

W.T. Eich Middle School

Advanced Ballroom Dance

TEACHER INFORMATION: Mr. Larsen 916-771-1770 x23200 mlarsen@rcsdk8.org

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Welcome to ballroom dance! My goal for this class is to further your exposure to social behavior, manners, and the basics of American Style social ballroom dance technique. Dances taught will include Foxtrot, Swing, Nightclub Two Step, Waltz, Latin Hustle, Cha Cha, Tango, Salsa, and West Coast Swing. A journal will be kept in order to document ideas and personal growth, analyze experiences, critique dance performances, and help develop writing skills. Students will also be expected to teach and perform for community and school organizations, both during school hours as well as outside of school hours.

MATERIALS NEEDED FOR CLASS:

- Pencils
- Effort
- Positive attitude

As there are many costs associated with this class, I am asking for a \$20 voluntary donation that will help offset these costs.

REQUIRED ATTIRE FOR PERFORMANCES:

Gentlemen: Long pants (no jeans!) and collared shirt with tie. Shirts must be tucked in.

Ladies: Dress (does NOT have to be fancy), white gloves (provided)

Shoes: Shoes do not need to be dance shoes. However, it is recommended that students purchase dance/dress shoes (any nice looking shoe with a slick sole is fine), as they will be using these all year. Tennis shoes are fine for class but are not acceptable for performances. I recommend flats for the ladies as high heels are difficult for students to dance in.

GRADING POLICY:

Grades will be based 100% on summative assessments. Summative assessments will usually be either dance performances or writing/reflection assignments. Formative assessments (quizzes, journal entries, quickwrites, etc.) will still be entered into the gradebook but will not count towards the final grade.

BEHAVIOR:

Students are expected to follow all school rules - The Wildcat Way (Safe, Respectful, Responsible). This includes coming to class on time, having a good attitude, and being fully prepared for class. In addition, students are expected to:

- Show respect to others.
- Use appropriate language.
- Be prepared for learning.
- Participate appropriately during class.
- No gum, food, or drinks other than water.

Failure to follow the above behavior expectations will result in the following consequences:

1. Warning
2. Other classroom consequences
3. Citation
4. Office Referral (DP)

Repeated failure to follow behavior expectations will result in removal from the class.

Cat Paw Cash and other rewards can be earned for excellent behavior and exceeding student expectations.

COMMUNICATION:

Parents and guardians are a valued member of the education team. We need to work as a team in order to provide students with successful experiences. Thank you for supporting your child's learning in order to make this a successful and positive year at Eich. If you have questions please feel free to contact me at anytime via email or telephone.

Remind: I am trying out a new way to "text" updates to parents this year. Remind is an app that is free. Text @b9f673h to 81010 and it should add you to the class.

Students: Be sure to see me if you feel like you are falling behind or have a question with **anything**. It is very important that we have good communication and you seek help the moment you need it.

Please fill out the Google Form acknowledging that you have read and understand this syllabus. Also, please include contact information as requested.

Sincerely,

Mr. Larsen