

United Independent School District Cheer and Dance Guidelines

Table of Contents.....1

Introduction

 a. Goals.....2

Section I. Eligibility for Membership.....3

Section II. Tryout Procedures.....4

Mandatory Tryout Meeting and information.....4

Team Tryouts.....5

Officer Tryouts.....5-6

Section III. Membership Benefits and Responsibilities.....6

Role Model Status.....6

Participation.....6-7

Absences.....7

Financial Obligations.....7

Performance/Games.....8

Summer Camp.....8

High School Credit.....8

Grade Point Average.....9

Award Jackets.....9

Uniforms.....9

Section IV. Prohibited Conduct.....9

Jurisdiction.....9-10

Merit/Demerit System.....10

One and Two Demerits.....11-12

Three and Five Demerits.....12 - 13

Ten Demerits.....13

20 Demerits.....14 -15

Section V. Probation.....15

Section VI. Dismissal.....16-17

Section VII. Withdrawal / Removal from Membership.....17

Section VIII. Appeal of Dismissal18

United Independent School District Spirit Group Guidelines

Introduction

Goal: Fine Arts

So that all fine arts students in United ISD will be afforded the opportunity to explore, display, test, evaluate, and refine their talents, based upon their individual development, the Fine Arts Department will provide opportunities for successful student self-expression and personal growth as artists, citizens, and life-long learners fostering community parental support through school, district-wide and State/National level performances.

Goal: Spirit Organization

It is United I.S.D.'s belief that participation in spirit organizations promotes and develops teamwork and leadership skills and contributes in developing self-confidence. In addition, each member must be a role model who achieves academic excellence and demonstrates strong character in his/her daily life.

Goal: Spirit Group Guidelines

The purpose of this document is to develop uniform guidelines for each spirit organization in United I.S.D. These guidelines will focus on the proper implementation of tryouts, membership requirements, and performance expectations for each spirit organization.

Note: Spirit Groups are those cheer, dance and pep squads promoting spirit by displaying pride and enthusiasm in support of United ISD athletic events, school organizations/events and competition participation.

Section I.
Eligibility for Membership

1. Students are eligible for membership in a Spirit Group on the campus within their attendance zone or at a school where he or she has been officially approved for a transfer. A student who has been accepted for membership in a spirit organization must maintain a full time student status per Texas Education Agency and University Interscholastic League (UIL) Guidelines.
2. Intra-District Transfer requests for the purpose of participation in a school spirit organization will not be approved.
3. Transferring students (**in or out of district**) must participate in the tryout procedure and submit all required paperwork. Students who transfer after the tryout date will not be allowed membership regardless of current standing at the former school.
4. Candidates for membership must be a member in good financial standing with all student organizations of which they are or have been a member of at any UISD campus. This requirement includes all financial obligations to the spirit organization. Candidates must list all student organizations and receive a sign-off from these sponsors prior to trying out. (**Spirit Group Form 890-040**)
5. Students who are eligible for participation in a Spirit Group must comply and follow the required tryout procedures.
6. A student who has been dismissed from any United I.S.D. spirit organization for any reason is prohibited from participating in tryouts for the following school year. This provision is subject to appeal to the appeals committee whose decision is final.
7. All members at the middle school and high school level must provide documentation that they have received and passed a physical examination from a physician licensed to practice in the state of Texas during the calendar year. The documentation must indicate that the student has been examined and is physically able to participate in spirit group activities. This documentation must be submitted prior to tryouts along with all other application forms.

8. Each candidate for membership must submit the application forms found in the tryout packet prior to tryouts. Among other information, the application forms will contain a proof of residency form that must be completed and submitted prior to tryouts.

Section II. **Tryout Procedures**

A. Mandatory Tryout Meeting and Information

1. A mandatory tryout meeting will be held for all prospective members and parents/guardians. The director of each spirit organization will schedule this meeting. A parent/guardian of each prospective member is expected to attend the mandatory tryout meeting to receive information.
2. Tryout packets will be distributed to all prospective members and the parents/guardians of all prospective members. The tryout packet will be distributed at the mandatory tryout meeting and will include information such as projected costs, tentative schedules, Spirit Group Guidelines, and necessary application forms.
3. Prior to tryouts, parents/guardians of all prospective members must agree to support the enforcement of all rules and regulations and must agree to the payment of all necessary expenses should their child be selected as a member of the Spirit Group.
4. Candidates for membership should participate in the tryout workshop provided.
5. All candidates must tryout during the scheduled tryout session. If a participant is injured during tryouts, make-up tryouts will not be permitted. Make-up tryouts will not be allowed for any purpose. Pre-recorded audio/visual routines will not be accepted as a substitute for the scheduled tryout session.
6. Membership is for the current year only. All spirit organization members must reestablish membership through annual tryouts.
7. Candidates for membership in a spirit organization will tryout in front of a panel consisting of three or more professional judges from an outside “professional cheer or dance agency such as UCA/NCA (cheer) or three NDA/UDA (dance) judges that are not affiliated with UISD.
8. Sponsors will set-up tryout procedures with the campus principal or designee.

9. The judges are the only individuals who will be allowed in the tryout room during the actual tryouts. Sponsors and parents are not judges and are not allowed in the tryout room during the actual tryouts.

B. TEAM TRYOUTS FOR THE ORGANIZATION

1. All prospective candidates must submit all required forms on the first day of the tryout workshop.
2. Each candidate will be judged on the following point system:

Talent 75%

GPA 25%

100%

Judges scores: There will be at least three professional judges associated with professional outside agencies (not affiliated with UISD) such as UCA/NCA (cheer) or NDA/UDA (dance) from out of town to judge the competition. Points will be tallied by an individual employed by the district or campus personnel, to be selected and overseen by a campus administrator.

3. Each candidate will dress as specified by the director.
4. Each candidate will receive a written notice regarding membership.

Note: Individual score sheets may be reviewed the week after tryouts with an appointment.

C. OFFICER TRYOUTS

1. Tryout procedures and requirements to determine officer, line, and head/co-head officer positions will be established by the director and approved by the campus principal prior to the posting of sign-up sheets. However, individuals must be present to tryout for an officer position and cannot submit a pre-recorded audio/visual routine as a substitute for the scheduled officer tryout session.

For example: high schools may require to tryout for an officer position, one needs to have been a cheerleader for two consecutive years and that a senior must fill the slot of head cheerleader. At a middle school, the sponsor and principal may need to go by best scores and/or 1 year's experience for officers because students are only there for three years or perhaps, it is a new campus and the whole team or squad is new.

2. Procedures for the replacement of an officer that has withdrawn or has been dismissed will be filled by the officer alternate. The officer alternate will be the student with the next highest officer tryout score who does not have an office. officers will be moved to fill positions with the alternate filling the last office. If there is no alternate, the last office position will remain vacant. There is only one officer alternate.

*For example: In some cases the spot will be left vacant for the rest of the year **or** perhaps the captain moves out of town, then the 1st Lt. will take the captain's position and the 2nd Lt. will take the 1st Lt.'s spot. Thus, maybe the 2nd Lt.'s position will be left vacant.*

3. A member will lose his or her position as an officer if he or she receives 10 demerits.

Section III.

Membership Benefits and Responsibilities

Role Model Status

Student participants in spirit group organizations represent not only themselves, but also other students and the school district when performing, competing, or participating in spirit organization activities. While wearing uniforms or other clothing that identifies the student to the community, public, and to other United I.S.D. students as a member of a United ISD Spirit Group, behavior must be exemplary and reflect the UISD Student Code of Conduct/Student Handbook, both on and off United I.S.D. property.

Participation

1. Each member will participate in required activities throughout the year. Required activities include, but are not limited to, athletic events, practices, competitions, school spirit projects, summer camp, and assigned fundraising functions. The director will designate which activities are required activities.

Parents, guardians, and students are responsible for appropriate transportation arrangements to and from each spirit group activity in a timely manner. If students are riding a bus to and from an activity, students are responsible for appropriate arrangements to and from the pick up and drop off locations at the time designated by the director.

All spirit groups must travel on a school bus to any school-related activity during

the school day. During out-of-town or evening activities, parents can take members unless a bus is provided. Parents can transport students home from these events under the following conditions:

- a. Student must present a note to the director prior to the activity requesting that the parent/guardian be allowed to transport the student home from the activity. The note must be dated and must include the member's name, signature, and telephone number of the parent/guardian.
- b. A parent/guardian transporting a student home from an event must meet the director at the end of an event or game and take responsibility for the member at that time. All other students will return to the bus with the group.
- c. Any exceptions to this procedure must be approved in advance by both the director and a school administrator.

C. **Absences**

In order to receive an excused absence from a practice, performance, or event, a member must present a written note from a parent or guardian to the director upon the member's return. The written note must include the member's name, date, reason for absence, and parent or guardian signature and telephone number. If the absence was anticipated, a parent or guardian must also notify the director by telephone prior to the practice, performance, or event that is to be missed. Three or more consecutive absences may also require an excuse from a physician who is licensed in the State of Texas. (District policy FFAA-LOCAL and UISD Student Code of Conduct and Student Handbook)

Excused absences include: personal illness or accident, death in the family, school activities that receive advance approval from the director, religious holidays, weddings in the immediate family, any other absence approved by the director

Unexcused absences include but are not limited to: out-of-town trips or vacations, work, any absence not approved by the director.

Each unexcused absence will result in demerits. (See demerits)

When a student is absent to a practice or event for any reason, it is that member's responsibility to find out what was missed and what is required upon return.

Any member who misses a practice, assigned event, or scheduled game may forfeit performing in the next upcoming event.

D. Financial Obligations

1. The Spirit Groups will conduct various fund raisers throughout the year in order to help defray costs associated with participation in the spirit group. These fundraisers are considered spirit group activities and all members are required to participate. Each campus shall develop procedures for the awarding of credit for participation.
2. Members will not be allowed to participate in tryouts for the next school year until all financial obligations to the spirit organization have been met.

E. Performances/Games

1. Members must (1) attend all practices and (2) meet performance expectations during practice in order to be eligible to participate in the week's performance.
2. Attendance at each week's performance, whether or not a student is participating in the routine, is required.
3. Members will tryout for every performance prior to an event. Members who have mastered the necessary skills will perform for that event. Members who have not mastered the required skills will remain as alternates and could have an opportunity to perform as a replacement for a member who is unable to participate.
4. Decisions regarding alternates and member participation will be made by the director with input from the group student leaders. Student leaders will, under no circumstances, have the responsibility of determining who will or will not perform.
5. All members will continue to rehearse the routine daily regardless of whether that member will be performing the routine or has been designated as an alternate. The only exception to this requirement is for a documented medical reason.

F. Summer Camp

1. Members must attend the required summer camp(s) as designated by the director. Each member is responsible for the costs of such camp(s).
2. Information regarding summer camp will be provided after tryouts.

G. High School Class Credit

1. This should be determined between high school sponsors and principals prior to tryouts and communicated to other campuses as well. The requirement for class participation for the entire year should be posted prominently in the tryout information provided to students and their parents.
2. Students must not be late to class or to scheduled activities. Tardiness to activities will result in demerits per the Demerit Schedule. Tardiness to class will be handled according to school policy.

H. Grade Point Average

1. Members must maintain a grade point average that meets or exceeds the grade point average requirements for participants in a UIL extracurricular activity, as outlined by the UISD Student Handbook.

I. Award Jackets

1. Award jackets for members of high school spirit group organizations will be awarded to qualifying members at each high school.
2. Spirit group members shall be awarded a jacket upon completing two consecutive years of membership in the organization.
3. Students who are dismissed or who withdraw from membership from a spirit group organization for any reason will not receive an award jacket.

J. Uniforms

1. All uniforms must comply with dress code and must be approved by the campus principal prior to being ordered. It is recommended that uniforms be used at least 2 years before changing to a new one.
2. Uniform can consist of or be a portion of the following: formal uniform, practice attire, notebook, bag, jacket, hat, ribbon, etc. – any item that identifies one with the team.

3. Uniform demerits – a participant will receive one demerit if any piece(s) of the uniform is missing per activity. (ie. one piece is missing/wrong = 1 demerit or 3 pieces missing = 1 demerit) It is not a demerit per piece missing or wrong color, etc.

Section IV. **Prohibited Conduct**

A. Jurisdiction

1. Each member will follow school rules as well as rules that are unique to membership in a spirit organization. Participation in a spirit group is a privilege, and as such, rules must be followed regardless of whether school is in session, regardless of whether the offense occurs on or off school property or at a school-related event, regardless of whether the student is directly involved with a spirit group activity at the time the prohibited conduct occurs, and regardless of where or when the conduct occurs as outlined in the UISD Student Code of Conduct/Student Handbook.
2. A student who violates a school rule may incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from the spirit group director for the same violation. It is also possible that a spirit group member could violate a spirit group rule and be subject to discipline by a coach or sponsor without having violated the UISD Student Code of Conduct.

B. Merit/Demerit System

1. All merits/demerits will be weighed according to the UISD Spirit Group Guidelines.
2. A student is subject to the merit/demerit system upon becoming a member of the organization.
3. The spirit organization calendar year for the purposes of the merit and demerit system runs from the date of tryouts in spring of the current school year until the date of tryouts in the spring of the next calendar year. This may result in one calendar year running longer than 365 days, depending on the date of tryouts and TAKS testing dates.
4. The category (ies) from which the demerits will be issued are at the sole discretion of the sponsor.

Merits: praiseworthy feature, action, or quality displayed by member

Merits are optional and will be determined by each campus director and may replace demerits provided that the demerit was not an offense in the student code of conduct. Each sponsor will make an individual determination regarding the use and value of merits earned.

Demerits: consequence due to an inappropriate feature, action, or quality displayed by member

20 demerits shall result in dismissal from the squad.

15 demerits shall result in probation from the squad

10 demerits shall result in removal from officer position if member is an officer

10 demerits warrant a conference with parents to give information of possible probation

Demerits will be issued for the following:

ONE DEMERIT

1. Talking at a time during a spirit group activity when there has been an announced “no talking” restriction. (1 demerit)
2. Failure to participate to the fullest extent of the required spirit group activity (i.e. not cheering, leaving early, not bringing required item). (1 demerit)
3. Chewing gum during spirit group activities. (1 demerit)
4. Eating or drinking during spirit group activities without permission. (1 demerit)
5. Tardiness to any required spirit group activity including high school class (1 demerit)
6. Wearing an incomplete or incorrect uniform per director’s instructions for the required spirit group activity. (1 demerit)
7. Wearing hair and/or make-up that do not conform to the director’s instructions for the required spirit group activity. (1 demerit)

8. Failure to turn in uniforms costumes or accessories in good, clean condition by the designated due date. (1 demerit)
9. Wearing any type of jewelry or colored nail polish with spirit group uniform or practice attire. (1 demerit)
10. Failing to keep fingernails at an appropriate length as determined by the director. (1 demerit)
11. Failure to be picked up by parent/guardian from any scheduled activity on time. (1 demerit for each 15 minutes late)
12. Failure to “sign out” from school prior to missing a spirit group class. (1 demerit)
13. Failure to turn in important paperwork or consent forms on or before the due date. (1 demerit)
14. Failure to bring a written excuse from a parent/guardian upon return after any absence. (1 demerit)

TWO DEMERITS

15. Failure to follow director or spirit group leader instruction(s). (2 demerits)
16. Wearing a uniform or spirit group attire anywhere other than a school sanctioned activity (2 demerits)
17. Failure to comply with the minimum requirements of any spirit group fund-raiser. (2 demerits)

THREE DEMERITS

18. Students should follow the appropriate chain of command for problems or grievances. Demerit will be issued to students who break the chain of command and will be sent back to the appropriate individual. Student officers may be required to write brief statements to the Director/Sponsor upon request regarding a particular issue(s). (3 demerits)

Chain of Command for students is as follows:

Student Officer→Director (sponsor) →Campus Administrator→Principal

→**Fine Arts Administrator**

Chain of Command for parents is as follows:

Director/Sponsor → Campus Administrator→Principal →Fine Arts Administrator

* Any student/parent may adhere to FNG (Local) policy regarding the resolution of complaints. **The spirit group appeals committee will make the Level I decision.**

19. Any unexcused absence (3 demerits)

Five Demerits (Any Level 1—Minor Offenses: violation of the United I.S.D. Student Code of Conduct/Student Handbook)

20. Displaying visible body markings including tattoos and body piercing while in uniform. (5 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level I-Minor Offenses-# 6(Band aids or other coverings to cover jewelry or piercing will not be allowed in place of removing the jewelry)
21. The use of electronic devices, such as stereo, headsets, cassette players, electronic games, iPod, Zune, MP3 or CD player and accessories is prohibited during school hours (first bell to last bell). Device and accessories must be turned off and cannot be visible. The school is not responsible if these items are lost or stolen. (5 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Level I-Minor Offenses #4
22. Loitering or trespassing on school grounds before the bell and after the last bell. Students should be on campus for an educationally related purpose, such as tutorials or extracurricular activities. Students who are waiting for a ride home shall not be considered to be loitering. (5 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level I-Minor Offenses #7

10 DEMERITS (Any Level II –Serious Offenses: violation of the United I.S.D. Student Code of Conduct/Student Handbook)

23. Insubordination toward the director. (10 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level II-Serious Offenses-# 5
24. Distribution of any non-school related materials such as invitations, notices, or bracelets related to parties not approved by school administration. (10 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level II-Serious Offenses-# 19
25. Inappropriate touching including “making out” while in uniform. (10 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level II-Serious Offenses-# 12
26. Displaying unsportsmanlike conduct, inappropriate behavior or using foul language. (10 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level II-Serious Offenses-# 4, # 6, # 11
27. Leaving an assigned area during a spirit group activity without permission. (10 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level II-Serious Offenses-# 37
28. Possessing or using matches or a lighter. (10 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level II-Serious Offense #42
29. Refusal to cooperate or interference with a random metal detector safety search. (10 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level II-Serious Offense #43
30. Using a camera cell phone in locker/shower facilities and restroom areas. (10 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level II-Serious Offense #44

20 DEMERITS - Immediate Dismissal from Membership (Accumulated 20 demerits) or (Any Level III- Disciplinary Alternative Education Programs and/or Discretionary Placement in a Disciplinary Alternative Education Program and Any Level IV-Expulsions: violation of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Handbook)

Failure to comply with behavior that is defined in the U.I.S.D. Student Code of Conduct/Student Handbook, both on and off United I.S.D. property, conduct such as drinking alcoholic beverages and smoking cigarettes, regardless of whether the member has parent approval or in what country the conduct occurs while representing U.I.S.D., constitutes behavior that is

defined as an offense. Other examples include, but are not limited to, violation of any of the conduct described in the United I.S.D. Student Code of Conduct/Student Handbook & Spirit Guidelines to the extent that a sponsor, school official and Fine Arts Administrator determine that immediate dismissal from membership is warranted. The circumstances surrounding the incident will be considered; however, parental permission will not be considered in allowing exceptions to the rules.

31. Engages in two or more bullying or hazing offenses including cyber bullying offenses. (20 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level III-Disciplinary Alternative Education Programs #15
32. Engages in acts intended to disrupt school, inciting a riot or disturbance, encouraging others to disrupt school (i.e. walkout, sit out). (20 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level III-Disciplinary Alternative Education Programs #16
33. Placing a prohibited substance in another person's food, drink, and/or other possessions. (20 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level III-Disciplinary Alternative Education Programs #17
34. A student may be expelled and placed into the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program or district's Disciplinary Alternative Education Program for the following: Offenses Which May Result in Expulsion (Conduct Unrelated to School). (20 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level IV-Expulsions (refer to #4a, b, c, d p. 27-28)
35. A student who is placed in an alternative setting under these circumstances will be given the opportunity for a hearing. A placement will not be made unless the Board or the Boards designee determines that the student's presence in the regular classroom either:
 - Threatens the safety of other students or teachers;
 - Will be detrimental to the educational process; or
 - Is not in the best interest of the district's students. (20 demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level IV-Expulsions (refer to p.28)
36. The expulsion or DAEP placement may be without regard for the date or location of the offense or enrollment status of the student or court disposition and the student is subject to placement until one of the following occurs:
 - The student graduates from high school;
 - The charges are dismissed or reduced to a misdemeanor offense; or
 - The student completes the term of the placement or is assigned to another program. (20

demerits) Student Code of Conduct-Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-Level IV-Expulsions (refer to p. 28)

Section V. – Probation

1. Parents/guardians will be notified if a member is placed on probation by sponsor.
2. A conference between a campus administrator, sponsor and parents/guardians shall be held regarding probation of member. When a member has 15 or more demerits or violation of a Level II—Serious Offense an administrator is required, to be involved at the conference.
3. A spirit group member who has 15 or more demerits or a violation of a Level II-Serious Offense will be placed on disciplinary probation. A student who is on disciplinary probation is prohibited from actively participating in performances; however, the member must attend all group activities in uniform in order to be allowed to tryout for the following year.

Note: The duration of the probation period will be 3 weeks.

4. Scholastic Probation – A member will be placed on scholastic probation if he or she receives grade lower than a 70. Grade checks will be performed according to the TEA/UIL eligibility calendar. A member who is on scholastic probation must participate in practices, but will not be allowed to perform or attend events with their group.

Section VI. Dismissal

1. Student grades will be checked according to the UIL eligibility calendar. Any spirit group member who has a failing grade of below 70 (which has rendered he or she ineligible) on **three grading periods during the year** will be dismissed from the spirit organization for the remainder of the school year and not allowed to tryout for the following year.

2. Any member who accumulates 20 demerits during the spirit organization calendar year will be dismissed from the spirit organization and not allowed to tryout for the following year.
3. Student members are required to demonstrate the type of strong leadership qualities which directly influence other students in a positive manner. This requires members of spirit organization to follow U.I.S.D. Student Code of Conduct/Student Handbook. Failure to follow U.I.S.D. Student Code of Conduct/Student Handbook may be grounds used for immediate dismissal from the spirit group.

A spirit group member who sells, gives, or delivers to another person, or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of any amount of: marijuana or a control substance; a dangerous drug, an alcoholic beverage; or engages in conduct that contains the element of an offense relating to an abusable, volatile chemical under sections 485.031 through 485.034, Health and Safety Code will be dismissed for the remainder of the year and not allowed to tryout the following year. **(20 demerits) Student Code of Conduct – Section IV-Inappropriate Conduct-- Level III- Mandatory Placement in a Disciplinary Alternative Education Program.** Arrests and law Enforcement involvement can be used to make this determination; however, an arrest, law enforcement involvement or actual conviction is not necessary for the sponsor or administration to make the determination that a violation has occurred.

Any member found in violation (by administration or law enforcement) of any criminal activity punishable by law while representing the spirit organization on or off campus or offenses occurring off campus not at school-related activities will be dismissed for the remainder of the school year and not be allowed to tryout the following year. **(Refer to Student Code of Conduct: Offenses Occurring off Campus/Not at School-Related Activities)**

Any member who violates sections of **Level III-Disciplinary Alternative Education Programs and/or Level IV-Expulsions** of the United I.S.D. Student Code of Conduct will be dismissed from the squad for the remainder of the school year as determined by administration and/or spirit group sponsor and not allowed to tryout the following year. This offensive behavior is in direct violation with the U.I.S.D. Student Code of Conduct/Student Handbook.

Any student who has been assigned to the United S.T.E.P. Academy shall not participate in school sponsored or school related activities of any kind pursuant to the United I.S.D. Student Code of Conduct, District policy and state law.

Section VII.

Withdrawal from Membership

1. A member who withdraws from a spirit organization must do so in writing. The written request must be signed by a parent or guardian. A copy of the withdrawal letter must be turned into sponsor and will be shared with campus administration.
2. When a member withdraws from participation, the sponsor will request a follow-up conference with parent/guardian and campus administrator and participant.
3. A member who withdraws from a spirit organization is prohibited from participating in tryouts for the following school year.
4. A member who withdraws from or is dismissed from a Spirit Group for any reason must fulfill any and all financial commitments. No reimbursements will be given. If financial commitments are not adhered to by the member or parent/guardian, the district may file a complaint in small claims court to recover any monies owed.
5. High school students who withdraw from membership in a spirit group remain enrolled in the cheer or dance class. All requests to withdraw from a class must be in writing to the campus administration. Senior students who wish to withdraw from a cheer or dance class may only do so during the final nine weeks grading period.

Section VIII.

Appeal of Dismissal

1. Students who have been dismissed or have quit a Spirit Group Organization are not allowed to participate in tryouts for the following school year. **The dismissed member may tryout after one full school year has elapsed.**
2. Students who have been dismissed or have quit a Spirit Organization have the right to request that they be allowed to tryout for the following school year. This request must be made before the spirit group appeals committee.
3. The spirit group appeals committee, composed of the principal or designee, spirit organization director, and the Fine Arts Administrator, will meet to determine whether a student will be allowed to tryout for the following school year. The committee's decision is final.
4. The decision of the spirit group appeals committee may be appealed through the United I.S.D. grievance policy found in FNG (LOCAL)

Acknowledgement

Date _____

I have read the United I.S.D. Spirit Group Guidelines and agree to adhere to these rules as a condition of my membership in a United I.S.D. spirit organization. I understand that failure to do so will result in disciplinary measures related to my participation in the spirit group.

Student Name (printed) _____

Student Signature _____ Date: _____

I have read the United I.S.D. Spirit Group Guidelines and understand that as a condition of my child's membership in a United I.S.D. spirit organization; he or she must follow the rules set forth in this document. I understand the consequences that my child will face if he or she fails to adhere to these rules.

Parent/Guardian Name (printed) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

PAGE

PAGE 12