



Dance Program
Parent
Handbook

2020-2021

*Morton Grove Park District
Dance Program Handbook
2020-2021*

Dear Parents & Dancers,

Welcome to the Morton Grove Park District Dance Program. Dance does so many things to enrich the lives of our children. It can instill confidence, improve flexibility and balance, develop rhythm, create a sense of freedom to express one's self, provide an outlet for socialization, enhance memorization skills, and so much more. The Morton Grove Park District is proud to provide such wonderful experiences for your child through dance.

Our program for younger dancers (3-6 years), is geared toward learning technique and developing skills. We also concentrate on learning a recital routine. The older classes work on fine-tuning technique and developing more advanced skills. All classes focus on enjoying the art of dance. One of the roles of the teacher is to work with the students and the parents to create a passion and enthusiasm for dance that will last a lifetime.

Please read through these pages completely. This handbook provides detailed information regarding proper attire, staff information, attendance policies, disciplinary policies, recital information and more. If you have any questions regarding our program, please email Megan Foley at mfoley@mgparks.com or Sue Braubach at sbraubach@mgparks.com

Sincerely,

Your Morton Grove Park District Dance Staff

Your MGPD Dance Staff

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MEET OUR STAFF

Megan Foley, *Dance Coordinator & Instructor*, began working as an instructor for the Park District in 2017. Megan started dancing with the Morton Grove Park District at the age of 5 and was a member of the Starbound Dance Company. Megan received her bachelor's degree in History from Northeastern Illinois University and will be working towards her Master's Degree in Secondary Education. She is also the head coach and choreographer for the color guard team at Maine East High School. Please feel free to email Miss Megan if you have any questions regarding the dance program: mfoley@mgparks.com

Dee Alaba, *Instructor*, has been an instructor with the Park District since 2017. Dee graduated from Columbia College Chicago with a BFA degree in Dance in 2017. There she trained in various technique and styles of modern dance, ballet, West African, contact improvisation, improvisation, jazz, hip hop, dancemaking, teaching, and dance studies. Dee was born and raised in Davao, Philippines and grew up in Des Plaines.

Michelle Koda, *Instructor*, received her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an ESL endorsement. She is currently a first grade teacher in Prospect Heights, where she currently is teaching the after school dance club. Michelle started dancing with the Morton Grove Park District at the age of 6 and continued until the age of 18. She was part of the Starbound Dance Company and a dance teacher assistant for the park district as well.

Kathy Lahey, *Instructor* Miss Kathy has been a dance teacher for 40 years. She had a studio in the Fox Lake area for 6 years. She then moved to Seattle WA where she was the owner and director of Kathy's Studio of Dance and the KSD DANCE COMPANY for more than 30 years. Before teaching, she studied at two Illinois dance studios and studied ballet with Judith Svalander School of Ballet in Crystal Lake. Miss Kathy has been a choreographer for Musicals, Beauty Pageants, Pom Groups and Cheerleaders. Many of her Competition dances have received first place trophies and "over all" High Scores. Miss Kathy just retired from STARPOWER DANCE COMPETITION where she was a judge and staff member for them for over 25 years. Miss Kathy works for "Manhattan Dance Project". MDP is a dance convention that travels around the country hosting Classes with Master Teachers from today's dance world. Miss Kathy is always most happy when she can pass on her passion to dance to children and adults of all ages.

Assistants: are used in each class to help the instructor in the studio. Each assistant helps stretch the class and demonstrates the proper technique needed to perform different movements.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to inform the Park District, at the time of registration, of any medical condition or disability or other situations that may require special consideration by the Park District Staff. Our goal is to serve your child in the most effective manner possible. Your confidentiality will be respected.

COVID-19 Procedures

Due to these uncertain times, we've had to change how dance classes work to best protect our students, families, and staff. When dropping off your child, we ask that one parent come into the building with their dancer as close to the scheduled time as possible. While waiting, the dancer will get ready for class by putting on their shoes for the day. Dancers will need to limit what they bring into class. We are only asking that dancers bring in a water bottle as the water fountains will be shut off. Families will also need to wear face masks and social distance while in the building. Once it is time for class, the instructor will open the door for dancers to line up, social distanced, where the instructor will ask 3 screening questions. Once dancers are in the studio or community room, they will pick a circle on the floor which will help keep all dancers distanced from one another. We ask that dancers wear face masks during the entire class time. We also ask that temperatures and symptoms be monitored at home. If your dancer is experiencing a fever over 100.4 F, or any other Covid19 symptoms, please keep them home.

This year, classes will be forty minutes long with a fifteen minute break in between classes to keep the halls less crowded and allow instructors time to sanitize the studio/community room.

We are all in this together and it is up to all of us to keep each other safe during these times.

FAMILY EXPECTATIONS

Please be considerate of others while waiting for your dancer outside the studio or community room. The hallway must be kept clear to allow people to pass to the restrooms and gymnasium. Trash must be thrown away before departing. Children must be supervised. It is not safe or appropriate for dancers or siblings to run around the building, play around the elevator or go to the second floor without parental supervision. When waiting for your child on the second floor please be cautious of sound as there are music classes going on at the same time as dance classes. Your cooperation is appreciated.

EMAIL, FACEBOOK, and INSTAGRAM

In effort to "go green", convenience and accessibility the email address registered to your account will be used to distribute information throughout the year including newsletters, recital information, as well as health and weather alerts. The Parent Handbook and Recital Information are also available on the park district website www.mortongroveparks.com. **Please visit our Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MGPDDance/>, **for mgpd dance news.** You will need to request to join the closed group. Once you have requested, you will receive a message at some point asking for a password. The password is "**mgpddance**." This way only people from our program will be allowed to see postings in our group. We also have a new Instagram account under **mgpd_dance**.

MAKE-UP POLICY

If a dancer missed class and cannot make up the progress the class made in their absence, a make-up class may be scheduled. The make-up class is optional for the dancer, unless the teacher feels it is necessary to participate in the recital. The make-up class is at the discretion and convenience of the teacher and an additional fee of **\$30.00/half hour** is paid to the front desk at the time of the make-up. Make-up classes are a last resort to bring a dancer up to speed. Dancers may not attend a class they are not registered for to make up for a missed class.

DANCE REFUND POLICY

1. An administrative fee of \$5.00 shall be deducted from the amount of refund to offset the cost to the District of processing the refund.
2. A full refund, less the fee, will be granted if application for refund is filed with the office at least two weeks before the start of the program.
3. Refund requests received less than two weeks prior to the start of the program or after program has begun will only be granted after supervisory approval and is subject to proration.
4. Refund requests received after the published registration deadline will require supervisory approval and will be subject to proration and costume fees.
5. Full refunds will be issued if the District cancels the program/activity.
6. No refunds will be issued after December 1.
7. It can take up to two weeks for the District to process a refund by credit card and up to 30 days by check.
8. Appeals of decisions made under the District's refund procedure must be made, in writing, to the Executive Director.

ARRIVAL

Children should arrive at least five minutes prior to the class starting time. This year, coats and dance bags will need to be left with a parent/guardian outside of the studio. All dancers will have their temperature taken before entering the studio. If the dancer's temperature is 100 or higher, they will not be allowed to enter the studio. Dancers will also be required to wear a mask to ensure a safe environment for all until CDC guidelines change during the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOTE: *Shoes should be changed in the hallway – please do not walk through the dance studio or community room with outside shoes.* All belongings (including outside shoes) should be kept in the dancer's dance bag with a parent/guardian. ***Please remember to label dancer's shoes and bag.*** The hallway to the studio is in the general use area and items should not be left in this area. **PLEASE HAVE DANCER GO TO THE RESTROOM AND dispose of chewing gum before entering the class.**

PROMPTNESS: Class will start at the time listed in the brochure, and all dancers should be present at the start of class. When a dancer is late, they must ask the instructor's permission to join the class. Late arrivals disrupt the class and do not allow the dancer to warm up properly which could lead to injury. The teacher must stop class to bring the tardy dancer up to speed on what the rest of the class has already accomplished. This is unfair to the other students in the class. **PLEASE BE ON TIME (which means ready to dance, not arriving in the hallway to put on shoes).**

Please Note: If all of the students are not in the room 10 minutes after class has started, the teacher will cancel the class. A refund for the day will not be given.

DEPARTURE

Children must be picked up promptly. Parents are free to wait for children on the benches in the hallway or in the lounge located in the lobby. Please be considerate of others and do not move the benches and remember that the Prairie View Community Center is a place of business. Social distancing and face coverings are required inside the building. The teacher will open the door when class has finished, and all children will be dismissed. Participants must be picked up from the room hosting the program and will not be released from the room without a guardian presence. **In the event the participant is not picked up at the end of class the instructor will keep them in the classroom until the parent can be reached.** *Students may not leave the building during or between classes without parent consent and a permission note presented to teacher.*

Please note: All classes, except for Starbound, will be 40 minutes long with a 15 minute break to allow instructors and assistants to properly clean the room before the next class begins. Starbound classes will be 1 hour long.

CLASS PLACEMENT

The ages listed in the park district brochure are a guideline. When registering, class selection should be based on the dancer's age as of October 1. A child who is 6 and will be 7 after dance begins should register for a class with age range of 6-7 or 6-8, a 3 year old should register for 3-4 class etc. Again, ages are a guideline; it is the discretion of the instructor if a dancer is capable of moving to a higher level. It is the intent of the dance staff to place dancers in classes that are equal to the dancer's skill level – trust that the instructor bases any class movement on an individual basis and has the foundation of experience and education to make an appropriate assessment.

It should be noted: Ballet is the foundation for all dance, and for that reason, it is strongly recommended that students over the age of 8 who plan to continue with dance, take ballet in addition to other classes. A dancer studying jazz and tap will develop more successfully if they have a ballet background. The benefits of ballet include strength, flexibility, posture, technique, knowledge of dance vocabulary as well as the grace that only ballet training can provide. ***All Starbound members are required to take one (1) technique class.***

Private Lessons and Choreography:

Dancers may sign up for private classes to help their technical abilities. Starbound dancers can have one of the instructors choreograph a routine for competition.

Private Lesson	\$30 per hour
Choreography	\$90 per hour

SUMMER DANCE

Summer is the perfect time to try a new form of dance or continue in your progression of technique. These mini-sessions provide dancers the opportunity to try different dance forms without the time and expense of a full year. It is ***strongly recommended*** that any dancer that are interested in auditioning for Starbound in the upcoming dance year attends summer dance.

ILLNESS

If your child is ill or has a fever, we discourage their participation. The instructor reserves the right not to accept a child due to illness. If a child becomes ill during the class, a parent will be notified and requested to pick up their child. (*Illness is an extenuating circumstance with the absence policy – please do not bring an ill child to class.*) All dancers will have their temperatures checked before entering the studio and will not be allowed to enter if their temperature is over 100. Please keep your dancer home if he/she or any family members are experiencing the following symptoms:

Fever or chills	Cough	Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
Fatigue	Muscle or body aches	Headache
New loss of taste or smell	Sore throat	Congestion or runny nose
Nausea or vomiting	Diarrhea	

REPORTING ABSENCES

We encourage your child to come to class every week. Parents and students are reminded that any absence from class hinders a student’s progress and that repeated absences will likely lead to the inability to learn routines for the end of the year recital. If your child is ill or will not be attending class for other reasons, you may call the Prairie View Community Center front desk at 847-965-1200 and they will give the message to the instructor or to Megan Foley.

It is the discretion of the teacher if a dancer is prepared for the recital. If a dancer has not learned a dance routine due to repeated absences, they will be removed from the dance for the recital. It is a difficult decision, but it is not fair to dancers who attend class regularly and know the routine. The dance program requires commitment and dedication. If there is a conflict that will keep a dancer from attending class, a decision must be made on which is the priority.

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

In the event of a medical emergency or accident, we will call 911 for immediate emergency care and then contact the parents of the child. Should emergency treatment be required, the child will be taken to Lutheran General Hospital. You will be responsible for the medical charges upon receipt of the statement. Your authorization for the Park District to secure emergency medical care for your child is part of your registration agreement. **NOTE:** *Park District employees are not permitted to transport any program participant or injured parties in Park District or private vehicles.*

FIRST AID

Staff will administer first aid to a child on a limited basis for small accidents such as minor cuts, scrapes, small bumps on head, and bloody noses. Your consent for the staff to administer first aid to your child is part of your registration agreement. All MGPD Dance Program staff members are CPR certified.

LOST AND FOUND

Items left behind after class are kept in a Lost and Found box in the dance studio and community room closets. Please put names on shoes and clothes so they can be easily identified

CELL PHONE USE

Use of cell phones is prohibited during dance class. This includes text messaging. If dancers are in multiple classes, they may check for messages during a break. Any dancer found to be using a cell phone during class will have the phone confiscated until the end of class. A second occurrence will result in call to parent. Third occurrence may result in suspension or termination from class.

DRESSING FOR DANCE

* Cover-ups may be worn for only the first ten minutes of dance classes.

* Dance shoes are not to be worn outside. Shoes should be clean and dry when entering the studio or community room.

*Dancers that participate in a class that covers two genres of dance, ex. Ballet II & Tap, will do each genre every other week. For example: ballet shoes will be required one week and tap shoes will be required the next week.

*Hair and bangs longer than eye level must be pulled back off the face and neck and neatly secured (ponytail, braid, etc.).

***No gum, jewelry or watches.**

*Notes for Male dancers: Shoes- black ballet, jazz, or hip hop, Attire: shorts or jazz pant with an athletic t-shirt

Class	Attire	Shoe
Creative Movement	Leotard & tights/ ballet outfit and tights	Pink Ballet Shoes <i>Leather soles (not satin)</i>
Ballet Basics I & II, Ballet I, II, & III, & Barre Burn	Leotard & tights	Pink Ballet Shoes
Contemporary Ballet	Leotard & tights (convertible)	Bare Feet
Lyrical Ballet	Leotard & tights (convertible)	Beige/Neutral Lyrical Ballet Shoes, PAWS, Bare Feet
Ballet Tap I & II	Leotard & tights/ ballet outfit and tights	Pink Ballet Shoes <i>Leather soles (not satin) & Black Tap Shoes</i>
Tap	Fitted Capris/Athletic Leggings (ankles/feet need to be seen)	Black Jazz Tap Shoe
Jazz	Fitted Jazz pants/capris & fitted top	Black or Beige Jazz Shoes
Jazz II & Tap	Fitted Jazz pants/capris & fitted top	Black or Beige Jazz Shoes & Black Jazz Tap Shoe
Poms, Hip Hop, & Adult Dance	Jazz pants & top	Hip Hop Sneakers or Clean Gym Shoes
Props to Props, Conditioning & Technique	Jazz pants & top	Bare Feet/ To be determined by instructor
Starbound Companies	Jazz pants & fitted top or leotard & tights (convertible)- ballet	Black Tap Shoes, Pink Ballet Shoes, and any other shoe specific to competition or performance routines

*Hair and bangs longer than eye level must be pulled back off the face and neck and neatly secured (ponytail, braid, etc.).

***No gum, jewelry or watches.**

*Notes for Male dancers: Shoes- black ballet, jazz, or hip hop, Attire: shorts or jazz pant with an athletic t-shirt

*All dancers are required to wear a face covering in all shared areas of the Prairie View Community Center and also when they are in class.

Dance Websites:

- o Discount Dance Supply, www.discountdance.com carries all dance shoes and accessories.

Dance Stores:

- o Dance 'N Tees, Salem Plaza Shopping Center, 1065 N Salem Dr., Schaumburg, 847-884-5924 <http://www.dancentees.com/>
- o Leo's Dancewear, 7601 W North Ave, River Forest 773-745-5600 www.leosdancewear.com
- o Body & Sole 300 Happ Rd., Northfield 847-446-2005 <http://www.bodyandsolewinnetka.com/>
- o Allegro Dance Boutique, 2114 Central St., Evanston, IL 60201 847-733-8460 www.allegrodanceboutique.com
- o Famous Footwear & Target carry ballet slippers and tap shoes for younger dancers.

HYGIENE & GROOMING

All children must be completely capable of taking care of their toileting needs. We realize a child might have an accident and take this into consideration; however, we cannot be responsible for a continual problem. Teachers are not allowed to assist children in the washroom. Repeated accidents will result in dismissal from the program. **Please take your child to the bathroom before class begins to avoid repeated bathroom breaks during class time.** Dancers 10 and older should wear deodorant.

CLASS PARTIES

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, we will still have parties but will not allow any passing of healthy snacks/goodie bags between dancers.

Throughout the year classes will enjoy two class parties. Notes will be sent home the week prior to the parties. The parties are a reward for hard work and celebration with dance friends. Please refer to the chart below for dates and activities.

Occasion	Dates	Activity
Halloween	October 26-29	Costume, Games, and Canned Food Drive
Winter	December 14-17	Games & Canned Food Drive

CODE OF CONDUCT

Dancers of all ages are expected to demonstrate exemplary behavior during dance classes. Everyone benefits when appropriate.

- Be prompt, have a positive attitude, and Have Fun! Always give 100% effort.
- **Respect** all classmates and instructors and treat others as you would like to be treated this is called the “*Golden Rule*” and should always be practiced and come to classes prepared.
- No talking in rehearsals or classes. No use of cell phones during class including texting.
- No FOOD, DRINK or CHEWING GUM allowed in the dance studio. *Water bottles are permitted.*
- No hanging on barres or touching mirrors. Respect the facility and pick up after yourself.
- Work together as a team. Support each other with positive feedback. Remember that everyone will have his or her time to shine.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

It is the goal of the Morton Grove Park District to provide quality park and recreation services. Participation in District activities and facilities shall be considered a privilege, which may be denied. Therefore, the Park District reserves the right to suspend or dismiss from a program any participant whose behavior disrupts a program or in any way endangers him/her or other participants.

The procedure for handling discipline situations involving children (12 years and younger) shall be as follows:

1. First Occurrence: Instructor will attempt to control the participant and warn of the potential consequences.
2. Second Occurrence: Instructor will report disruptive behavior to parent and supervisor. The supervisor will send correspondence to parent with return acknowledgement required.
3. Third Occurrence: Instructor will notify parent of behavior. The parent(s) and participant will be notified in writing that the Park District can no longer be responsible for the actions of the participant and she/he must therefore be dropped from the program. The registrant will receive the program fee prorated for the length of the participation in the program. *Costume fee will not be refunded after October 23.*

Types of behavior that would warrant disciplinary actions include but are not limited to the following: refusal or intentional failure to follow instruction, intentional actions to disrupt class, fighting, arguing, misuse of park property/equipment, conduct that is aggressive in nature and potentially harmful to others and abusive or inappropriate language.

RECITAL INFORMATION

One dance recital is scheduled to be held at the end of the session on Sunday, May 16, 2021, at 12:00pm in the Maine East High School Auditorium. The recitals provide a wonderful opportunity for the dancers to showcase what they have learned in their classes. Participation in the rehearsal and recital is not mandatory; however, please note that class time is spent preparing routines for this end-of-the-year performance. Family and friends will be allowed to view these performances with the purchase of tickets.

The afternoon of the recital dancers report to Maine East High School at 11:30am. All dancers remain in the balcony or backstage during the performances. Dancers are encouraged to stay for the

finale or final bow; however, if a dancer needs to leave before the finale please inform the helping parent.

Dance families will have an opportunity to fill out a “Special Request” form for dress rehearsal and recital times. Forms will be handed out late fall and is due by Saturday, December 5. We will do our best to meet the needs of each request when possible.

Recital Dismissal Procedure: After the show comes to a close, dancers will stay on stage behind the curtain. One class will be dismissed at a time, from youngest to oldest, and will be brought to the front of the stage. ONE family member will need to meet their dancer(s) at the front of the auditorium for dismissal.

HELPING PARENTS

Helping Parents are essential to the success of the recital. A minimum of two adult helpers per class is required during the rehearsals and recitals. Your instructor will have a sign-up sheet at parent meetings in February. During the recital, the helping parents sit in the balcony with the class and assist the MGPD Staff in moving the class backstage for their performance. Helping Parents will be able to watch the performance from the auditorium. After the performance, the helping parents and class return to the balcony and await the finale. Helping Parents do not need to purchase tickets, as they will be seated in the balcony and not the auditorium. More detailed information will be distributed closer to the recital.

COSTUMES

The fee for one costume is included in the registration fee. Dancers will be measured for costumes during the week of November 2. Each class will be provided with a costume and this is what the class will wear for pictures at the dress rehearsal.

Note: Costumes come in standard sizes and may not fit perfectly. You may need to alter them. **There is a \$3 fee for exchanges, in order to cover shipping and restocking fees. Exchanges are due by Saturday, March 27.**

TICKETS

General Seating tickets go on sale at Prairie View Community Center for a cost of \$10.00 each. There is no ticket limit for the recital. If special accommodations are required (*wheelchair*) please make note of your needs on the Ticket Order Form. Tickets are only sold at the Customer Service Desk at PVCC. Tickets will be mailed out mid/end-April. *After Thursday, May 13, recital tickets may only be purchased at the door on Sunday, May 16. The tickets at the door will be \$15.00.* Young children that do not require a seat, will not need to purchase a ticket.

FLOWERS

Special bouquets will need to be pre-purchased through the Park District before the recital. A handout will be given to parents to be filled out and must be turned in by the deadline date in order to pick up flowers at the recital. Orders are placed with Flowerville in Des Plaines.

VIDEOTAPING (DVD)

Zaker Studios has been secured to professionally record the performances. Families may purchase copies of the DVD at Prairie View Community Center beginning or at the recital on May 17. The fee is \$28 for 1 DVD. The deadline to purchase DVDs is Friday, May 21. DVDs will be shipped home in early/mid-June.

REMINDER: ABSOLUTELY NO FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY AND RECORDING IS PERMITTED DURING THE PERFORMANCE. The flash from cameras is disruptive to dancers and audience members and diminishes the quality of the recording. The recording of routines during the recital is also captured on the DVD. Please be considerate of others. Please attend the dress rehearsal and take pictures and videos at that time if it is your wish to capture your child on stage.

PICTURES

Kelly Stachura Photography will be taking class and individual pictures following class dress rehearsals times. Information will be distributed in February with costumes and rehearsal schedules. Discounted group photos will need to be purchased by March 27. If you would like to have your dancer take individual photos, you will also need to commit to this on the picture form by March 27. Pictures are not mandatory; however, we request that all dancers be available for the class picture as they are part of the group.

NOTE: *Parents may take pictures of dancers and classes OUTSIDE the area designated for pictures. Parents are not allowed in the picture area and are not permitted to use the photography company's backdrops for pictures. The park district will station an employee with the photographers to assist with poses and organizing dancers.*

Families and friends will have the opportunity to take pictures during the dress rehearsal and after the recital. **NO FLASH** Photography is permitted during the performance.

RECITAL T-SHIRTS

The 2021 "Broadway Bound" Dance Recital t-shirts will be on sale March 1-March 27. All dancers' and teachers' names will be included on the back of the t-shirt with a graphic on full front. All orders will be taken at the Customer Service Desk. Order forms will be included in the Recital Packet distributed in March. T-shirts will be distributed by the final week of classes. **ORDERS ARE PRE-SALE ONLY** – if you wish to purchase a t-shirt, please note the deadline to be included in the order.

STARBOUND DANCE COMPANIES

Over the past few years we have been working on expanding our program to meet the needs of our dance families. Under the Starbound tree, there are three branches to ensure that dancers are challenged as they grow and progress. As dancers continue to develop their strength, flexibility, technique, and performance skills, they will have the opportunity to advance within the Starbound Dance Company structure. Dance Companies are for the advanced, dedicated, well-rounded dancer that is ready to take their technique to the next level. Dancers are expected to embody teamwork principals in order to create a positive dance environment. All dancers will participate in community performances and attend a dance convention, where dancers can take classes from master instructors. In addition to community and convention opportunities, Junior and Senior companies will participate in local dance competitions.

Dancers will audition for placement into Companies. There will be additional costume and competition costs to participant in dance companies. Fundraising opportunities will be available to help offset some of these additional costs.

Company dancers will receive and sign a company agreement that outlines more specific expectations for company dancers.

All Starbound dancers are required to take one company class AND one technique class.

Junior Starbound: *The Junior Starbound dancer has shown particularly outstanding growth. Dancers are expected to expand on their performance skills while continuing to establish dance fundamentals.*

Senior Starbound: *Senior Starbound is our most advanced level. These dancers are expected to display the outmost dedication and leadership skills. Dancers will use their knowledge of dance technique to further expand on their creative voice.*

- Monday, September 14: Dance Classes Begin
- Monday, September 28: Yom Kippur, No dance classes
- Monday, October 12: Indigenous Peoples' Day, Starbound Culver's Fundraiser 5-8pm
- Monday, October 26-Thursday, October 29: Halloween Parties
- Monday November 2-Thursday, November 5: Costume measurements taken during class
- Saturday, November 14: Apparel Orders are due
- Monday, November 23-Thursday, November 26: Thanksgiving Break, No dance classes
- Monday, November 30: Dance classes resume
- Sunday, December 5: Special request forms due
- Monday, December 14-Thursday, December 17: Winter dance parties
- Monday, December 21- Thursday, December 31: Winter Break
- Monday, January 4: Dance classes resume
- Monday, January 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No dance classes, Starbound will meet
- Monday, February 15: President's Day, No dance classes, Starbound will meet
- Monday, March 1-Thursday, March 4: Parent meetings & costume distribution
- Saturday, March 27: T-shirt, flower, & picture orders due, costume exchanges due
- Monday, March 29-Thursday, April 1: Spring Break, No dance classes
- Monday, April 5: Classes resume
- Monday, May 10-Thursday May 13: Final Dance Classes
- Saturday, May 15: Dress rehearsal at Maine East High School
- Sunday, May 16: Annual recital at Maine East High School