

WELCOME PACKET



2025-2026'

CONTACT US

Grissom High School
1001 Haysland Road SW
Huntsville, AL, 35802
256-428-8000

Program Director, Ms. Randolph
Taylor.Randolph@hsv-k12.org

Board President, Mrs. Zarrilli
ghsdanceparentboard@gmail.com
Board Vice President, Mrs. Spinoso
ghsdancevp@gmail.com

Treasurer, Mr. Nelson
ghsdancetreasurer@gmail.com

Fundraising/Sponsorship Chair, Mrs. Durham
ghsdancefundraising@gmail.com

Find Us Online

www.grissomdance.com

Office Hours
8:30am-3:30pm
Monday- Friday



@grissomdanceofficial



@grissomhighdance



@grissomhighdance-
for students and parents

Taylor Randolph

MEET THE TEACHER

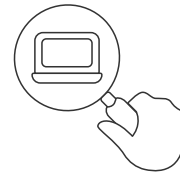


ABOUT ME



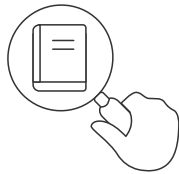
As an alumni of the Grissom Dance Program, I am passionate about continuing the program's legacy of excellence by educating the next generation of dance artists. In addition to directing the dance program, I will be choreographing the spring musical!

MY BACKGROUND



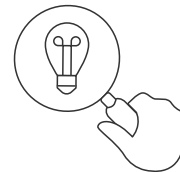
I hold a BFA in Dance from Troy University, as well as my certification in Dance Education from the Alabama State Board of Education. I am entering my third full year of teaching at Grissom High School.

MY HOBBIES



Outside of dancing I really enjoy watching movies and my favorite tv shows. I also enjoy shopping, particularly antique or vintage shopping. My favorite activity is attending concerts- the one I'm most looking forward to this year is Lady Gaga on the Mayhem Tour!

MY MOTTO



"Perseverance is a renewable resource. Winners make adjustments, losers make excuses."

ABOUT US



Our Mission Statement

The mission of the Dance Program at Grissom High School is to achieve the designed mastery of standards in dance; facilitate the artistic enrichment of the student membership of Grissom High School; promote the position and value of dance in our community, and the significant role dance plays in the cultural, intellectual, and social lives of young adults.

Our Core Values

Excellence in Artistry and Discipline

We strive for high standards in both technical training and creative expression. Through consistent effort, professionalism, and attention to detail, students develop not only as dancers but as focused, disciplined individuals ready to succeed on and off the stage.

Community and Collaboration

Dance is a shared experience. We value respect, empathy, and teamwork—whether in rehearsal, performance, or daily class. Every dancer contributes to a supportive environment where all students feel seen, heard, and empowered to grow.

Creativity With Purpose

We believe in the power of dance to tell stories, explore identity, and connect with the world. Our program encourages students to create with intention, drawing on diverse styles and perspectives to develop meaningful, innovative work.



A one-credit course designed for novice dancers to build proficiency through a strong foundation in dance elements. Students develop technical skills with a focus on alignment, nutrition, and injury prevention, and begin analyzing dance for artistic intent using basic knowledge of style, production, and cultural context.

DA
I



A one-credit course where proficient dancers advance to an accomplished level. Students deepen their understanding of choreography through improvisation and problem-solving, refine works based on feedback, and build kinesthetic and technical awareness. They also learn to evaluate dance in connection with academic content and genre-specific terminology.

DA
II



A one-credit course at the advanced dance level. Students progress to an advanced capacity for dance literacy that includes creating dance, performing dance, responding to dance, and connecting dance with skills across the arts disciplines and other academic areas.

DA
III

PLACEMENT

Dance I does NOT require placement, therefore any student enrolled at Grissom High School can register for the course. Admission into Dance II and Dance III is by placement ONLY. Placement for current Grissom Dance students takes place in-class during the spring semester. Placement for incoming freshmen, or non-current Grissom Dance students, takes place separately.

*Placement in Dance II or Dance III is NOT guaranteed for returning Dance II and III dancers. All students are subject to placement at the discretion of the judging panel. Seniority is NOT a deciding factor.

Class Descriptions

Class Uniforms



Athletic Top

Dancers must wear a form-fitted athletic top to daily class and non-costumed rehearsals. Straps/Sleeves must align with school dress code.



Athletic Pant

Dancers must wear a form-fitted athletic pant to daily class and non-costumed rehearsals. Pants must be tight at the ankle, therefore no flare leggings or wide-leg sweatpants. No shorts.



Sock

Dancers may wear socks in contemporary class and performance, when approved. Socks must be solid color and thin-knit. No socks that are thick, fuzzy, or wool.



Ballet Shoe

Dancers must have skin-tone, canvas ballet shoes for ballet class and performance. Ballet shoes must be split sole.



Jazz Shoe

Dancers must have black leather jazz shoes for jazz class and performance. Jazz shoes must be split sole.



High-Top Sneaker

Dancers must have black, high-top sneakers for hip hop class and performance. Sneakers must have white laces.

Fee Breakdown

CLASS FEE

\$70

Membership Fee	\$20
Grissom Dance Tee	\$20
Banquet Ticket	\$20
Media Fee	\$10

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Class Fee & Uniform Fee due 08/18

1st Payment of Performance Fee due 09/19

2nd Payment of Performance Fee due 11/07

*Payments are broken into three installments. Due dates are firm. Late payments without prior communication will be subject to a 20% late charge.

*Students with unpaid performance fees will NOT be allowed to perform. Students with unpaid class fees will NOT be allowed to perform or attend the banquet. Huntsville City Schools will hold a graduating senior's diploma if they have unpaid class fees.

*Class fees can be paid on myschoolfees.com. Performance fees and uniform fees can be paid with cash or check, made payable to Grissom Dance. Payment should be enclosed in an envelope with the student's name and purpose of payment clearly written.

DANCE I PERFORMANCE FEE

\$180

Production Fee	\$70
Costume Rental Fee	\$40
Performance Media Fee	\$45
Performance Tee	\$25

DANCE II PERFORMANCE FEE

\$200

Production Fee	\$70
Costume Rental Fee	\$60
Performance Media Fee	\$45
Performance Tee	\$25

DANCE III PERFORMANCE FEE

\$220

Production Fee	\$70
Costume Rental Fee	\$80
Performance Media Fee	\$45
Performance Tee	\$25

UNIFORM FEE

Only for Dance II and III Students

Company Jacket (Required)	\$65
Company Duffel Bag (Optional)	\$65

Company Uniforms

Dancers in Dance II and Dance III are required to purchase the company uniform. This cost is separate from the class fee and performance fee.



The company jacket features the dancer's name on the front pocket, as well as the program logo on the back.

**Price: \$65
(Required)**



The company duffel bag features the dancer's initials on one side pocket, as well as the program logo on the other side pocket.

**Price: \$65
(Optional)**

IMPORTANT DATES

MON
08/18
6:30PM

PARENT MEETING
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

MON
08/25

PROGRAM PHOTOSHOOT
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

TUES
08/26

PROGRAM PHOTOSHOOT
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

WED
08/27

PROGRAM PHOTOSHOOT
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

THU
09/25
4pm

HOMECOMING PARADE AND TAILGATE
GRISSOM HIGH

THU
01/15

FINE ARTS RECRUITMENT PERFORMANCE
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

SAT
01/24
2pm

PLACEMENT CLINIC
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

MON
01/26
5pm

PLACEMENT
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

SAT
04/18
9am

JOY EXPLOSION JUBILEE REHEARSAL
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

SUN
04/19
2pm

JOY EXPLOSION JUBILEE REHEARSAL
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

MON
04/20
4pm

JOY EXPLOSION JUBILEE TECH
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

TUES
04/21
4pm

JOY EXPLOSION JUBILEE TECH
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

WED
04/22
4pm

JOY EXPLOSION JUBILEE TECH
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

THU
04/23
4pm

JOY EXPLOSION JUBILEE TECH
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

FRI
04/24
4pm

JOY EXPLOSION JUBILEE ALUMNI REHEARSAL
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

FRI
04/25
6:30pm

JOY EXPLOSION JUBILEE KICK OFF
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM LOT

SAT
04/25
8am

JOY EXPLOSION JUBILEE ALUMNI REHEARSAL
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

IMPORTANT DATES

SAT
04/24
2pm

JOY EXPLOSION JUBILEE SHOW
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

SAT
04/24
4:30pm

BANQUET/SENIOR RECOGNITION
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

SAT
04/24
7pm

JOY EXPLOSION JUBILEE SHOW
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

SUN
04/25
2pm

JOY EXPLOSION JUBILEE SHOW
GRISSOM HIGH AUDITORIUM

Additional rehearsals may be scheduled at the discretion of the director based on need. If additional rehearsals are needed, that will be communicated to parents and dancers.

This schedule does not include scheduled fundraisers. Please see the fundraising page in this welcome packet to view that schedule. Similarly, if additional fundraisers are scheduled, that information will be communicated to parents and dancers.

DEMERIT SYSTEM

To maintain a positive, professional, and productive learning environment, Grissom Dance uses a demerit system to address student conduct, participation, and responsibility. Accumulating demerits may result in consequences including parent conferences, probation from performances, or removal from the program.

Minor Infractions — 1 Demerit Each

- Failure to dress out for class or rehearsal in approved attire
- Not participating in class without documented reason
- Chewing gum in class or rehearsal
- Tardiness to class or rehearsal (without written excuse)
- Unapproved cell phone use in class or rehearsal
- Forgetting performance materials (shoes, undergarments, costume pieces, etc.)

Moderate Infractions — 2 Demerits Each

- Unexcused absence from rehearsal
- Use of profanity in class, rehearsal, or backstage in performance
- Gossiping or creating interpersonal conflict within the class
- Making negative remarks about the program, peers, or instructor(s)

Major Infractions — 3 Demerits Each

- Inappropriate use of social media related to the program
- Disrespectful behavior toward instructor(s), peers, or school staff
- Any action that disrupts the safety or integrity of a performance or class environment
- Unexcused absence from a performance

Consequences for Demerit Accumulation

Demerits	Consequence
3	Verbal Warning + Parent Notification
5	Parent/Guardian Conference
7	Probation from Upcoming Performance
10	Possible Removal From Program (Director Review)

How to Clear Demerits

Students may earn back demerits through:

- Extra duties (clean-up, inventory, helping with set-up)
- Positive behavior over a defined period (Director discretion)

Students must communicate intentions to earn back points to Ms. Randolph and be approved to officially earn back demerits.

DANCER

REQUIREMENTS

Positive Attitude & Work Ethic

Every dancer is expected to come to class with enthusiasm and the intention to work hard. Whether they choose to work on their own goals or go over choreography with a classmate, it is important that their focus is geared towards accomplishing a task that will lead them and their team to success.

Team Work & Sportsmanship

Dance is a team sport, so it is expected that every dancer be a team player. We ask that dancers are respectful and have good sportsmanship so they can inspire and be inspired by their classmates and peers. It is important to remember that we are one big family and all classes are treated equally.

Commitment

Being a Grissom Dancer requires commitment and dedication to the program. By making a commitment to the program, you agree to attend daily class, and all scheduled rehearsals and performances to the best of your ability. You also commit to attend all special events related to the program to the best of your ability.

Skill Level

Weekly progress is expected, and in order for us to be performance-ready, it is crucial that dancers are retaining material week to week. It is also crucial that all dancers master required skills appropriate for their class. If a dancer cannot retain weekly material and/or master required skills, a parent/guardian meeting may need to be called to determine if a dancer needs to be placed on a probation period. While on probation, the student is expected to attend daily class and all scheduled rehearsals. An evaluation will be done to determine the dancer's placement for the following season.

Social Media

As a Grissom Dancer, you are a representative of the program, even on social media. We have zero tolerance for any social media content on TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, etc. that includes foul language, inappropriate behavior, or negative remarks regarding the program, the staff or other students.

Bullying

We have a zero-tolerance policy regarding bullying. We define bullying as recurring, deliberate and an imbalance of power. If there is bullying occurring in the program, we will immediately address it. We cannot control a child's behavior outside of daily class, rehearsals and performances, so we encourage parents to monitor behavior outside of these environments.

PARENT/GUARDIAN REQUIREMENTS

Code of Conduct

Actions by parents/guardians, whether verbal or nonverbal, can have a lasting effect on the program, as well as its students. As a parent/guardian of a Grissom High Dancer, your actions reflect not only on you, but your child, their class, and the program as a whole. We expect every parent/guardian to hold themselves to the highest standard when it comes to respect, sportsmanship and appropriate behavior. We have zero tolerance for inappropriate behavior; depending on severity of the infraction, we reserve the right for immediate dismissal from the program.

Communication

Communication is a top priority for Grissom Dance, especially with so many opportunities and constant activity, so we take great lengths to keep our students and families informed and up to date. The majority of our correspondence will be via email. Please make sure you keep your email address current with us. As we have a dedicated Booster Club and Parent Board with delegated responsibilities, we ask that your email be addressed to the appropriate party.

All emails not directly sent to Ms. Randolph, should have her cc'd.

For questions regarding a student's attendance, academic standing, or any other official school related issue, please email our Director, Ms. Randolph- Taylor.Randolph@hsv-k12.org

For questions regarding anything related to monetary payments-class fees, uniform fees, performance fees- please email our Treasurer, Mr. Nelson-grissomdancetreasurer@gmail.com

For questions regarding fundraising commitments or suggestions for future fundraisers or sponsors for the program, please email our Fundraising/Sponsorship Chair, Mrs. Durham-grissomdancefundraising@gmail.com

For questions regarding special events-Homecoming/Banquet/Senior Recognition- please email our Special Events Lead Committee Member and Parent Board Vice President, Mrs. Spinoso- grissomdancevp@gmail.com

For general questions regarding the program, including performance information- rehearsal schedule, call times for dancers, ticket information, etc- please email our Performance Lead Committee Member and Parent Board President, Mrs. Zarrilli- grissomdanceparentboard@gmail.com

In addition to communication via email, we will also utilize the Remind app, which will help us to give updates to parents. Parents are NOT allowed to contact Ms. Randolph, any Parent Board Member or Committee Lead Member by text, private messages via Facebook or Instagram, etc.

Remind App Codes- Only Join Class That Student Is Enrolled In
Dance I- @grissomda
Dance II- @g48ecf
Dance III- @b327cb6

Parents/Guardians are expected to behave respectfully in all communication to Ms. Randolph, Parent Board Members and Committee Lead Members. Communication from any parent/guardian perceived to be obscene, defamatory, threatening, harassing, discriminatory, or hateful towards Grissom Dance staff, may result in the immediate dismissal from the program.

REQUIRED FORMS



Parent/Guardian Contact Form



Media Release Form



Conflict Form



T-Shirt Order Form



Uniform Order Form

***Only Dance II and III Students**