentative and is subject to change. The payment schedule is listed below. We also have opportunities for dancers to purchase gently used Majestic attire from graduating seniors to help lower the cost of Majestics.

### **Tentative Uniform Expenses:**

Tan Tights (get several pair)	\$20.00
½ Sole Dance Shoes	\$35.00
Split Sole Field Boots	\$80.00
Team Shoes (you will get these on your own, we will give you the info)	\$50.00
Team Shirt(s)	\$70.00
Team embroidered Zip up Hoodie	\$45.00
Team Backpack	\$50.00
Field Hat and cover	\$130.00
Team Performance Earrings (may want more than one pair)	\$5.00
Line Camp Fees	\$150.00
Clear back bra	\$35.00
Water Jug	\$15.00
Sunglasses	\$8.00

\*You will be responsible for the total uniform cost as well as a minimum of \$250.00 sponsorship fee. Sponsor forms will be handed out in the spring. Sponsorship payments will be due in August\*

### Uniform Payment Dates

**If your child makes Majestics an order form will be sent home. You will calculate your exact cost based off of your order form. You may pay in full or if you would like to participate in a payment plan, you will divide your total by 5 and make even payments on the following dates:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> payment- February 1st
- 2<sup>nd</sup> payment- March 1st
- 3<sup>rd</sup> payment- April 3rd
- 4<sup>th</sup> payment- May 1st
- 5<sup>th</sup> payment- June 6th

\* Prices are tentative and may be changed by the vendor prior to order dates.

# McNeil High School Majestics Handbook

## Purpose

The purpose of the Majestics organization is to encourage quality performance, high academic standards, loyal school spirit, and high personal values among its members. Through the development of dance technique, leadership, cooperation, self-discipline, and sportsmanship in each individual member, the Majestics will fulfill their purpose for the benefit of McNeil High School and the community of Round Rock Independent School District.

## COVID-19 Clause

The information contained in this handbook will be invaluable to students and parents as you participate in one of our RRISD Fine Arts programs. Much of the information you will read and to which you will acknowledge an understanding of is based on a normal academic year.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic has created a situation that makes it difficult for teachers to prepare for and communicate precisely how certain aspects of the program will operate. Flexibility will be a key component to the success of our students, families and organization during the 2023-2024 school year. As a result, it may be necessary for adjustments and updates to be made to the information in this handbook, at which time our directors will do their utmost to communicate these adjustments as quickly and clearly as possible. Adjustments that will happen during the 2023-2024 season will align with Round Rock ISD Administration and campus policies. Should you have a question or concern about the changes to the enclosed guidelines, you are encouraged to contact the appropriate director at your earliest convenience.

## MAJESTIC EXPECTATIONS

1. **BE A RESPONSIBLE STUDENT!** Make sure you are aware of the academic policies in the constitution. You are expected to take the initiative to come to the Director BEFORE you find yourself in a serious situation with grades. I will work with you and allow you to go to tutorials, but there must first be an effort made to take care of tutorials outside of practice time. Academics come before the drill team. When you are a part of a team, it is not just about you anymore. It is your responsibility as a team member to hold your own academically so that the rest of the team does not suffer if you become ineligible.
2. **BE A RESPONSIBLE MAJESTIC!** Know your deadlines, what to bring everyday, and what you should be wearing. If you stay organized there should be no reason for you to receive demerits. If you are ever in doubt, call your officer. They are there to help you! Be responsible for the handouts that are given to you. Make sure that you are giving the appropriate forms to your parents when necessary, hand forms back in on time, and update your planner when needed.
  - a. Rules work best when everyone knows them, understands them, and most importantly follows them. When this occurs, the group is empowered by a common vision. We hope that you find the rules strict, but logical; for if you do, we are in for an incredible year!!
  - b. Everything you say and do reflects on you, your family, and the organizations with which you participate. Therefore, your actions are put through a test everyday by others. Remember- ***actions DO speak louder than words.***
3. **BE A RESPECTFUL STUDENT!** One of the most important qualities in a Majestic is respect and you are EXPECTED to exhibit this at all times. The faculty and administration should be able to count on the Majestics as leaders and role models at McNeil. We also expect you to behave in an exemplary manner that supports the reputation of the dance team.
  - a. Make sure that you always take care of your schoolwork. Never sleep in class, do not roll your eyes, and do not EVER disrespect your teachers. Always use your “yes ma’ams” and “yes sirs”!
4. **TALK TO YOUR DIRECTORS!** Please feel free to visit with us if you think by sharing your feelings we will gain insight on problems that may be occurring on the team, or even your personal concerns about a situation. It is important to communicate, even though it may not be the easiest thing to do.

5. **WORK ON YOUR DANCE SKILL!** When a dance or movement is taught, come back prepared each and every day knowing your material inside and out. When we clean, polish, and make changes, pay attention and be willing to alter the choreography. Whenever there is free time, like during water breaks, go over movement that you are having trouble with. Ask others to help you. Go over movement in your head at night when you are trying to fall asleep. Spend time outside of practice working on dances as well as technique. There is no such thing as a perfect dancer. Take some dance classes outside of school or take classes at McNeil. To improve as a whole, each member must be willing to do their part as an individual.
6. **ALWAYS GIVE 110%!** We expect this in your attitude, your morale, and your work ethic. The atmosphere of any activity we do is affected by our attitude. The minute you come to practice, ALL of your physical and mental energy must be devoted to the time spent there. We expect you to dance your hardest every day, and at the same time, exhibit a positive and motivating attitude. These things together comprise teamwork, and teamwork at this level will ensure that we will have a successful year in performance and in spirit.
- 7.

## **General Conduct**

1. Majestics must comply with all expectations which are written and verbally addressed by the Director.
2. Participation in Majestics is a **privilege** which carries with it responsibilities to the school, to the organization, to the student body and to the community. Therefore, a dance team member is never to be truant from class. The member is never to smoke, drink, or use any kind of illegal drug/paraphernalia either on or off campus while a member of the dance team. Profanity shall not be a part of their vocabulary. They must maintain sound citizenship and desirable social traits. Remember, your attitude and behavior reflects on the entire team.
3. The Majestics are never anywhere that illegal activities are taking place. Regardless of whether the Majestic is participating in the activities or not, regardless of whether an adult is present or not. Majestics are expected to not participate in any illegal activities. Drugs, drinking, drug paraphernalia of any kind will NOT be tolerated while a member of the organization. Partaking in illegal activities will result in dismissal from the team. Any evidence( including but not limited to, photos, social media posts) brought to the directors will be reviewed and handled on a case by case situation.
4. Merits/Demerits accumulate throughout each semester, as well as over summer break. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO BE AWARE OF YOUR DEMERIT SITUATION.** They will start over at the end of each school year for the following year.
5. Demerits cannot be removed. They start over at the beginning of each dance team year (beginning of summer through the following school year).
6. Merits must be earned in order to stay in good standing with the Majestics organization. You must earn a minimum of 12 merits per nine weeks to stay in good standing and eligible to perform. This is a total of 66 merits to continue on the team for the following school year. **Merits are due to Ms. Matthews.**
7. Merits will also affect eligibility to audition for line officer and social officer. In order to be eligible to audition for line officer you must do the following: be in good standing for your second year on the team, compete solo in at least one competition with Majestics, meet audition requirements handed out before tryouts, and earn 100 merits for all leadership positions. In order to be eligible to audition for Social Officer you must do the following: be in good standing for your second year on the team, do one team building activity in practice with Majestics, meet audition requirements handed out two weeks before tryouts, and earn 100 merits for all Social Officer positions.
8. Majestics will be held accountable for their behavior both in and out of school. This includes any kind of social media site. The Majestics must not use inappropriate subject matter or language on any of these sites. The Majestics are required to sign a social media contract once they make the team.
9. Majestics must adhere to all rules/regulations all year long. This includes summer and all breaks.
10. Senior Majestics are Majestics until the last day of school. The rules and standards are expected to be upheld until the last day of school.
11. Good standing is defined as: active participation, financially paid on account, academically eligible and following the handbook.

## **Parent /Guardian Involvement**

The Majestic organization EXPECTS that each member's parent/guardian should be an active part of the dance team organization. There are many fundraisers and extra events that the team members are a part of. These events are not possible without the support from Majestic families. The fundraising efforts go to support the entire team so the entire team's family should be involved.



1. **Meeting Protocol:** No parent meetings will be conducted if the dancer has not met with a director first. We will only meet regarding ways your dancer specifically can improve. An agenda for the meeting must be provided PRIOR to scheduling the meeting. We will not meet about placement in formations. We will not discuss other dancers. Order of meetings:
  - a. Directors- Dancer
  - b. Directors- Dancer- Parent
  - c. Directors- Dancer- Parent- Principal
2. **Email Policy:** If a parent emails the directors, we will inform the dancer of the email and it's content UNLESS it jeopardizes the dancer's health or safety.

## Membership Requirements

1. A dance team member will serve the first day of summer through the last day of the following school year.
2. If a member resigns before the end of the last day of the following school year, the Majestic will forfeit their membership for the subsequent year.
3. The student must be a sophomore, junior, or senior in good standing.
4. Must be an enrolled student at McNeil High School throughout the tenure of their Majestic Career.
5. Members must be willing to carry out all provisions of the Majestics rules and regulations.
6. Members must be willing to resign gracefully upon failure to live up to the requirements of membership.
7. The Majestics organization is a year round performance group. Members are required to participate in football season, basketball season, competition season, spring show, summer camps and various other performance opportunities.
8. Majestics will audition for many Football, Pep Rally and all Contest pieces and any other performances deemed necessary by the Directors. At any time an audition can be called by the directors. The decisions of these auditions are final. The areas that will be judged during these auditions will include technique, execution, style, strength, flexibility, memory, and performance ability.
9. All dancers must practice all routines for all performances even if they do not hold a spot in the formation. At any time, a performer can become injured and the need for an alternate dancer will arise. The dancers that work hard on the side and improve on the dances will always be considered for placement in a routine.
10. A member may be cut from a dance for the following: lack of memory, technique, projection, flexibility, coordination, strength, style or endurance. The Directors make the final decision on who is chosen for a dance.
11. Dancers and parents will not question placement in dances.
12. The student may not be able to participate in other sports. If the season conflicts with a Majestic season, then the dancer cannot participate. Ex- Cheerleading, Wrestling, Volleyball. There are more sports that apply. This will be decided on a case by case basis and must be approved by the directors before the beginning of the school year. If there is a conflict of schedules, Majestics MUST take priority- NO EXCUSES.
13. Majestics must be enrolled in the double blocked Majestics classes, which take place 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> period. Managers will be single blocked in the 1st period
14. Majestics must comply with the Majestics Dance Team Handbook, UIL rules, and RRISD Athletic Extracurricular Code of Conduct Handbook.
15. Should a student be **cited** for **illegal** activities inside or outside of school, the student will be removed from the team.
16. Participation in any event requires members to be in complete uniform.
17. Majestics are expected to be at daily 7:45 am morning practices. The member must be able to provide transportation to practice on a daily basis. If a member is going to miss practice for any reason they must have approval from the Director in advance. If the member is ill, they must call/text their line officer as well as leave a message on the dance office voicemail (512) 464-6419/(512) 464-6418. Email is a viable option to reach out to your directors as well. **This phone call/email must happen BEFORE practice starts.**
18. Family vacations and college days cannot be scheduled during Majestic functions, rehearsals or performances. There will be a penalty for missing that will be at the discretion of the directors. We must do this to protect everyone's time. If you are absolutely unable to participate in an event, it is required that you give the director notice well in advance.
19. Doctor and Dentist check-ups should not be scheduled during class, practice, or events. If you have no choice and are going to be absent, the Directors would prefer advanced notice in writing through a note or email. Telling the directors the day before is unacceptable. You should also call the office on the day of the appointment.

20. If you are in other extra-curricular activities that have meetings in the mornings AND in the afternoon, we ask that all Majestics plan to attend the after school meetings. If there is an option to go to the afternoon meetings and not disrupt our rehearsal time, then you have to take it. Work does not count as an excuse to not attend in the afternoon.
21. Unless you are contagious and/or confined to a bed, you should still attend practice as well as class to sit and observe.
22. Sitting out for illness or injury during a rehearsal may result in being pulled from a performance. If a member is truly injured or ill, it is in the dancer's best interest and the team's that the dancer does not rehearse or perform until the dancer is well.
23. There will be MANDATORY rehearsals/auditions that can't be missed no matter what!! These will be announced in advance and there will be a performance penalty for not attending FOR ANY REASON!! This includes the week of contests, week of Illusions, Saturday/Holiday rehearsals.
24. All members of Majestics are allowed one social media profile per social media site. No fake or spam accounts are allowed. Please refer to the Social Media Contract. If any officer is found with a fake or spam account, the officer will be demoted back to a line member.
25. Virtual participation must include video on, your presence on the screen, and attendance until practice is over. Tardies and absences will still apply virtually as they apply in person. This option is available only when absolutely necessary.

### **Former Dance Team Members**

A former member is eligible for membership without a tryout only if the student left a Round Rock ISD school as well as the Dance team organization in good standing for reasons beyond their control (family move, etc.) The Directors will make the final decision regarding the acceptance of membership and may require an audition in person.

Newly accepted returning former members must sign a current Handbook Agreement stating that it has been read and also be willing to follow the guidelines it sets forth.

Also, depending on the time of year the student enters the organization, newly accepted former returning members may be unable to perform until the start of a new season.

### **Transfer Students**

1. A transfer student may become a member of Majestics only if:
  - a. The student was a member of their previous high school's Drill/Dance team's elite competition team.
  - b. The student left in good standing for reasons beyond their control.
  - c. The student provides a letter of reference from their previous director.
  - d. The student provides a copy of their last report card.
  - e. Proof of transfer acceptance.
2. The student must submit an audition video or audition in person. Specific instructions will be provided by the Majestic Directors.
3. The Majestic Directors will make the final decision regarding the acceptance of membership. If the transfer student is accepted into the Majestic organization, they must sign a current Handbook Agreement stating that it has been read and also be willing to follow the guidelines it sets forth.
4. Depending on the time of year the student enters the organization, newly accepted transfer members may be unable to perform until the start of a new Majestic season.

### **Company Auditions and Policies**

1. A separate audition will be held by the Director(s), and members will be selected at the Director(s) discretion. Auditions will be held in the fall semester. Learning choreography is required.
2. There is no set number of members for Contemporary and Hip Hop Company.
3. Auditions for companies are required every year.
4. Making a company does not guarantee you a spot for the following:
  - a. The same company for subsequent years.
  - b. A spot in all team contest routines.
  - c. A leadership position.
  - d. Hold a current leadership position.
5. Extra rehearsals are required to participate in the company.
6. Contest/Spring Show attendance policy pertains to company performances.
7. Companies will compete at one or all contests that Majestics attend. Could compete at an individual contest.

8. Companies will perform in both nights of Illusions and all Middle School Feeder Spring Shows based on the dance calendar.
9. The dates and times of auditions are subject to change, all decisions are final.

### **Line and Social Officers Auditions and Policies**

1. Must be a sophomore or junior and be a dancing member of Majestics for at least one year.
2. Cannot receive 5 demerits during the year the candidate is auditioning.
3. Must have a proven record of volunteering during the year the candidate is auditioning. A minimum of 100 merits is required by the first day of Leadership auditions
4. Must provide the most recent report card before tryouts.
5. Must complete all requirements of the audition process.
6. Auditioning for all Leadership positions will be required every year.
7. If an officer fails while holding their officer position, they will lose their officer position and not be eligible to re-audition.
8. Line Officer candidates must perform a solo at Contest Showoffs/ Competitions during the year the candidate plans on auditioning.
9. Officers will be held to the same merit/demerit system as the all team members in addition to their officer duties.
10. Officers will be expected to audition for all dances, companies and leadership positions. Holding office does not entitle an officer to a spot in any dance or company.
11. Responsibilities of an Officer includes:
  - a. All officers must be 10 minutes early to rehearsals and performances.
  - b. Stay after each rehearsal until dismissed by directors.
  - c. Must attend Officer camp and any and all other camps attended by the team.
  - d. Required to attend all Majestic rehearsals and functions.
  - e. Involved in the organization, motivation, and traditions for the team throughout the year.

### **Absences**

As stated above, absences should be as minimal as possible. This is for the efficiency of rehearsals and out of respect toward the team. If a member is absent from a practice, it is the Majestic's responsibility to acquire any missed information during their time of absence.

### **Year Round-Reasons for being pulled from a performance regarding rehearsal rules**

1. Any member absent the day of performance tryouts will make the Majestic ineligible to perform.
2. Any member that is ill and not contagious needs to come to rehearsal and observe- if the member is too sick to attend OR attends rehearsal and is too ill to dance, there is still a possibility that the Majestic will not be allowed to perform. This is at the discretion of the directors.
3. Any member that becomes injured enough to consistently miss rehearsal and affect the performance of themselves and the team may be pulled from the performance by the Directors.
4. Per UIL regulations, Majestics must be present for at least half of the school day to be eligible to perform.
5. Missing practice and/or performance due to outside of dance team responsibilities will not be excused.
6. Field Trips are an excused absence. Field trips scheduled the week of a contest or two weeks prior to the spring show will not be permitted. The Majestic will need to be in practice in order to participate.
7. Absences that may be excused from practice include College Visits and UIL events. Prior communication must happen one month prior and the directors will grant permission to miss practice and if performance is a possibility due to the amount of practice missed. This will be a case by case situation. Do not ask the week of a contest or two weeks prior to the spring show.
8. Any member absent the practice the day of or day before a performance will make the dancer ineligible to perform.
9. If a dance team member misses a performance/event, they will be expected to sit out another performance event unless otherwise approved by the Director.

10. Majestics must travel in and out of town to UIL activities, with the team, unless **otherwise approved by the Directors.**
11. A member may not leave any function for any reason other than illness, injury, or death in the family. In the event that a member has been given permission by the director, they may only depart with a parent or guardian. The Director must also be given a signed note from the parent/guardian.
12. The only excuse to leave any performance early is due to the SAT or ACT the next day. If a member leaves after halftime, they must sit out the next performance.
13. Any dance team member who is academically eligible and not performing at an event is required to attend the event in team attire, unless otherwise stated by the Director.
14. **Pulling a dancer from a performance is at the discretion of the directors. Being pulled will be based on material covered in the practice that is missed.**

#### Summer/Fall/Football Season Absences

- Any member absent the practice the day of or day before a performance will make the dancer ineligible to perform.
- Majestics that miss summer camps must sit out TWO performances.
- If a member is absent from more than one rehearsal the week of the performance the Majestic will be ineligible to perform.
- If a member is absent on the day prior or the day we rehearse with the Band, you will be pulled from a performance.
- The dance team member must be present for the entire contest/show/event.

#### Contest/Spring Show Season Absences

- The week of Illusions is MANDATORY. If a member is absent from any rehearsal the week of the show, the member will be pulled from all dances staged or run that day. (The only excused absence will be due to standardized testing and state mandated requirements.)
- Any member absent the practice the day of or day before a performance will make the dancer ineligible to perform.
- The dance team member must be present for the entire contest/show/event.
- During Contest/Spring Show Season each member will be given a calendar of practices at the beginning of the season. Students who miss more than two practices of any given routine will be removed from that specific routine. Practice begins at 7:45am and if a student is more than 10 minutes late to practice, that is considered an absence. Please understand this includes but is not limited to sickness, doctor appointments, family events and SAT/ACT testing or any other planned absence.

## Merits and Demerit Policies

### Merits

1. Merits are meant to help the Majestics serve the community. It is to encourage a heart of service and helping others. The bulk of your merits must come from volunteering. Merits can be earned by the following but not limited to (when in doubt ask Ms. Matthews)...

- 5 Majestic of the week or officers choice
- 1-5 Director's discretion
- 1-5 Working extra hours at a fundraising event
- 5 Performance of a solo, duet, or ensemble at competition  
(does not include any officer or elite co. routines)
- 3 Attending a non-required school activity in Majestics attire (Volleyball, choir, or basketball events)
- 3 Attend approved dance production (providing ticket stub or program)
- 2 Cleaning, organizing, helping in the office
- 2 Any optional performance
- 1 Perfect Week (not late to practice, being prepared)
- 1 Camp recognitions (award/ribbon at camp)
- 1 Dance class outside of school (1 per class) (Max 8 merits per 6 weeks can be documented)

- baby/pet  
out of school.
- 1 Per item donated to drives held at school or in the community (max 4 merits per drive)
  - 1 \*\*\*\*Community service outside of school- volunteering for an organization or club. Free sitting, religious organizations, charities, through clubs or organizations in and out of school. (1 merit per hour or per item)\*\*\*\*
  - 1 Cleaning the mirrors of the dance room when needed
  - 1 Making posters when necessary (2 posters = 1 merit)
  - 1 Helping teachers in their classroom outside of class time

## **Demerits**

1. The RRISD dance team demerit system has no impact on the grade that a member will receive on their report card.
2. A dance team member can receive demerits at any time including summer, evenings, weekends, and holidays during their time served on the dance team.
3. The director will issue, record and document demerits. It is the responsibility of the member to sign for their demerit(s) after they have been notified thereby acknowledging the demerit(s).
4. Demerits are cumulative and start the first day of summer and end the last day of school.
5. Demerits do not roll over year to year
6. Members are responsible for notifying parents or guardians of any warnings, demerits or merits they receive.
7. Members that do not comply with set expectations may receive conditioning consequences or demerits which may lead to probation or possible termination.

### **Probation**

- 5 demerits- Member will be placed on probation and removed from 2 performances
- 8 demerits- Member will be placed on probation and removed from 2 performances
- 10- Dismissal from the dance team organization

Demerits will be assigned for each of the following violations

### **Tardies:**

- a. Less than 5 minutes= a warning (the third warning becomes a demerit)
- b. More than 5 minutes= 1 demerit
- c. To a performance= 2 demerits

### **Absences:**

- d. Excused before absence= 0 demerits
- e. Excused after absence= 1 demerit (no advance phone call to office)
- f. Unexcused from practice= 2 demerits
- g. Unexcused from performance= 5 demerits

**Demerits will be given for, but not limited to, each of the following.**

## **1 Demerit**

- Tardy to any Dance Team activity/ rehearsal
- Failure to email the Directors prior to any rehearsal, performance, work session, or meeting from which you will be absent - whether we are dancing that day or not!
- Unprepared for rehearsal (hair not out of face, wrong clothes or shoes, no props or signed forms, chewing gum, returning to the locker room after practice begins, not in the squad when rehearsal begins, etc.)
- Failure to meet deadlines (turning things in on time, sister gift deadlines, etc.)
- Talking in rehearsal
- Leaving rehearsal/dance team class period/study hall without prior approval from the Directors
- Being seen in an incomplete uniform BEFORE or AFTER a performance in public
- Chewing gum, eating food, etc. at inappropriate times in rehearsal or in uniform
- Losing part of a uniform or costume during a performance
- Inappropriate technology (phones, smart watches) used in practice or function (stands, Dance Camp, Line Camp, etc.), first violation
- Unacceptable/disrespectful conduct or use of profanity while representing the organization

- Failure to uphold the Social Media Contract
- Speaking negatively of or to another dancer or performer over any medium, first violation
- Other as deemed appropriate by the Directors with Fine Arts Coordinator Approval

## **2-4 Demerits**

- Failure to meet attendance policy as stated in the Handbook
- Not having a piece of a uniform at a performance
- Being unprepared for a performance
  - Costume/ Uniform
  - Hair
  - Make-up
  - toe/finger nail polish
  - jewelry, etc.
- Leaving behind school-owned property (uniform, poncho, etc.)
- Eating or drinking (anything but bottled water) in uniform or costume without the permission of the Directors
- Leaving early from a performance/activity without prior approval from the Directors
- Taking items from the closet without permission from a Directors
- Not attending a function for which you gave your prior commitment
- Other as deemed appropriate by the Directors and Fine Arts Coordinator Approval
- Failure to uphold the Social Media Contract
- Inappropriate behavior during school, practice or performance, including but not limited to fighting, and public display of affection
  - Disrespect toward Directors, Administrators, Faculty, etc
  - Lying to administration, faculty, or a director
  - Failure to notify Directors about school given discipline (referrals, ISS, etc)
  - Inappropriate technology (phones, smart watches) used in practice or function (stands, Dance Camp, Line Camp, etc.), multiple violation

## **5-9 Demerits**

- Any disciplinary referral and/or Saturday school
- Other as deemed appropriate by the Directors and Fine Arts Coordinator Approval
- Failure to uphold the Social Media Policy
- Allowing anyone to wear your attire/uniform
- Using or being under the influence of drugs, alcohol, e- cigarette/vape pen or tobacco or in possession of drug/alcohol paraphernalia (outside of school, dance team functions and NOT in dance team attire/uniform)
- Cheating or plagiarism of any kind including but not limited to schoolwork, parent and doctor notes
- Any visible or non-visible piercings that have potential to cause injury while dancing.
- Any visible tattoos in uniform/costume at a performance
- Disrespectful conduct (behavior that is unbecoming of a dance team member and will be decided on at the discretion of the directors; this includes postings on the internet/social media whether it is on your account or someone else's)
- Any assignment for ISS
- Violation of the RRISD Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct
- Other as deemed appropriate by the Director
 

**\*Inappropriate conduct will include but is not limited to** profane, foul, or disrespectful language (abbreviated or alluding to), pictures, suggestive poses, clothing, references to alcohol, drugs, and/or tobacco, and postings (either verbal or photos) that could be interpreted as being negative or threatening towards other RRISD teaching staff or dance team members, or that demonstrate poor sportsmanship or a disrespectful attitude towards other dance teams. \*

## **10 Demerits**

- Assignment to RROC
- Using or being under the influence of drugs, alcohol or tobacco or in possession of drug/alcohol paraphernalia in uniform/dance team attire, on campus, at a school-sponsored function, dance team event, RRISD sponsored event. This decision will be made with Campus Administration.
- Severe Student Code of Conduct Violation and/or Senate Bill 1 Violation -DUI, DWI, MIP violations, etc
- 2<sup>nd</sup> violation of RRISD Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct
- Other as deemed appropriate by the Director

## **Suspension**

1. A total of 5 demerits will bench a member for a period to be determined by directors
2. Any officer that receives one 5 demerit penalty or reaches 8 demerits cumulatively per year will forfeit their officer position in Majestics permanently.
3. Probation means that you will be taken out of a one or more performance(s) or Majestic function(s) in some way. The Directors will decide on your individual punishment. If a member is on probationary status, that member will be informed of its duration, punishment guidelines and conditions of maintaining their membership. We will handle each member's probationary status individually while always considering what is best for the whole.

## **Removal from Office**

Any officer not performing their duties as an officer in cooperation with the Directors or who violates the rules and regulations of the handbook and officer contract may lose their ranking as an officer. An officer receiving probation for academic or disciplinary reasons will forfeit their position; they will then assume the role of a line member.

## **Termination of membership**

1. Resignation will be accepted only after a member initiates a meeting with the director.
2. Members who resign from Majestics for any reason not approved by the Director will not be allowed to tryout at any time. This resignation must be in writing with both the team member and parent/guardian's signature.
3. Members who are dismissed from the dance team due to non-compliance with dance or school regulations, academic failure or disciplinary violations will be ineligible to try out for the team the following year.
4. Members released in good standing will be allowed to try-out for the team in the following years at the discretion of the Director and administration. Dismissal due to excessive demerits does not constitute "good standing".
5. Should a Majestic be removed or resign from the team, the Majestic will be required to return all school property, properly cleaned, within one week. Any financial obligations will need to be settled. The members schedule will be adjusted accordingly.

## **Loss of Membership**

Loss of membership can occur as a result of violation of the Extracurricular Code of Conduct, McNeil's Student handbook or the Majestic handbook. This decision will be handled on a case-by-case basis as determined by the Extracurricular Code of Conduct, Majestic handbook. Meetings will be held with the directors.

1. Home suspension from school
2. A total of 10 demerits
3. If academically ineligible for 2 nine weeks in an academic year.
4. 1 or more full days in ISS
5. The use or possession of tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, partaking or involved with drug paraphernalia (vape pens and e-cigarettes included) while in uniform, at a Majestic/school function or on social media
6. If a member is dismissed from another Campus team/organization for disciplinary reasons, you will not be eligible to audition for Majestics for the school year the dismissal occurred.
7. Misconduct during school or team activities will result in consequences to be determined by the Director and administration. Members with recurring problems will be dismissed from the team.
8. Any member not up to date with their financial commitment may be benched or dismissed from the team. It is up to the students and parents to work with the directors to come up with a plan if the financial commitment cannot be appropriately met.

## **Ineligibility**

1. Failure of one or more classes will deem a student ineligible. Receiving a failing grade for two grading periods within a school year is meant for dismissal from the team. The Majestics will follow the UIL no pass/no play guidelines. If a member is considered ineligible under these guidelines, the following are mandates:
  - a. Cannot perform with the Majestics
  - b. Cannot ride with/participate with the team in football games or competitions

- c. Cannot get in free to football games, competitions, or spring shows
  - d. Cannot sit with the group at football games or competitions, or backstage during spring show
  - e. Cannot wear either district owned field uniforms or school owned costumes
2. All dance team members who fail a class for any 9 weeks or the 1st 6 week UIL State required check are automatically put on academic probation. Per [district/UIL](#) policy they are ineligible for the 1st and possible 2nd 3 weeks of the 9 weeks following the class failure. At the 3 week mark the student must be passing ALL classes in order to regain eligibility. If they are not eligible at the 3 week mark, their grades will be checked again at the 6 week mark.
  3. Any officer that loses eligibility will be demoted back to line member immediately. This will also make the Majestic ineligible to audition for a leadership position the following year.

## **Special Situations**

1. If at any time the Director feels the need to alter any part of the constitution for the good of the organization, the Majestic Directors may do so without prior notice or discussion.
2. This handbook is a guide to our discipline system; not meant to be inclusive of every, or exclusive of any situation.
3. This guide may be adapted during the year by the director as needed.
4. The Director and administration will deal with any special situations that may arise and are not specifically addressed in this handbook on an individual basis.
5. A medical or family emergency is defined as an illness in the family that requires immediate medical care or hospitalization, or a death in the family that takes place on the day of a dance team event/audition. Non-emergency doctor or dental appointments that are scheduled during a dance team event will NOT be excused and will be subject to consequences as determined by the Director.

## **Rules and Regulations Concerning Uniforms and Costumes**

1. Uniforms and costumes are worn only at approved times.
2. Costumes can be signed out with approval from the directors.
3. The student will be financially responsible for any part of the uniform or costume that is damaged or lost.
4. Serious misconduct while in uniform that does not reflect the expectations of the campus or the Majestics organization will result in suspension or dismissal from the squad.
5. Members may not lend out uniform or costume pieces to those not affiliated with the MHS Dance Team.

## **Expenses**

1. Every effort is made to keep expenses reasonable, but there are considerable costs associated with Majestics.
2. Any debts that are incurred and not paid off in a timely manner, the Majestics will be put on the obligations lists. This will withhold events such as prom, senior field trip, and receiving your diploma.
3. Individual accounts will be shared electronically with the family. Treat this as a checking account. You can see payments that are coming up and when payments are due/processed.
4. Team members are required to pay Sponsorship fee and uniform expenses (described below). These are annual expenses and occur yearly. The uniform costs will be significantly less the second year on the team.
5. All members are responsible for finding a minimum of \$250.00 in sponsors. This is a separate fee from your uniform and camp fees. Sponsor Forms will be handed out in the spring. The sponsor fees help with contest entry fees, spring show setup, costuming throughout the year, spring show decorations and much more. The sponsorship fee will be due by the beginning of the school year.
6. In addition to the sponsor fees, there will be uniform expenses. These will be ordered during the spring for the following year's team. The cost of this will vary between members based on their individual needs. A payment schedule will be set up after the new team is selected, and will start promptly after tryouts. Final Payments will be due by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
  - a. Costs include but are not limited to camp/practice wear, warm-ups, boots, field hats, uniforms, dance shoes, camp expenses etc.
  - b. Cost will be much less for returning members
  - c. See attached sheet for an estimate of uniform costs
  - d. These items are property of the member purchasing them and are not to be returned to the Majestic organization
7. The Majestics are required to wear all black dance clothes everyday for practice, so orders for practice clothes must be placed accordingly.



8. **Refusal or inability to meet financial requirements may result in a student's suspension from performance opportunities.**
9. In an effort to keep the sponsorship fees low we do several fundraisers throughout the year to help fund the team. **FUNDRAISING IS NOT OPTIONAL.**
10. All money should be given to the Director personally in the dance office- in a clearly labeled envelope ziploc back. NO loose money should be placed in the lock box.
11. **No refunds are given. If a student is removed from the team, they must be current and up to date on their payments. They will not be refunded this money. During the spring semester of the newbie year, the student may be able to be refunded IF not all uniform items have been purchased.**

**For any and all questions regarding Majestics or the Dance Department, please contact:**

**Director- Mrs. Baleigh Simmons  
Baleigh\_Simmons@roundrockisd.org**

**Assistant Director- Ms. Jasmine Matthews  
Jasmine\_Matthews@roundrockisd.org**