



Hampton Dance Team

The Hampton High School Dance Team will be holding tryouts on **April 30 and May 1** in the high school auxiliary gym from 3:30 to 5 PM. If you absolutely cannot attend tryouts (family vacation, illness, funeral, family emergency), you may alternatively submit a video audition by **May 1 at 3 PM**. Video submission guidelines are on the following page.

Here is a tentative list of commitments for the season. **Dates are subject to change:**

- Dance camp, June or July date, TBD (will be chosen based on availability of team members)
- Band Camp July 29-Aug. 2 and Aug. 5-9 (8-hours per day, time TBA)
- Kennywood Parade — Saturday, Aug. 3
- Evening Rehearsals on August 12, 13, 14, 19 and 20 — 6 PM - 9 PM
- Tuesday dance team practices for football season — 3:15 to 4:45 PM
- Monday full band practices for football season — 6:30 to 9 PM
 - There are five weeks when we will practice on an alternative day:
 - Thursday, Aug. 22 (first day of school, day before first game)
 - Tuesday, Sept. 3 OR Wed., Sept. 4 (TBD - to make up for Labor Day)
 - Thursday Sept. 12 (before 1st PIMBA)
 - Thursday, Oct. 17 (before 2nd PIMBA)
 - Thursday Oct. 24 (week of Championships)
- Fridays during football season (usually through end of October, unless we make playoffs)
 - typically 3:30 to 10 or 10:30 (varies by week)
 - No games on Sept. 20 and Oct. 4
- Saturday, September 14 - PIMBA competition at Deer Lakes
- Saturday, September 21 - AV Band Festival at North Hills
- Saturday, October 19 - PIMBA competition at Baldwin
- Saturday, October 26 - PIMBA Championships at Gateway

Additional performances may be scheduled. Additional practices may be held if necessary.

Please do not schedule any type of appointment, vacation or activity during these times as Band Camp, practices and performances are mandatory. **Communicate with Mrs. Bacher before tryouts if you have concerns about any potential conflicts. Email her at leighannbacher@gmail.com.**

In-Person Audition Requirements

On Tuesday, April 30, Mrs. Bacher will teach a 1-minute routine to anyone interested in trying out and teach kickline skills. On Wednesday, May 1, you will perform that routine and kickline combination in a group of 3-4 dancers, in front of Mrs. Bacher and a second judge. Mr. Himmler will be there to tabulate scores.

For tryouts, please wear shorts or leggings and a solid color fitted shirt or leotard (no crop tops or boy shorts, please). Your hair should be pulled back in a ponytail or bun and out of the way. You will be given a number to wear for tryouts.

Video Audition Requirements

Each person trying out must submit the following:

- Signed contract (You can sign and scan or take a photo of the last page of this packet)
- Video submission
 - Record yourself performing 45 seconds to 1 minute of choreography (can be self-choreographed or a routine from your dance studio).
 - Record yourself doing any special skills you'd like to show — pirouettes, a la seconde turns, leaps, etc. (No required skills, just what you do best and would like to show. I do recommend showing a double turn and right/left leaps.)
 - The video submission can be edited into one video, or you can submit multiple files for the routine/special skills section. Cell phone/tablet videos are fine.

These items can be submitted in several ways. Please have a parent/guardian send the items or copy them on the email if you submit that way:

- Via email to leighannbacher@gmail.com
- In a Google Drive folder shared with leighannbacher@gmail.com
- Via Dropbox shared with leighannbacher@gmail.com
- **Note:** I will reply to everyone to confirm your submission. If you don't get a reply from me within a few hours, please email me to check if I received your audition.

Captains

Prospective captains must have at least one year of experience with the Dance Team and show a strong ability to lead.

All prospective captains must prepare a 45-second to 1-minute self-choreographed routine that will be performed during the audition. Please choose music and choreography that is school appropriate.

Candidates will also fill out a questionnaire as part of their audition, which Mrs. Bacher will send to prospective captains the week before tryouts. Please turn this in by the first day of tryouts at 3 PM.

Dance Team Costs 2024-25

You will need to go to Threading the Needle before the end of the school year - I will be in touch with exact dates/times. The following items are required for the Dance Team at member's cost. **It is important to note that the following items are a one-time purchase your first year of dance team.** Returning members use these same items for the duration of their time on the dance team, unless otherwise specified.

Threading the Needle items (costs may vary slightly - these are based on last year):

1. Winter coat - \$90
2. Duffle Bag — \$45-\$60 (we are choosing a new one so cost is TBD)
3. Rhinestone track jacket — \$75
4. Pep shirt — \$22
5. Long-sleeve T-shirt — \$20

Optional items:

6. ¼ Zip Shirt — \$40
7. Gray sweatshirt — \$30
8. Black jogger sweatpants — \$35-\$40 (choosing new, so cost is TBD)
9. Winter headband (optional) — \$15

Will be Ordered by Mrs. Bacher (money due to Mrs. Bacher during July practice date):

1. Earrings — \$8
2. Bow — \$10

Required items to purchase on your own:

1. THEATRICALS Adult Split-Sole Jazz Sneaker in Black - \$37
2. Hair accessories – bobby pins, hair nets, bands
3. Lipstick (captains will choose/let you know what to buy)

This year, the HBA will be covering the cost of our half-time uniforms. However, there is a \$200 Hampton Band Parent Membership fee that is required to participate in fundraising. HBPA supports the entire band by purchasing custom music, custom drill, paying the “rights” fees for the music, hiring supplemental band staff, purchasing instruments, equipment, auxiliary props, providing some meals and snacks throughout the season, student admission to the band banquet and much more.

HBA also requires each family to participate in fundraising and volunteer in some capacity. More information will be given at the first HBA parent meeting over the summer.

If you have any concerns, please contact Mrs. Bacher at leighannbacher@gmail.com.

READ CAREFULLY!! All members of the Dance Team must attend all practices and performances. Failure to comply will result in you not being able to perform at a game, you not being able to participate in the band trip, or you being dismissed from the team.

Please read the following information and sign the last page indicating that you and a parent or guardian have read and that you understand the rules for participation on the Hampton High School Dance Team and the Hampton High School Marching Band.

1. Attendance at band camp, after school practices, and practices before games is mandatory. Look at your calendar now: vacations, college visits, concerts, sports practices, dance classes and work are not valid excuses for leaving early or missing practice/games/competitions. If you have a commitment that interferes with your ability to join the dance team (such as Monday evening dance classes), contact Mrs. Bacher before tryouts to discuss so we can find a solution that works for everyone. Major events such as family weddings that may conflict with games/competitions must be submitted in writing to Mrs. Bacher by July 1. Excused absences/early dismissals will be approved on a case-by-case basis.

If you miss more than one practice for any of the above reasons (and you haven't previously discussed a compromise with Mrs. Bacher), you may not be permitted to perform at the next game or parade. Early dismissals/late arrivals for any of the above reasons will be granted on a case-by-case basis if submitted in writing at least two weeks ahead of time. If you miss a game for an unexcused reason, you will not be permitted to go on the band trip. Three or more unexcused absences will result in your dismissal from the squad.

2. Be at least 10 minutes early for all practices and performance call times.

3. Come to practice ready to work and be dressed in proper attire for dancing.
4. If you must miss a practice or a game for any valid reason, you or a parent/guardian must contact Leighann Bacher in advance at leighannbacher@gmail.com AND 724-977-1578. Do not pass the information through anyone else.
5. It is your responsibility to find out what you missed before the next practice.
6. On game days, you must come to school in the entire/proper pep uniform (TBD by captains each week). Proper uniform is to be worn all day.
7. For performances, all hair will be pulled back as designated by the coach/captains. Any pins or clips should be clear or the same color as your hair, unless otherwise specified.
8. No colors or sparkles are permitted in your hair or on your face, unless they are part of the uniform.
9. At games and performances, you must be in proper uniform at all times until we return to the school. When traveling for away games and festivals, you must board the bus in uniform and remain in uniform until we return to the school.
10. You are responsible for any damage done to your uniform. Do not wear any part of your uniform outside of a performance. You must return your pregame uniform at the end of the school year upon graduation or upon leaving the dance team. If it is not received, you will be billed for the cost to replace the uniform.
11. Bring to every performance the following items: entire uniform in garment bag, dance sneakers, hair and make-up supplies, warm-up jacket, and any other items designated by the coach and/or captains.
12. All jewelry and earrings, etc. must be removed for performances. If the squad is wearing matching earrings, they are the ONLY accessories permitted. Any visible body piercings must be removed or properly covered.
13. The instructor has the right to bench anyone who is not prepared for a performance. If you are benched, you must still attend the performance and be in full uniform.
14. Extra practices will be scheduled for any trip the band may take and for the November Veterans Day Parade. Dates will be announced in advance for you to change your schedule.

Failure to comply with any of these rules will result in benching at games, not being able to participate in the band trip, or being dismissed from the team.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS PAGE BY THE SECOND DAY TRYOUTS.

Student Name _____

Student Email _____

Student Cell Phone _____

**This number will be shared with captains to reach team members throughout the season*

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

Parent/Guardian Email _____

Parent/Guardian Phone _____

Current grade level _____

Have you ever been on the Dance Team and/or marching band? _____ If yes, how many years? _____

Parent signature _____