



SCHRADE FALCONS

**Cheerleading Tryout Packet
2025-2026**

Dear Parents and Prospective Cheerleaders,

I am so excited about your interest in our Schrade Cheer Program!

I hope that you, as parents of a prospective cheerleader, are aware of the time and energy it takes to be an effective student leader responsible for guiding student conduct at extracurricular activities and during the school day, both on and off campus. Candidates selected to be a member of the cheerleading squad are expected to make a commitment to the activity for the full cheerleading year (tryout date to tryout date). SMS Cheerleaders must give 100%, and complete their commitments and responsibilities to SMS cheerleading before anything else. SMS Cheerleaders will have additional duties, which they will be required to perform throughout the school year. These duties will include (but are not limited to): fundraising events, cheerleading camp, Schrade Falcon Fest, parades (Labor Day, MLK Day, etc.), preparation for homecoming festivities, games throughout the year, attendance at tournaments, competitions and participation in various school and community service projects. A great amount of time and energy will also be asked of the parents/guardians in providing transportation to some of the activities and in other miscellaneous functions during the year. Cheerleading is a year round activity.

I hope you will discuss the expectations and obligations of being a SMS cheerleader with your son/daughter, and agree that Schrade middle school Cheerleading is a worthwhile organization. Cheerleading helps students to form friendships, enrich communication, and develop group dynamics skills and responsibility. It also gives them countless opportunities to foster leadership skills that will prove beneficial later in life. With your support, we can work together to make this year at SMS a successful and memorable one. I look forward to meeting each of you during the coming year. If at any time you have questions, please do not hesitate to email me.

Sincerely,

Cleshon Jackson

cljackson2@garlandisd.net

District website for Fine Arts Handbook:

<https://garlandisd.net/media/15517/download?inline>

Important Mandatory Dates (subject to change)

Tuesday April 1, 2025 6:30pm - Parent and candidate MANDATORY

Friday Apr 4, 2025 Tryout packets are due, NO EXCEPTIONS!

Monday- Friday April 7-11th Tryout clinics 4:30-6:30

**Saturday Apr 12, 2025 Tryouts Warm-ups start at 8:45 am
Tryouts start at 9:15 am**

Please make sure your athletes are on-time. I will not allow anyone to try out after our window closes.

Apr 12, 2025 Results announced (Canvas)

April 30, 2025 Mandatory MADE IT Parent and Cheerleader meeting @ 6:30

Saturday May 3, 2025 Mandatory Fittings: – This fitting is for camp clothes, sweats, shoes, and ordering additional cheer equipment. 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

May 24, 2025 Mandatory - Payments due, Payment can be made in installments but full payment is due on May 24, 2025 Absolutely no exceptions!

Clinic Information

What: Clinic – Tryout material will be taught

When: April 7-11

Where: Schrade gym

Time: 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Attire: Athletic/cheer shorts, a T-shirt and tennis shoes are acceptable for the clinic. No half shirts or bra tops. No Nike Pros. No jewelry of any kind - including belly button rings, nose rings, etc. Hair should be up and secure

Candidates: Returning GISD students: you must have selected and been accepted to Schrade for the 2025-2026 school year. New to GISD: Make sure you have contacted Student Services and have pre-enrolled for SMS. Documentation is required.

Clinic is open to eligible candidates only. No parents, friends, or ineligible candidates are allowed to attend. No videotaping will be allowed. We will provide a video of the routine performed by the choreographer and ensure it is accessible to all candidates.

All paperwork must be turned in prior to participating in the clinic. The sooner all paperwork is in, the sooner you will get into the clinic. If you cannot attend the mock tryouts, it is your responsibility to see Ms. Jackson (Room 504) by April 6th for a tryout number. If you do not come by, it will be assumed that you are not trying out.

Clinic Agenda & Mock Tryout Agenda

April 7-11

Check in/Roll call
Demonstrate/Learn Dance
Learn Cheer and Chant
Review Material/Announcements

April 11th

Mock Tryouts
Recieve numbers
Announcements

Cost

The estimated cost of cheerleading for one year varies for squad as well as years of involvement. The range listed is from the low end which would be the equivalent of a 2nd year Middle school cheerleader who does not have to replace anything, to the high end, which is a complete newbie to Schrade Cheer. Please keep this in mind when looking at the cost ranges. The majority of the costs will be broken down into multiple payments. Once items are ordered, that payment is non-refundable. Every effort has been made to keep these costs to a minimum. The stated costs include camp wear, and season wear. There may be additional costs that arise throughout the year. •Middle school cheer \$350-500. You will not receive any items purchased until the balance has been paid in full.

Schrade middle school Cheer Hair & Make-up Policy

Practice: Hair up & out of face.

Game day @ school: High Ponytail or half up/half down with bow

Games: High Ponytail with bow

Competition: High ponytail with bow

Homecoming: Face paint Face paint & glitter

Pinkout: Face paint & glitter

Normal Game day: No glitter/face paint Glitter

Nails:

Nails should be kept to a “sports length” throughout the year. For games, performances and competitions, nails must be neutral color, french tip or clear. If nails are not in compliance, cheerleaders will sit out of games and performances until corrected.

GARLAND ISD
HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL CHEERLEADER TRYOUT

Date: April 6, 2024(Middle Schools), March 23, 2024(High Schools)

Time: 7:30-5:00 (Each school will have assigned time)

Location: Garland High School

CANDIDATE NUMBERING

HS-All varsity only candidates will be numbered first, followed by varsity or junior varsity candidates, and then finally any junior varsity only candidates.

MS/HS-Please do not start numbers over for your 7th grade/JV teams. There should only be one #1 per school.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

FULL GROUP PERFORMANCE

ALL candidates should walk in and perform the dance and cheer as a group in that order. It should be explained that this is only so the judges can see what the material should look like and that they will not be judged at that time. Full-out jumps and tumbling is not necessary but certainly welcome during this demonstration. Judges should put their pencils down during this time.

GROUP DANCE/CHEER:

Groups should consist of 3 candidates. They will enter the gym so that they end up standing in numeric order from left to right (from the judge's viewpoint). There should be no tumbling or spirit during this time, only uniform walking. The Fine Arts designee will start the music for the dance. Once the nod has been given, the designated candidate should call for the group cheer to begin. Upon completion, the candidates should wait for the judges to finish scoring. The cheer will have a section(s) incorporating a jump(s) and/or standing tumbling (8-counts). Candidates will be scored based on difficulty and execution. Candidates will also be judged on their smile, motion technique, and voice projection during this time.

INDIVIDUAL JUMPS:

Following the group performance of the dance and cheer, candidates will perform their jumps. Each candidate must perform a toe touch, a right hurdler/herkie, and a left hurdler/herkie. It will be determined by the campus whether it will be a hurdler or herkie. This will be performed one candidate at a time.

INDIVIDUAL RUNNING TUMBLING:

Once the jumps have been completed, each candidate will be offered a chance to tumble. All candidates will move to behind the mat in the back of the gym. When this is completed, all candidates will exit the gym.

TRYOUT MATERIAL CRITERIA:

-Criteria mentioned should be given to the clinic instructor upon hire.

-Cheers should have a place for an 8-count incorporating a jump(s) and/or standing tumbling.

-Dances should be no longer than 8 - 12 eight counts total.

Tryout Checklist

All forms should be turned in by 4:15 pm on April 4th to Coach Jackson (room 504) at Schrade Middle School. No tryout forms will be accepted after 1:15 pm on April 4th If the tryout forms are not turned in by this time and date, with the appropriate signatures, you cannot try out!

- Print-Physical and Medical History <https://www.uiltexas.org/files/>
- Cheerleader Application (Parent/candidate signatures required)
- Middle School Cheer Consent form
- Print out/screenshot of current grades submitted with application.
- Fine Arts Signature Pages (Parent/candidate signatures required) Please read over the handbook which can be found at <https://garlandisd.net/media/15517/download?inline>
- Student must have selected Schrade Middle School as their choice of school and been accepted
- Media Release Form
- Print-UIL Concussion Acknowledgement Form https://www.uiltexas.org/files/athletics/forms/Concussion_Acknowledgment_Form.pdf

Garland Independent School District Cheer Application

Name _____ ID# _____

Grade Next

Yr. _____ Age _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Email _____

School Enrolled for Next Yr. _____

Participation in the GISD cheerleading program carries both a significant time and financial commitment. Each cheerleader is expected to meet all financial responsibilities identified by their specific campus. Dedication to, and the prioritization of, cheerleading is obligatory from all cheerleaders to meet the objectives of the program. Candidates selected to be a member of the squad are expected to maintain their commitment to the activity for the full cheerleading year. Prior to making commitments to be involved in other school activities, cheerleaders should carefully consider specific program requirements, as involvement in other activities may cause participation and time conflicts with cheerleading duties. Any cheerleader who voluntarily quits the squad before the end of the cheerleading year without the approval of the principal and sponsor will not be allowed to try out for the next year on any GISD campus.

I understand the above and confirm that I have not voluntarily quit any cheerleading squad at any GISD campus.

Student

Signature _____

Parent/Guardian _____

For parents/guardians:

I understand that I/we will not be allowed in the building on the day of the tryouts.

Parent/Guardian _____

**Garland Independent School District Fine Arts Handbook
Cheerleading, Drill Team, Step, and World Dance Company
Permission, Commitment, and Signature Page**

Student Name (Please Print) _____
Legal Parent/Guardian (Please Print) _____

Check the Fine Arts Group you are auditioning for/joining:

Cheer _____ **Junior Varsity Drill Team** _____ **Varsity Drill Team** _____ **Step Team** _____
World Dance Company _____

Please read each statement and initial. A candidate/member and a legal parent/guardian signature and date is required at the end of the statements.

Candidate/Member:

_____ I have received, read, and understand all of the information in this tryout packet and agree to abide by all rules and regulations regarding tryouts.

_____ I understand that the judges' decision is final.

_____ I have received, read, and understand the Fine Arts Handbook and agree to abide by all rules and regulations of the Fine Arts Group.

_____ I have received, read and understand the GISD District Code of Conduct and agree to abide by all rules and regulations. (Internet access www.garlandisd.com)

_____ I have received, read and understand the financial obligation involved with being a member. I also understand that I will not receive any items, but I must still attend any events/performances, if I have not fulfilled my financial contract.

_____ I have received, read and understand that in addition to yearly tryouts, to remain on the team, there may be weekly tryouts conducted by the teacher (coach, director, and sponsor).

_____ I have received, read and understand that I must pass all of my classes, with the exception of waived classes, to be eligible to perform. (Refer to TEA/UII Regulations).

_____ I have read and understand my behavior and conduct will be held to a higher standard on this team, both in and out of school.

_____ I have read and understand that I am required to attend all mandatory practices, performances, contest(s), and events. An unexcused absence will receive consequences.

_____ I understand that I am to ride to and from all events and performances on school transportation with my team. All members are to be picked up from the school after games/competitions/performances/events no later than 20 minutes after being dismissed by the teacher.

_____ I understand and agree to abide by the Standard of Uniformity (hair, makeup, and nails) that was established by a committee of my peers.

_____ I understand that I will be responsible for returning all uniforms, poms, props etc. in good condition. Uniforms must be cleaned according to the instructions given by the director/coach. A cleaning receipt attached to the uniform may be required.

Legal Parent/Guardian:

_____ I have received, read, and understand all of the information in this tryout packet and agree to abide by all rules and regulations regarding tryouts.

_____ I understand the judges' decision is final.

_____ I have received, read, and understand the Fine Arts Handbook and agree to abide by all rules and regulations of the Fine Arts Group.

_____ I have received, read and understand the GISD District Code of Conduct and agree to abide by all rules and regulations. (Internet access www.garlandisd.net)

_____ I have received, read and understand the financial obligation and payments involved with my student being a member. I also understand that my student will not receive any items, but must still attend any events/performances, if I have not fulfilled my financial contract.

_____ I have received, read and understand that in addition to yearly tryouts, to remain on the team, there may be weekly tryouts conducted by the teacher (coach, director, and sponsor).

_____ I have received, read and understand that my student must pass all classes, with the exception of waived classes, to be eligible to perform. (Refer to TEA/UIL Regulations).

_____ I have read and understand that my student's behavior and conduct will be held to a higher standard on this team, both in and out of school.

_____ I have read and understand that my student is required to attend all mandatory practices, performances, contest(s), and events.

_____ I understand that my student is required to ride to and from all events and performances on school transportation with their team. All members are to be picked up from the school after games/competitions/performances/events no later than 20 minutes after being dismissed by the teacher. _____ I understand and agree to the Standard of Uniformity (hair, makeup, and nails) that was established by a committee within the Fine Arts Group.

_____ I understand that I will be responsible for returning all uniforms, poms, props etc. in good condition. Uniforms must be cleaned according to the instructions given by the director/coach. A cleaning receipt attached to the uniform may be required.

Candidate/Member Printed Name _____

Candidate/Member Signature _____

Date _____

Legal Parent/Guardian Printed Name _____

Legal Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Handbook link is.... <https://garlandisd.net/media/15517/download?inline>

MEDIA RELEASE

NOTICE-Regarding Directory Information and Parent's Response Regarding Release of Student Information

State law requires the district to give you the following information:

Certain information about district students is considered directory information and will be released to anyone who follows the procedures for requesting the information unless the parent or guardian objects to the release of the directory information about the student. If you do not want Garland ISD to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the district in writing within ten school days of your child's first day of instruction for this school year.

This means that the district must give certain personal information (called "directory information") about your child to any person who requests it, unless you have told the district in writing not to do so. In addition, you have the right to tell the district that it may, or may not, use certain personal information about your child for specific school-sponsored purposes. The district is providing you this form so you can communicate your wishes about these issues.

[See Directory Information in the Student Handbook for more information.]

Garland Independent School District has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name • Address
- Telephone listing • E-mail address
- Photograph •Date and place of birth
- Major field of study •Degrees, honors, and awards received
- Dates of attendance • Grade level
- Most recent school previously attended
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height, if a member of an athletic team

Parent/guardian, please select one of the choices below:

I want directory information about my child released to the public. Anyone requesting directory information for GISD students may receive it.

I want directory information about my child released only for district publicity. This could include, but is not limited to: extracurricular activity publications, yearbooks, district/campus newsletters, campus directories, news releases to local media, media coverage, district/campus websites, district/campus videos, district/campus publications, district/campus social media and public recognitions.

I do not want directory information about my child released. By marking this box, I understand that my child's name, photograph, etc., will NOT be included in district/school publications—including the yearbook—or released to the media. I also understand that this request must be made annually to be valid for each school year.

Student Name (please print)

Last _____ First _____ MI _____
_____ Student ID# Grade _____

Parent signature _____ Date _____

If this form is not returned within the specified timeframe above, the district will assume that permission has been granted for the release of this information