

August 14, 2025

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 2026.

In February of this past year, the team did a phenomenal job at Nationals and they were once again, for the 18<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the State Champions in the Pom Division and in the Kick Divisions at the CIAC sponsored State Dance Tournament.

We are asking for your permission so that the team can participate again. Participating at Nationals is a huge part of our award winning program. The team comes back energized and ready to compete at States.

Please consider allowing us to attend as we will need to put deposits down soon on airfare, etc.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our request.

Sincerely, Kathy Swillinger – Hamden High School Dance Team Coach