



BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METRO PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

Middle School Dance Information Sheet

Things to know

Our dances are for middle school students ONLY, grades 6-8. In order for us to ensure that our participants are within those grades, **we would like to see a photo ID**. Participants not meeting the entrance criteria may be turned away at the door.

Acceptable identification includes:

- Current or last year's school ID
- Presenting to staff BIRD online portal with student picture and grade
- State ID or Passport ID
- Any document showing their age or school attending (birth certificate, report card are examples)
- Official school roster sent to BIRD staff by school officials

Be aware that strobe and flashing lights are present during the dance.

Parent/guardian may not vouch for their children.

Please do not drop your student off more than 10 minutes before our doors open.

Safety is always our number one concern. In order to maintain a safe environment for students and staff we take the following precautions:

- All guests are metal detected by our trained staff. This includes any parent/guardian that requests a tour.
- All bags, coats, etc. will be searched. We encourage you to leave all unnecessary items at home as it slows down the dance entry process. However, it is essential that we take this step to make sure no unpermitted items enter the dance.
- The following items are not allowed in the dance: anything that could be used as a weapon, anything that is illegal for a minor to be in possession of including alcohol, drugs, tobacco products and vape/e-cigarettes. If one of these items is found on a student, they will be ESCORTED from the dance and the parent/guardian will be notified immediately to pick them up. Depending on the item, it may require that we involve the appropriate authorities.
- We also have a list of items that we may require to be checked into Coat Check.* These items can lead to damage to our facility and/or create behavior challenges in the large group. This includes: gum, pens/markers, hats, wallet chains, glow sticks/necklaces not given to participants from District staff, coats and all bags/purses.

***The District is not responsible for lost or stolen items.**

We want all students to have fun at the dances. We will not tolerate harassment, bullying or fighting of any kind. We ask that all students report such behavior to a staff member immediately so that it can be handled appropriately. Any involvement in these acts can lead to permanent suspension from all middle school dances. Each situation is documented and reported to administrators and proper authorities.

If a student comes to a dance and appears to be impaired, they will be removed from the dance and monitored by a staff member. We will contact their parent/guardian and they will need to be picked up immediately.

Check-out Requirement

Students may check out only under the following timeline requirements.

Parent/guardian wishing to pick up their student early should pre-arrange this with their student, as locating an individual student in the crowd can be an arduous task.

7:00-9:15p: Parent/guardian must physically sign out their own student. Once the student leaves, they cannot come back into the building.

At 9:15p: Student may exit at-will through the front lobby doors. At this time, they may leave without calling a parent/guardian but again they will not be let back into the building. The area immediately in front of Island Center Hall will be the only designated and supervised pick up location. All students must be picked up no later than 9:45p. If you do not pick up your student by 10:00p., the police will be called, and your student will be released into police custody.

Dress Code

We want to encourage student to wear clothes that match our theme if we have one scheduled. For example, during the “Spring Prom” wear clothing that is more formal. We want all students to wear comfortable clothing that allows them to have a safe and fun recreational experience without fear of unnecessary discipline, discrimination or body shaming. Our general guidelines are that students need to wear suitable clothing that does not prevent them from participating in scheduled activities. Clothing must allow students a full range of motion (sitting, bending, reaching, running) without requiring perpetual readjustment.

The purpose of this code is to support equitable access as well as to not reinforce gender stereotypes by allowing students to wear clothing of their choice that is comfortable and expresses their self-identified gender. This code is also to ensure that all students are treated equitably regardless of gender/gender identification, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, body type/size, religion and personal style. Please see below for what students must wear, may wear and cannot wear.

Student Must Wear:

- Shirt (must cover chest)
- Bottoms: pants/sweatpants/shorts/skirt/dress/leggings (must cover buttocks)
- Shoes appropriate for the dance to maintain safety

Student May Wear:

- Hats
- Hoodie sweatshirts
- Fitted pants, including leggings, yoga pants and skinny jeans
- Midriff baring shirts
- Pajamas
- Ripped jeans as long as underwear is not exposed
- Tanks tops, including spaghetti straps, halter tops and strapless tops
- Athletic attire
- Clothing with a commercial or athletic logo provided they do not violate the “cannot wear” section

Student Cannot Wear:

- Violent language or images
- Images or language depicting drugs or alcohol (or any illegal item or activity) or the use of same
- Hate speech, profanity, pornography
- Images or language that create a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class
- Visible underwear: visible bands or straps on undergarments worn under other clothing are not a violation
- Bandanas
- Bathing suits
- Helmet or headgear that obscure the face (except as a religious practice or for medical purposes)

What happens if a student does choose to wear something on the cannot wear list?

Students will be discretely talked to about what the concern is regarding their attire in a way that isn’t obvious to the group or doesn’t disrupt their involvement in activities or conversation.

Students will be given options on how to address the concern:

Do they have other clothes at the dance they could wear?

Would turning their shirt inside out address the concern?

For clothing items that have language or images that are not acceptable, can tape be placed over the area of concern?

Questions to ask to see if clothing items are the correct choice for the day:

Will I be able to safely and comfortably participate in all scheduled activities today?

Are there words or references on my clothing that are offensive or promote activities that are illegal?

Am I constantly adjusting my clothing?

Am I comfortable in my clothing?

Does my clothing really demonstrate who I am as an individual?

For questions please contact Marissa Simcoe at marissas@biparks.org or Bryan Garoutte at bryan@biparks.org.