Dear Dancers and Parents:

This letter is an explanation of my expectations and request for your commitment. I am asking each dancer and parent to sign below that you understand and agree to make every effort to meet and/or exceed my expectations.

You are a team member, your actions or lack of action affects all the members of your team. You must be aware of this. If you don’t practice, your whole team suffers. If you don’t grow, your whole team suffers. A team is only as strong as its weakest member. **Once you make a team, you are not “safe.”** You must have the desire to want to grow and improve as a dancer. Please make sure you are in class each class time.

**New Late/Absence Policy for 2018-2019 Season:**

If your dancer dances:

* 2x’s/week you are allowed up to **3 absences** for each half of the 2018/2019 season (Aug-Dec) and (Jan-May). This INCLUDES all scheduled dance classes INCLUDING technique classes!
* 3x’s/week you are allowed up to **5 absences** for the first half of the 2018/2019 season (Aug-Dec) and **4 absences (Jan-May).** This INCLUDES all scheduled dance classes INCLUDING technique classes! ANY ABSENCE excused or non-excused counts as an absence!

***Please Note***:

ANY ABSENCE excused or non-excused counts as an absence! If you miss MORE THAN HALF of the scheduled dance class this counts as an absence!

**Make-up Classes**

Make-up classes are available for EACH dancer. These classes will cancel out any excused absences **UP TO 6 for the year.** If you exceed the allowed absences, make-up classes will be **MANDATORY**. Any make-up classes that require private lessons with the instructor will be subject to the fees of that instructor.

If you exceed this number of allowed absences, and do not take make-up classes, **you will be charged an excessive absence fee of $25**, and could be replaced by an understudy and/or be removed from a routine and/or the team. Also, if you miss class the week of competition or a performance, you will be replaced by an understudy and be removed from a routine and/or the team.  ***THIS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED!!*** Please don’t schedule family vacations during competition season!!

**Lates/Leave Early**

You will be counted as LATE if you arrive after the first 10 minutes of class.

Your attendance will be noted as a “LEAVE EARLY” If you leave before the last 10 minutes of class.

***Please Note:***

6 Lates = 1 Absence

6 Leave Early = 1 Absence

**Summer Intensives**

Once you are placed on a RWDS Competition Dance Team you are required to attend summer intensives for that team. Schedule and cost is listed below:

**Senior Company/Troupe**: June 14-15th 9:30am-4:00pm **Cost $105**

**Junior & Senior Elites**: June 18-19th 9:30am-4:00pm

AND June 20th 9:30am-2:30pm **Cost $155**

**Junior Company/Troupe**: June 25th-26th 9:30am-4:00pm **Cost $105**

**Petite Company/Troupe**: July 9-10th 9:30am-4:00pm **Cost $105**

**Petite Elite**: July 9-10th 9:30am-4:00pm

AND July 11th 9:30am-2:30pm **Cost $155**

**Mini Company/Troupe**: July 16-17th- 9:30am-1:00pm **Cost $75**

**Competitions**

For the 2018/2019 Season we will be attending 3 competitions (4 for Elite Teams) in the Spring. As a team member you are expected to be at each competition.

Competition fees for the year will be $200 or ($270 for Elite Teams) and will be charged on a monthly basis with your tuition fee.

Broken down 10 months = $20/mo or ($27/mo for Elite Teams).

We have found that paying throughout the year, rather than a huge lump sum in January has been the most beneficial process. If for some unforeseen reason your dancer cannot attend a competition, she will be replaced with an understudy. You will NOT receive a refund for that competition. The understudy is doing YOU a favor by filling in, and competition fees are just a part of being on a competition team.

**Dancewear**

Every dancer needs to be in proper MODEST dance attire during practice. ABSOLUTELY NO T-shirts, sweats, dresses, skirts, tutus or prior year dance costumes are allowed in class!! **Please have hair pulled back and away from face!**

Costumes and Team Wear will be a TOTAL of $300 for the 2018-2019 season and divided into 2 equal payments of $150 each. The first payment will be **DUE by** **September** **1, 2018**. The second payment will be **DUE by March 1, 2019**.

The $300 fee will include the following items:

* Team Practice Wear
* 3 Costumes
* 1 pair of dance shoes
* 1 pair of dance tights
* Hip Hop shoes

\*This year we will be ordering Team Jackets. These will be for the next 2 dance seasons. The exact cost is not yet determined, but typically around $100 or less. These will be ordered in the Fall.

Every dancer can be strengthened, perfected and enhanced in their performance abilities. Personal practice and mastering of skills will always allow you to move forward. I want our students to dig deep inside themselves and find emotion and feeling for dance, music and movement.

Check with your coach and refer to skills lists often to make sure you know what you need to work on. What makes a good dancer great is strength, flexibility and passion. I want every dancer to work towards these and add to their own personal goal sheet.

When dancers leave class they should be tired, and their muscles should feel fatigued from effort. If not, you have not worked hard enough. Let’s work hard to make this year our best EVER!! Thank you for choosing to dance with us!!

**Dancer**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­\_

**Date**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_