

August 2, 2022

Curriculum Department

Board of Education

60 Putnam Ave

Hamden, CT 06514

Dear Board Members:

I am contacting you on behalf of the Hamden High School Dance Team. Every year, since 2003, the Dance Team has attended the National Dance Team Championships, which are held at Disney's ESPN Sports complex in Orlando, Florida. We are asking for your permission once again to attend this prestigious event, which is sanctioned by the National Federation of High Schools. This year the event will be held in February of 2023.

In February of this past year, the team did a phenomenal job placing 5th in the Kick Division and 10th in the Pom Division.

We are asking for your permission so that the team can participate again. As Coaches, we are aware that the entire country still remains in a fluid condition due to the ongoing Covid-19 virus. But we are hopeful that by next February things will be more resolved and that the virus will not be a factor in our travel plans. Participating at Nationals is a huge part of our award winning program. The team comes back energized and ready to compete at our State Dance Team Tournament – which we are the 15 times State Champions of.

Please consider allowing us to attend as we will need to put deposits down by the beginning of October. Please know that the Varsity Corporation, of which UDA is a part of, has the safety and well being of every dancer in mind at their competitions, as we do. There were many layers of protection that were put in place – as will be the case again this season.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our request.

Sincerely, Kathy Swillinger – Hamden High School Dance Team Coach