

Dry Creek Elementary

**Pep & Cheer
Handbook**

2021-2022



General Rules

1. A squad member may not chew gum, eat, or drink on the field (cheering) or during practice, except at breaks called by the coach. Snack bar will not be allowed until after cheerleaders have finished cheering.
2. Make-up is only permitted for competitions.
3. Events and practices scheduled by the coach(es) are mandatory. This is important as formations and stunts are dependent upon all participants being present.
4. Squad members are expected to learn all routines taught to the squad. If a member cannot satisfactorily perform a routine, he/she will not be allowed to participate in the rally, activity or performance. Practice on own time is necessary for preparation of events.
5. School rules and regulations must be followed at all times. DC Cheerleaders will sign and follow the Buchanan Area Elementary Athletic Code of Conduct.
6. Squad members must be on time to all practices and games and stay until the practice or event is over.
7. Practice dress code: practice shorts, or black or navy sweatpants or leggings during winter months, cheer shoes or jazz shoes, hair in ponytail with practice bow. DC practice shirt. No jewelry.
8. Parents must be on time to pick their child. If the parents are continuously late in picking up their child, that squad member will be penalized.
9. In order to be eligible for Block DC points, cheerleaders must finish the semester's activities, events, and practices. Excessive unexcused absences (3 or more) will affect the amount of Block DC points awarded.
10. Parents and Cheerleaders, please communicate with your coaches. We are a team and together we hope to help provide a fun, positive experience for all cheerleaders!
Game Cheer: marniehutchason@cusd.com; claudiagraves@cusd.com
Spirit: morganbitter@cusd.com

Summer Camp

Game Cheer will be attending Buchanan High School's 2 -Day Elementary Cheer Camp. Every Game Cheerleader is expected to attend. The dates are August 4th and 5th and cost is \$35.00. Cheerleaders will learn routines that will be used throughout the year. Cheerleaders will not perform at the back to school rally if they do not attend camp regardless of circumstance. In addition, there is an optional day, August 3rd from 12:00-2:00

offered to Game and Spirit. The optional day is a Stunt/Dance Class that costs \$10.00. Cash or Checks made to Dry Creek Elementary and the Release and Waiver Form are due to Coach Hutchason by the last day of school, June 4th.

No Cut Squads

Sign Application by May 21th. No Late sign ups can be accepted.

* Applications are a Google Form that will be emailed to those who attended Clinics and Tryouts.

Spirit Squad: This team is only for 4th grade. It is an introductory team into our pep and cheer program. Students will practice 1 hour/a month to learn some dance and cheer techniques, make new friends, learn about what it takes to be a DC cheerleader, and have fun! Students on this team will participate in a few events to show what they've learned and gain experience. Practice Day/Time: 1st Wednesday of every month, 3:15-4:20 September through December, and every Wednesday 3:15-4:20 January-February.

Responsibilities:

Besides attending practices, all squad members will participate in school rallies, elementary football carnival (September), one DC home game, Pastries with Parents, and BHS Spirit Night (January or February).

Game Squad: This team is all about school spirit! This team is for 5th and 6th grade students. The goal is to show school spirit by exciting and pumping up the crowd at rallies, home games, and events! Students will practice 1 hour/a week to learn cheer and dance techniques, jumps, cheer game actions, and rally routines. Practice Day/Time: Wednesday 3:15-4:20 August through March. Cheerleaders participating on a sport's team will wear their sport's uniform to school. They will participate in their sport, then if they finish by 3:15, will change into their cheer uniform to help cheer at home games.

Responsibilities:

Besides attending practices, all squad members will participate in BHS Summer Cheer Camp, school rallies, elementary football carnival (September), Football Spirit Night at BHS (September or October), home football and basketball games, and BHS Cheer Spirit Night (February), school events: Grandparents Breakfast, DC cheer camp fund raisers.

Tentative Competitive Teams

Tryouts: September 8, 2021

Only students on Spirit and Game will be invited to tryout

MANDATORY Competitions: CHS (last Sat. in Jan.)

CW and CN (Saturdays in February)

MANDATORY Practice Commitments: Possible 4 day/week practices during dead weeks.

Practice Day/Time: every Wednesday 3:45-4:45 pep and 4:45-5:45 cheer, September-February. There will be a few Saturday practices, to learn choreography and others are

TBA as needed. We will also hold practices on the Fridays before our three Saturday competitions.

Competition Pep: This is a competitive dance team. These Panther Dancers will wow our audience at rallies with a choreographed routine that will include leaps, spins, turns, and other dance techniques.

Competition Cheer: This is a competitive cheer team. Cheerleaders on this team will execute tumbling, stunts, and dance all through an exciting choreographed routine.

Excused Absences

The coaches will not honor multiple excuses from the same person. Squad members may not have more than two unexcused absences per quarter. If so, they may be suspended, removed, or demoted from their squad.

Please communicate ahead when possible. Excused absences are absences caused by:

1. Illness (if cheerleader is absent from school the day of practice) *Please email coach(es) to inform us. The office does not inform us with a child is out from school.
2. Emergency family need
3. Participation in a school sponsored event
4. Participation in a religious observance

Uniforms

MANDATORY Virtual Fittings: May 21st - May 27th

Parent and cheerleader must participate, as the parent will be measuring the cheerleader and entering sizes into the online system. The uniform and additional spirit pack items are to be paid on the online Varsity Cheer payment portal starting May 28th. Payments must be received by June 6th. Payment portal links will be emailed out. Please communicate with a coach if you have a financial concern. If payments are not made or no communication by May 28th, then it is assumed that you have declined to place your child on our 2020-21 cheer teams, and your child's name will be removed from our roster.

Complete uniforms are required for all performances and games. Practice wear is required for all practices unless otherwise noted by a coach. Minor forms will be given for not wearing the appropriate attire.

Game Squad Uniform

The uniform includes a shell, body liner, skirt, bundies, uniform bow, 1 pair of socks, as well as sweats. ALL white tennis shoes are required for the uniform and practice wear. Practice clothes include a t-shirt, shorts, and a practice bow. Practice clothes and practice bow are required at all practices unless noted. **Game Cheer Prices: Shoes-** \$55.00, **Practice Clothes-** \$30.00, **Game Cheer Uniform- Shell/Skirt/Liner/Brief/Bow/Sock-** \$175.00, **Sweats-** Personalized with name- \$90.00. Prices are an approximate and do not include tax and shipping.

Spirit Squad Uniform

The uniform includes a sleeveless top, skirt, uniform bow, 1 pair of socks as well as sweats. ALL white tennis shoes are required for the uniform and practice wear. Practice clothes include a t-shirt, shorts, and an additional bow. Practice clothes and practice bow are required at all practices. **Spirit Squad Prices: Shoes- \$55.00, Practice Clothes- \$30.00 Spirit Uniform including personalized Sweats- \$150.** Prices are an approximate and do not include tax and shipping.

Policies

Eligibility:

Participation requires students to meet the following eligibility standards throughout the school year: These are checked each quarter:

1. All subject grades need to be a C or better
2. Good Citizenship: No excessive minors, office referrals, or suspensions
3. Regular school attendance (including no excessive tardies)

Ineligibility:

School Minor system will be enforced at practices and events for not abiding by school and cheer expectations. Multiple minors may result in suspension and/or removal from the team.

List of Important Dates

- 5/21 Sign Ups- Read Handbook and sign application by this date in order to receive virtual fittings link
- 5/21-5/27 Virtual Fittings Game and Spirit
- 5/28-6/4 Payment Portal Opens
- 6/4 Payment Portal Closes
- 6/4 Release and Waiver Form is due for ALL Game Cheer and Spirit attending camp
- 6/4 Camp \$ due (\$35 for Game Cheer, \$45 for optional Stunt/Dance class) (\$10 for Spirit attending Stunt/Dance class)
- 8/3 BHS Summer Cheer Camp 12:00-2:00 Stunt/Dance Class (Spirit & Game Cheer who paid \$10)
- 8/4 BHS Summer Cheer Camp 8:30-3:00 (Game Cheer only)
- 8/5 BHS Summer Cheer Camp 8:30-3:00 (Game Cheer only)
- 8/25 Practices Begin (Game Cheer)
- 9/1 Practices Begin (Spirit)
- 9/8 Competition Team Tryouts (Game and Spirit)
- 9/11 Choreography Practice for Comp teams

RELEASE AND WAIVER FORM

Every Participant must have a completed and signed release form in order to participate in Buchanan Pep & Cheer Events.

ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER CHILD – PLEASE PRINT

T-SHIRT SIZE: YS YM YL AS AM AL AXL (Circle ONE T-Shirt Size ONLY)

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____ School: Dry Creek

Mother/Guardian Name: _____ Cell/Home #: _____

Father/Guardian Name: _____ Cell/Home #: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Medications (if any) _____

Allergic to (if any) _____

My child has the following health condition(s): _____

Family Doctor: _____ Phone Number: _____

Child's Birthdate: _____

In case of emergency, contact: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Emergency Contact #: _____

I as parent or legal guardian, with my signature below, give permission for my child _____, to participate in Buchanan Pep & Cheer Events for the 2021-2022 school year. I give permission to hospital/paramedic staff to administer immediate treatment to my child should he/she becomes injured or ill. In addition, I waive and release Clovis Unified School District, Buchanan High School and all of their employees, officers, directors, agents, volunteers or affiliated entities from any and all claims and causes of action arising from or concerning any and all injuries, illness, losses or damages of any kind which my child or I may have as a result of or in connection with my child's participation in the 2021-2022 Buchanan Pep & Cheer Events (i.e., summer camp, fall spirit night, spring spirit night), and/or travel to and from the event. Furthermore, I agree to abide by all the rules and regulations set forth in this program and will conduct myself in a sportsman-like manner.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Media Release
Authorization to Reproduce Physical Likeness

I hereby expressly grant Buchanan High School Pep & Cheer the right to photograph my child's picture, take video, and other reproductions of their physical likeness in connection with the advertising or publicizing of the Buchanan Pep & Cheer Program for the 2021-2022 school year. This includes but is not limited to the Buchanan Pep & Cheer website, calendars, posters, etc. I hereby certify and represent that I have read the foregoing and fully understand the meaning and effect thereof and intending to be legally bound, I have here unto set my hand this _____ day of _____ 20_____.

[] I do grant permission [] I do NOT grant permission

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____