

Dear **Highsteppers** “Hopeful” and Parents,

Congratulations! You have just made an important decision, to audition for the award- winning **Rockwall- Heath Highsteppers**. Your interest in becoming a member of our varsity drill team is wonderful. I feel that drill team is one of the best organizations at Heath High School.

I know that for you and your **Highstepper**, drill team will be a new experience. You will have the opportunity to grow and mature with others your own age through unique performance opportunities and realization of the effort that is necessary; to successfully prepare for performances. **Highsteppers** must maintain high grades, practice long hours, and attend numerous functions. It is my opinion, that extracurricular activities are an inherent part of scholastic maturity and success. An individual’s education begins in the classroom and extends to other rewarding experiences for each student involved. However, to have success, you must be willing to dedicate many hours of hard work to personal improvement. Above all else, you must want to be a **Highstepper**.

Drill Team offers you a chance to make new friends, while learning discipline, perseverance, and self-motivation. Besides our performances at football games, basketball games, and competitions, we have an annual formal banquet, spring show, socials and team trips.

However, the biggest and best reward for a **Highsteppers**, is the development of self-confidence and pride. This is a great discovery, and the drill team nurtures this discovery into a well-rounded person who is responsible, self-disciplined, and proud. By working with the other students, they also learn that it is important to work with people and not against them. The drill team offers companionship, while concurrently teaching discipline, perseverance, and motivation. The result is an organization in which each member can be truly proud.

It is my desire that your time spent working for the **Highsteppers**, whether it is for one week or three years, be a rewarding learning experience for you. You must dedicate many hours of **hard work** to personal improvement, but most of all you must **want** to be a **Highstepper**. Your decision to be a part of the Highstepper line is an important one. Consider this decision carefully.

Stepping 2 our dreams,

Monica Lyon
Highsteppers
Rockwall Heath Varsity Drill Team Director
Rockwall Heath JV Drill Team Assistant

HIGHSTEPPER HOPEFULS CLINIC FOR AUDITIONS

Registration Online:

Tuesday, February 13

Link: <https://goo.gl/forms/ONJoQ5XJuHU80uN63>

Link Closes: 7:30 pm February 27

Registration Documents:

Monday, February 27

Due to Lyon's Office 1507 by 8:30am

Required documents not found within link application:

*Include a copy of your most recent report card.

*Medical release and physical.

*If in JV, physical must be current.

DATE

Monday, March 19

Tuesday, March 20

Wednesday, March 22

TIME

7:00-8:10am

7:00-8:10am

7:00-8:10am

WHERE

1507 Dance Room

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Open Gym:

Each day during clinic girls can use this time to video the piece and their performance of the piece. The candidates will be given their audition numbers, learn all performance routines, will practice dance technique, and learn helpful tips to prepare them for tryouts. **All candidates should plan to attend each rehearsal.**

Dress Rehearsal Closed Mock:

Wednesday, March 21

7:00-8:10am

In the RHHS middle gym

Auditions:

Thursday, March 22

5:00-10:00

In the RHHS middle gym

Announcement of Highsteppers

10:00

In the RHHS middle gym

New Highstepper & parent meeting

10:00

In the RHHS middle gym

*required

HOPEFUL WORKOUTS

Workouts preparing candidates for spring selection will be held under the direction of the director, current officers, and officer candidate hopefuls. All material required for tryouts will be taught during this time as well as the tryout procedure.

During the workouts, the following will be taught:

Kick technique and stretches.

Splits technique and stretches.

Marching technique.

Jazz/Kick Routine.

Presentation, posture, poise, and projection.

Discipline stand at attention, hand position in pep rally, and no communication while teaching is occurring, proper responses to other candidates, officers, and directors.

During clinic:

Be on time.

Be dressed in dancewear or comfortable clothes to execute movement.

You must also wear shoes and have your hair up in a high ponytail.

Keep all purses, book bags, and valuables in the practice area.

Workouts at clinic are closed!

Conclusion of each session:

Feel free to record your dancer performing each day at the end of clinic.

AUDITION CRITERIA

The candidates will perform a jazz routine and a kick routine in front of a diverse panel of professional judges.

The candidates will be judged in the following categories:

Appearance:

Posture, neatness, and projection.

Kick/splits:

Technique, height of kicks, posture, projection, and memory.

Jazz routine:

Memory, poise, projection, technique, stamina, and confidence.

Overall impression:

Candidate displays knowledge of basic fundamentals and technique of drill team dance.

Candidate displays good memory.

Candidate displays confidence in performance.

Tryouts:

Closed to the public

Parents/friends are not allowed in the dressing area, hallways, dance room, or the gym.

Callbacks are a definite possibility.

You may not leave until you are dismissed.

The hopefuls will be dismissed during tabulations.

Candidates will need to return to RHHS by 7:40 pm for the presentation of the new members.

Parents, be prepared, audition night is a long and stressful evening.

Parents/friends are not allowed in the dressing area, hallways, dance room, or the gym.

Callbacks are a definite possibility.

Tryout Injury Option:

A candidate for varsity drill team may show a video for her performance for the judges only if they are incapable of the required physical activity. The director must receive a doctor's note the day after the injury and must state the reason (s) for this inability to tryout. The video must be approved by the director and should be no more than three to six months old, with demonstrations of the dancer executing required skills. There are unique circumstances that will be at the discretion of the director, in regards to the video.

Presentation of New Members:

The new members will be presented after the final tabulations. When the candidates' numbers have been posted, the new Dreamettes may enter the gym. At that point, parents will need to file into the bleachers for a meeting.

The new members must attend a mandatory meeting following the announcement of top scores.

AUDITION UNIFORM

Uniform:

Heath Dance top, will explain at meeting

Black dance pants

Black socks

Black jazz shoes

Hair in low bun parted over left eye

Pin pants to top

Pin provided tryout number to chest

Rhinestone earrings, add sparkle to your face

If they were not in JV, we will issue a top to the girls during tryouts that they will turn in after tryouts

Purchase from:

Go Figure, Garland

Sandy's Dance Store, Dallas

AUDITION CRITERIA

Judge Scores:

Jazz	20 points
Kick/Strut	20 points
Technique	20 points
Execution of Right and Left Splits	10 points
Smile/Projection/Confidence	15 points
Image/Overall Appeal	<u>15 points</u>
Total	100 points

CLASS REQUIREMENTS

1. Black binder
 - ♥ Check each six weeks.
 - ♥ Organization.
 - ♥ Papers.
 - ♥ Service Sheet.
 - ♥ Yearly Attendance.
2. THREE Poster Boards
3. Markers
4. Pen and Pencil Zipper Bags
5. Blank Scrap Book
 - ♥ Second term final.
 - ♥ Keep all memory items.
 - ♥ Number at try-out.
 - ♥ Good luck cards.

- ♥ Notes to big or little sis.
- ♥ Newspaper clippings.
- ♥ Pictures.

6. Materials for Making Scrapbook

- ♥ Stickers.
- ♥ Colored paper.

PERFORMANCES AND REHEARSALS

1. SUPPLY LIST

* These items should be purchased as needed.

- ♥ Extra tights.
- ♥ White shoe polish.
- ♥ Black shoe polish.
- ♥ Eyelashes.
- ♥ Replace rhinestone competition earrings, when lost.
- ♥ Small rhinestone earrings for games, pep rallies, and other events.
- ♥ Mr. Clean Magic Eraser.
- ♥ Foot powder.
- ♥ Bobby pins-long and short.
- ♥ Hairnet that matches hair color.
- ♥ Nail polish remover.
- ♥ Replenish performance make-up.
- ♥ Team black and white tennis shoes
- ♥ Hair spray.
- ♥ Gel.
- ♥ Ponytail holders.
- ♥ Containers for hair and make-up supplies.
- ♥ Sun block.
- ♥ Water in bottles.

2. MAKE UP

- ♥ Highsteppers must wear required team make up for performances.
- ♥ Purchased as a team.
- ♥ Performance base make up and powder.

3. REHEARSALS

- ♥ During the school year, the team will not rehearse before or after school for more than eight hours a week; not including optional dances, elite groups or pep rally dances.
- ♥ Drill team practices from 7:00 am to 9:10 am. Drill team class is first period.
- ♥ Line officers and officers may call rehearsals on weekends or during the week that are not part of team scheduled rehearsals.
- ♥ The officers and line officers are prepared to provide private sessions for members who ask and set up sessions. The sessions will help the member with her skills, technique, and memory.
- ♥ Rehearsal times are changed for various reasons and with teams input.
- ♥ Rehearsals are added when necessary. Please be understanding and realize that changes are for the ladies.
- ♥ Hair must be away from face tied back in ponytail for every practice or rehearsal.
- ♥ In order to perform you must be present at: stadium practice, routine auditions, field practice, the day of placement and the day of the game. No excuses accepted.
- ♥ Field practice with the band is also mandatory to perform, no excuses accepted!

- ♥ You must attend audition day in order to be in the routine that week.
- ♥ Dance Gallery Rehearsals.
- ♥ Contest Rehearsals.
- ♥ Spring Show Rehearsals.
- ♥ Drill team is a full year commitment.
- ♥ Members must be enrolled in drill team first and second semester.
- ♥ Only members who complete the year will be allowed to attend banquet.

Approximate Uniform Expenses

*** You do not have to purchase items already owned.**

<i>Jv Item 2016-2017</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Cost</i>
yes	Team Roller Bag	25.00
yes	Jazz Shoes, black & beige	24.00
yes	Jazz Pants	38.00
yes	Capezio Performance Tights	11.90
no	Nike team tennis Shoe	70.00
yes	Warm up Jacket	48.00
yes	Warm up Pant	30.00
yes	Red Heath Top	43.30
no	Practice Sweats	40.00
yes	Black Tactel Sports v-back bra	17.00
No, JV officer yes	Lavendar Top	33.55
no	Team T-Shirt	35.00
yes	Gripper Gloves	4.35
Yes/team set	Uniform Leotard Black from JV	
no	Hat	70.00
yes	Boots	69.50
yes	Dance Paws	17.00
yes	Black Hot Shorts	12.00
yes	Make up	40.00
no	Team Wool Sailor Letter Jacket	150.00
no	Highstepper Red, Rhinestone	25.00
No/team set	Skort	
no	Team Chocker	25.00
no	Side tote	35.00
no/team set	Rain hat cover	
yes	Earrings	4.00
no	Head band	10.00
no	Flip flops	25.00
no	Pink/Black Top	42.00
no	Black/Seafoam	32.00

Periodic cost Throughout the Year

<i>Optional (*)</i>	<i>ITEMS OR EVENTS</i>	<i>Approximate Cost</i>
	Beige Halter Bra	15.00
*	Mum	35.00
*	Big Sis & Little Sis Hunt	10.00
*	Big Sis & Little Sis Camp	6.00
*	Big Sis & Little Sis Exchange	15.00
*	Team Socials	20.00
*	Pictures	30.00
*	Patches	30.00
*	Competition Uniform Accessories	25.00
*	Dreamette Survival Social	15.00
*	Cookies to games or food items throughout year for various occasions	20.00

Overview: Highstepper Calendar Planned Events

<i>Event or Planned Functions</i>	<i>Date or To Be Announced</i>
Tryout Meeting	Tuesday January 23
Line Tryouts	March 22
New Girl Social	March 22 after tryouts, CICI's
Calendar for May-Aug	Night of tryouts March 22
First Meeting with New Team	March 22
Hat Money Due	April 3
Booster Meeting	April 3
Dress Uniform Sitting: Cheers, Happy Feet, Special Effects Fittings	May 1
Individual Composite Picture	May 1
Bootbackers: Highstepper Booster Club Meeting	March 7, April 4 and May 2
Spring Game	May ?
Rehearsal For Forming Team	April, May and June
Highstepper Mini Camp- Volunteer	July 9,10,11,12
Southside Camp	August 8,9,10,11
Highstepper Practice for Camp-required	August 13-18
Highstepper Team Camp-required or will be dismissed from team	August 13-18
2 Line Group Community Projects	Summer
2 Line Group Fund-Raisers	Summer
2 Line Group Socials	Summer
Fourth of July Parade in Heath	July 4
Rubies, Sweethearts, & Kick Company	All Year
Team Pictures	May, End of July or First of August, TBA
Highstepper Football Season Rehearsal	Week Before School Starts day and evening
Kick Company Rehearsals	August, September And October
Officer Rehearsals After Team	August-November
Football Rehearsal Schedule	Given Out In August
Homecoming Parade	Sept or Oct
Varsity Football Games, Friday evenings	August-September-November
Pansies sold for Fundraiser	September
1 JV Home Game	September-TBA
Kick a Thon	November
Dancing and Desserts Fundraiser	November 3 or November 10 Depending on Calendar
Winter Clinic Fund-Raiser	Jan-TBA
Rockwall Christmas Parade	Beginning Of Dec-TBA first Sat. Dec 1
Basketball Games	TBA
Competition Rehearsals	TBA
3 Competitions	Jan.-Feb.-Mar.-TBA
North Texas Regionals Fundraiser	Feb 2
Spring Show	April TBA

DOCUMENTS: FILL OUT AND TURN IN

The DEADLINE for:

Online Application & Registration: Tuesday, February 16 and closes Tuesday, February 23 by 7:30pm.
<https://goo.gl/forms/ONJoQ5XJuHU80uN63>

Documents: Report Card Tuesday, February 23 by 8:30am.

Physical Due & Medical History: Monday, May 21 Lyon's office

Handbook Form : Tuesday, February 23 by 8:30am.
*Read RISD Drill Team Handbook, online, then sign documents electronically and bring the Parent Acknowledgement of Receipt of the Handbook form. May find on Teacher webpage or district page.

Rank One Mandatory Online Forms: Tuesday, June 5, online registration begins, required to be finished before Line Camp August 13

rockwallisd.rankonesport.com

PLEASE TURN in documents according to the following directions:

- ♥ Fill out all blanks; do not leave any blanks empty
- ♥ Either type in information or clearly and neatly write in the information
- ♥ Make sure all documents are in numerical order before stapling
- ♥ Staple all documents at the upper left hand corner
- ♥ All documents must be presented Tuesday, February 23.

SCHEDULE for Turning in Documents on Tuesday, February 23.

SCHEDULE for First Day of Clinic March 19:

- ♥ Highstepper Hopefuls need to put their bags and purses in the dance room.
- ♥ Then, the Hopefuls need to begin making files behind the Officer.
- ♥ When sitting in roll call, begin stretching on your own.
- ♥ Director will open clinic with a short introduction at 7:00 am.
- ♥ Then Highstepper Hopefuls will begin warm up with laps, then everyone will pull back into their groups and begin stretch at 7:00-7:15.
- ♥ "Stepper Kick Down" across floor from 7:15-7:25.
- ♥ Learn audition jazz/kick routine on March 19 and 20, 7:25-8:05.
- ♥ "Steps Wire" last 5 minutes of clinic time.
- ♥ Highstepper Hopefuls will be dismissed at 8:10 PM.
- ♥ Highstepper Hopefuls will be put in a height line.
- ♥ Beginning Director's left to right, each girl will be assigned a number.
- ♥ You will then be placed in groups on March 19.
- ♥ Review & Closed Mock Tryouts Wednesday, March 21.

Payment Schedule

All payments have been divided according to when items need to be purchased. I realize some of these dates may not fall on or at your pay -check time, but I am meeting company deadlines and camp deadlines. Please speak with me, about any questions concerning payments.

Scholarships are granted to qualifying team members. On the evening of March 2nd, the new team members receive a folder with documents for scholarship applications.

<i>Item/ Group CHECK TO:</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Date and Time</i>	<i>Date and Time</i>	<i>Date and Time</i>	<i>Date and Time</i>
Team Trip, not required		Pay HBO or Company April-Dec.1 Approximate: \$1400 including airline			
HBO Bootbackers	Hat	April 3 \$105.00			
Go Figure	Team Dance Wear	May 7 \$75.00 payment	July 21 Balance Due		
HBO Bootbackers	“Team Supply Order” Boots, Make Up & Camp (\$400.00 deposit) Special Effects Order: Team Jacket, dance wear, team t-shirt, patches	May 7-8 \$400.00	June 5 Payment 2	July 3 Payment 3	Aug. 7 Payment 4 Must be paid in full to be in team picture
HBO Bootbackers	Yearly Membership	April 3 \$112.50	May 1 \$112.50	June 5 \$112.50	Aug. 7 \$112.50

On the evening of March 22, the new Highsteppers will receive the following:

- ♥ A folder containing all order forms and procedures.
- ♥ Team Calendar through August.
- ♥ All medical waivers, participation waivers, and forms required by RISD.
- ♥ Survival Notebook.
- ♥ Information about Highstepper Bootbackers.

Highstepper Hopefuls Required:

Check Off List:

❑ Email Lyon with any questions:
monica.lyon@rockwallisd.org

❑ Online Registration for Tryouts: Application
Completed by February 23 7:30pm

<https://goo.gl/forms/ONJoQ5XJuHU80uN63>

❑ Turn in Parent Acknowledgement form from
RISD Drill Team Handbook located on the RISD
Website, by February 23 by 8:30am. To Lyon

❑ Current Physical turned in by May by 8:30am.
To Lyon or by August 13th.

❑ Current Report Card that shows entire year
turned in by February 23 by 8:30am.

❑ Tryout Pants and Jazz shoes, see Go Figure,
972-276-6700

❑ Online Registration for Rank One, beginning
June 5.