**Jasper Dance Syllabus**

**Instructor** – Ms. Zeske

**Department** – P.E./Fine Arts

**Office Location** – Rm. 1233C

**Conference** – 7th Period (3:42-4:30pm)

**Phone** – 469-752-7490

**Email** – [emma.zeske@pisd.edu](mailto:emma.zeske@pisd.edu)

**Course Description**

Dance I-II offers an introduction to dance. Students will learn dance history and origins, develop dance vocabulary, basic technique skills, choreography skills, and kinesthetic awareness through the introduction to different styles of dance.

**Course Objectives**

*Students will be taught –*

1. To learn self-discipline, self-confidence, and dedication through the art of dance.
2. To explore diverse dance styles and history.
3. To become more aware of space, time, energy, and their own bodies.
4. To build dance vocabulary and technique.
5. To develop choreography skills.
6. To perform and emote.

**Class Materials**

* Spiral/composition notebook dedicated to Dance
* Pen/pencil
* Colored Pencils/highlighter/markers
* Appropriate dance attire for class
* Tan jazz shoes
* Flesh colored performance tights

**Student Expectations**

* RESPECT Ms. Zeske, other students, and school rules at all times!
* Laughing or making fun of another student will NOT be tolerated at any time.
* Students must dress correctly and participate in class EACH DAY to be successful!
* Students must spend time rehearsing material learned in class and be prepared each day.
* Each student is responsible for personal belongings when on campus and in dance class. Label ALL dance attire and shoes with your name/initials.
* Classroom lockers are assigned to Jazz members only. Do not store anything in those lockers.
* No gum, food, candy, or open drinks, (except water) in the dance room at any time.

**Class Procedures**

* Everything must be kept in your bag, in the dance room, and in your cubbies. Not on the floor.
  + Do not leave your belongings in the bathroom during class.
  + You may only store your belongings in the cubbies during your class period, not the entire school day.
* You must be **SEATED** in roll call spot **5 minutes** after the tardy bell rings. If you are not in your roll call spot when attendance is taken – you will be counted tardy.
* Warm-up will begin after attendance is taken.
* You will be given **5 minutes** at the beginning of class to dress out in your dance clothes, and **5 minutes** at the end of class to change back into your school clothes. You will be permitted to change clothes in the designated restroom only, and must return to class after you change. DO NOT leave early!
* Roaming in the halls during the ‘changing times’ is considered skipping and will result in referral to the Principal. You must stay in the dance room until the bell rings to dismiss class.
* The class is responsible for keeping the changing areas neat and tidy.

**Class Dress Code**

* Tank tops, T-shirts, or leotards are acceptable.
  + DO NOT wear a crop top, sports bra, or extra baggy shirt.
* Leggings, yoga/flare pants, or sweatpants are acceptable.
  + DO NOT wear shorts, skirts, or jeans. Make sure your pants are not see-through.
* Tan jazz shoes are **required.** \*\*\**Must have them for class every day and end of year performance\*\*\**
  + DO NOT dance in socks or street shoes. If you leave your jazz shoes at home, you have to dance barefoot.
* NO jewelry, during class or performances.
* Hair must be pulled back, completely out of face.

**Grading**

Break down of how students are graded throughout the 9 week period:

***50% Daily Grades –*** In-class participation and preparation → (dressing out, dancing full out, etc.)

* **A participation grade will be taken each week. Everyone will start with a 100 at the beginning of the week. Each time you fail to follow the dress code, your grade for the week will be deducted 10 points.** This includes hair down, no jazz shoes, and jewelry on. There will be differences in opinion of appropriate dance attire; however, final determination will be at the discretion of Ms. Zeske. All dance attire should be taken home and washed regularly.
  + Because this class primarily consists of physical movement, participation is a big part of your grade. Participation in dance includes being physically and mentally engaged with yourself and classmates. Asking questions, and answering questions. Stay curious and explore different movement styles and ideas.

***30% Quiz Grades –*** Terminology, technique, history, and anatomy written quizzes.

***20% Test & Project Grades –*** Projects, Performance Exams, and Spring Show performance.

* Performance Exams will be done once or twice every 9-weeks to demonstrate the skills learned within the grading period. Students will perform the dance combination or skill in small groups.
* The required performance grade includes:
  + Performing in the Dance Department Spring Show on **April 4th and 5th (Required)**

**Places to Purchase Dance Wear**

Students may also choose to purchase their attire on their own, or use items they already own. You can find items at Amazon, Academy, Walmart, Target, local dance stores, discountdance.com, dancewearsolutions.com, and many more. Cost will vary from place to place and how many items you purchase.

\*\*\* Students must have jazz shoes the third week of class (August 26th). Skin toned tights can be purchased later in the year if you wish, but they are required in March. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out!

**Illness & Injuries**

* In the case of illness/injury, a parental note may excuse the student from participation for one day. The note must be presented to Ms. Zeske BEFORE class begins. If you do not have a parent’s note – you will be required to participate.
* A doctor’s note is required if the student misses participation for ***3 or more consecutive days*.**
* If you are unable to take a skills test due to injury, then a research paper/project will be assigned in its place.
* Please DO NOT give me a note from home saying you need to sit out because of cramps. *(Research shows that the more you move/exercise while having cramps, the more it helps with the discomfort.)*
* If a student is ill or injured, he/she must dress out and actively take notes to receive points for the day.

**Make Up Work:**

Daily grade assignments will not be accepted more than 2 weeks late. Students will have one chance to makeup a quiz/test or Performance Exam that was missed (must be done within 1 week of the original date). After that, a grade of 0 will be given.

**Turning In Paperwork:**

All assignments should be turned directly into Ms.Zeske through Google Classroom, or in the class turn in tray.

**Dance Contract:**

My parents and I have read thoroughly and understand the Dance I & II Rules and Syllabus. I agree to follow Ms. Zeske’s guidelines, support my classmates, and give 100% of my effort.

I acknowledge the Spring Show date and understand it is my responsibility to be at the show AND rehearsals. This form is due back for a daily grade on Friday, August 16th during my class.

I acknowledge the materials list for dance class and understand that I need tan jazz shoes by August 26th, and tights by March.

**Student Name (printed)**

**Student Signature**

**Parent Signature**

**Date**

\*\*\*If you already know you cannot participate in the Spring Show, make a note. Deadline to let Ms. Zeske know is September 1st. You will complete an alternate assignment\*\*\*

**Dress Rehearsal 1**: March 29th (specific times TBD)

**Dress Rehearsal 2**: April 1st-3rd (specific times and days TBD)

**Shows**: April 4th and 5th (call time 6pm)