

Northwestern School Corporation  
Music Curriculum  
Dance Choreography Course Outline

**Course Description:** Dance Choreography is a course that includes dance and equipment technique, combined with performance and theatrical skills. During the first semester, students work closely with the high school marching band and pep band. During the second semester, the color guard has five main goals, (1) to develop and enhance dance technique skills, (2) to learn choreography skills, (3) to perform at selected home basketball games as halftime entertainment, (4) to work on and continue development of equipment (flag and rifle) use, and (5) to recruit and develop the color guard for the next school year.

Activities utilize a wide variety of materials and experiences and are designed to develop techniques appropriate within the genre including individual and group instruction in performance repertoire and skills. Students develop the ability to express their thoughts, perceptions, feelings, and images through movement. Elements of dance fundamentals are incorporated to the class as equipment technique is developed. Much emphasis is placed on the expression of music through movement (dance, equipment work, etc.).

## I. Marching Band

### A. Movement

1. Marching
  - a. Mark Time
  - b. Marching Style
  - c. Guiding
2. Dance
  - a. Beginning Dance Positions (1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>, turn-out)
  - b. Plie', Releve', Tondué
  - c. Chaines
  - d. Chasse'
  - e. Jazz Steps
  - f. dance ensemble and performance
3. Drill
  - a. Individual Position on the Field
  - b. Maintaining Forms
  - c. Spacing and Guiding

### B. Equipment

1. Flag
  - a. Basic Flag Positions
    - i. Right Shoulder
    - ii. Order Arms
    - iii. Slams
    - iv. Presents
    - v. Lances
    - vi. Carving Exercises
  - b. Spins
    - i. Drop Spins
    - ii. Flutters
    - iii. Eastern Flats
    - iv. Speed Spins
  - c. Tosses
  - d. Learning Routine for Show
2. Rifle
  - a. Basic Rifle Positions
    - i. Right Home
    - ii. Left Home
    - iii. Port
  - b. Spins

- c. Double Time
- d. Tosses
- e. Learning Routine for Show

### C. Performance

- 1. Body Carriage
  - a. Posture
  - b. Body and Equipment
- 2. Energy
  - a. Projecting to the Judges/Top Row
  - b. Understanding Your Audience
- 3. **Presentation** (*Culmination of all Skills Learned*)

*\*Achievement in this area requires the performer to be able to have an awareness of Movement, Equipment and Body while maintaining a high level of energy and entertaining the audience.*

### II. Dance Choreography

\* The following skills will be emphasized in addition to the Basic Movement, Equipment and Performance Techniques **continued** from Marching Band:

- A. Dance Technique Skill Training
- B. Choreographic Principles
  - a. small groups
  - b. solos
  - c. with equipment and props
- C. Communication and Performance Skills
- D. Analysis of Dance
  - a. self evaluations
  - b. group evaluations
  - c. personal aesthetics
  - d. appropriateness of choreography with music
- E. Cultural Exploration of Dance
  - a. role in history
  - b. role in specific cultures
  - c. recognizing dance styles
- F. Advanced Difficulty Equipment Technique
- G. Exploration of a Variety of Music Interpretation Types