

Alief MS Cheerleading



Tryout Application Packet 2018-2019 School Year

<http://aliefmscheer.weebly.com/cheer-tryouts-2018.html>

You keep all pages with the STAR (★) on the bottom right corner. All other pages are to be turned in to Ms. Polk in room 2125 or the first day of the clinic. **BE SURE TO READ THE ENTIRE PACKET WITH YOUR PARENTS!!!**



CHEERLEADING

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Your son or daughter is interested in becoming a member of the Alief Middle School Cheerleading Squad. If selected there are specific responsibilities and obligations, which he or she must assume in order to qualify and remain part of the squad.

The Cheerleader Candidate has received a tryout packet, which includes information regarding tryouts and the tryout process. Please read all information so you and your child are aware of the expectations and requirements. All procedures will be followed with no exceptions (except emergencies only).

On the following pages, you will find the Cheerleader Tryout Qualifications and Requirements, Cheerleader Expectations, Projected Expense List, Important Upcoming Dates, Tryout Timetable, Expectations on Tryout Day, and the necessary forms to be completed. **Please be aware tryouts packets and physicals are DUE by Friday, August 31, 2018.** If the information is late or if the candidate fails to turn in any required paperwork, the candidate will be **disqualified** from cheerleader tryouts.

Being a cheerleader is a **FULL YEAR COMMITMENT** and requires an **extreme** amount of dedication from not only the cheerleader, but the family as well. If you and your child both feel the obligations and responsibilities can be met, please allow your child to participate in tryouts. If your child has been selected for the team, **there will be a mandatory parent meeting immediately following tryouts for approximately 45 minutes** in the school cafeteria.

We look forward to another successful year. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Ms. Polk or Ms. Bethea, 281-983-8422.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation,

Alief Middle School Cheer Staff



2018-2019 Alief MS Cheerleading Tryout Information

Thank you for your interest in trying out for cheerleading/mascot. In this packet, you will find the following tryout information and the 2018-2019 Rules for Cheerleading. Please read this entire packet & constitution to understand procedures, rules, and expectations of Alief Middle School cheerleaders/mascots prior to tryouts.

Cheerleading/ Mascot Tryout Dates:

- **Cheer Tryout Practice will be held on September 1st, 2018 from 8:00 AM- 4:15 PM. Tryout material will be taught during this time. The official tryout will take place from 3:00 to 4:15 pm.**
- **PAPER WORK AND PHYSICALS MUST BE TURNED IN NO LATER THAN AUGUST 31st. THERE WILL NOT BE ANY EXCEPTIONS MADE. IF PAPERWORK IS NOT TURNED IN ON TIME, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TRYOUT.**
- **PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL PAGES ARE SIGNED BY YOU AND YOUR PARENTS PLEASE.** If you are missing any signatures, you will **not** be eligible to tryout and will be sent home.
- The tryout results will be shared with the candidates immediately following the tryouts. The candidates who *were not selected*, will need to exit the building after tryouts results are posted.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for the 2018-2019 year for cheerleading, the student must:

- Be enrolled in the 6th, 7th, or 8th grade at Alief Middle School for the 2018-2019 school year.
- Have completed all paperwork with appropriate signatures and turned in on time.
- Be passing all core classes with a 70% or higher on report card for all classes on for the 17-18 school year. → This is to ensure that you will remain eligible upon making the squad per UIL Guidelines. Non satisfactory grades will be accepted but will negatively impact tryout score.
- Have satisfactory school conduct. Your school discipline record will be reviewed for the 17-18 school year. This will be signed off by a school administrator which will indicate your eligibility for tryouts. Major offenses will cause you to be ineligible to tryout.

Selection of the cheerleaders will be based on the following:

- A cheer, a chant, and dance that will be taught to the participants during the tryout practices.
- Jumps- a toe touch (required) and then choice of second jump.
- Scholastic achievement and conduct eligibility
- Conduct during tryout practices and tryouts

- Attitude, initiative, teamwork, leadership, work ethic, enthusiasm, and coachability during tryout practices & tryouts.



What do you wear to tryouts?

- Lightweight /light sole tennis shoes (Please try to avoid Jordan's, Toms, slides/slip-ons/flats, etc.) *They weigh you down when you jump.*
- **WHITE** t-shirt long enough to cover your midriff when your hands are raised. No tanks or spaghetti straps allowed.
- **BLACK** Shorts long enough to cover your bottoms.
- **Your hair should be off your shoulders, and no jewelry should be worn. You may wear a white or black bow in your hair if you choose.**

For those who make the squad:

There will be a MANDATORY parent meeting IMMEDIATELY following the tryouts in the cafeteria. Cheerleaders will be fitted for cheer gear on during practice the week of September 4th. .Please mark your calendar. A deposit of \$100.00 (cash) for cheer equipment/fees will have to be made by September 7th or sooner for new members. Returning members will need to pay \$50. Cheerleader will forfeit their spot on the team if payment can't be made. Making this payment will allow me to order cheer equipment in a timely manner for games, events, performances, etc.

Total Estimated Maximum Costs of Cheer Equipment and Fees= \$200 for new cheerleaders. The payments will be broken into 2 payments. (1) September 7th- \$100, (2) October 5th- \$100.
NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN FOR UNDISTRIBUTED CHEER ITEMS. NO EXCEPTIONS. Failure to pay will result in administrative action. Cheer gear **WILL NOT** be given out until balance is paid in **FULL**. Cheer shoes are not included in this fee and will need to be purchased on your own from Academy. (Brand: BCG - \$20).

*Returning Cheerleader Payment Schedule: (1) \$50 (2) \$40 following the same dates above.

***PHYSICALS are required in order to tryout and will remain on file with the coach and PE coaches.*



2018-2019 Tentative Cheerleading Events/ Performance

Check out all of the fun we will have!

- Open House Performance (Depending on date)
- Football Games/ Basketball Games (Seasonal)
- Alief Parade (Tentative) (Fall 2017)
- Alief Proud (Tentative) (Fall 2017)
- Wreaths Across America (Community Service)
- Hastings Varsity Football Game (Fall)/ Basketball Game (Spring)
- Houston Rockets Performance (Tentative) (Spring 2018)
- 8th Grade Talent Show (Spring 2018)

Our current 2017-2018 cheerleaders experienced the following this year:

- Cheer Camp
- Alief International Parade
- Alief Proud Performance
- Open House Performance
- Football Games/ Basketball Games
- Hastings Varsity Football Game
- Middle School Cheer Night (*Invited by Taylor HS*)
- Wreaths Across America (Community Service)
- Houston Rockets Performance
- Hastings Varsity Basketball Game (*Invited by Hastings*)
- BeYoutiful Girls and Adam's Own Youth Rally Performance
- 8th Grade Talent Show Performance
- Summer Language Institute Performance



Alief Middle School Cheerleader Expenses 2018-2019

Approximate Costs for NEW cheerleaders

Shorts: \$ 10**

Team T-shirt: \$15 **

Bloomers (Black): \$7

Body Liner (Black): \$13

Bow: \$5

Bag: \$15

Warm-Ups: \$50

Embroidery (Warm-up/Bags): \$20

Rockets + Shirt: \$65 **

Total: \$200

****Shoes: To be purchased on your own at Academy- BCG Brand \$20**

***Returning cheerleaders cost is approximately \$90 for the following items: Rockets + Shirt, Team Shirt, and Shorts. If you would like to purchase new items, please let Coach Polk know at the fitting to factor in those costs. ***

Sizes will be reported and taken the week of September 4th. Parent/Guardian must verify sizes and make sure first payment is made prior to ordering. Order will be placed September 8th.



*****Although we try to keep costs low, other expenses can and will likely arise throughout the year.*****

2018-2019 Alief Middle School Cheerleading

Purpose

The objective of the AMS cheerleading squad is to effectively execute a school spirit program that supports the athletic teams and promotes the school itself. Cheerleaders will serve as positive role models and leaders for AMS, and should promote sportsmanship within our school and among other schools. The highest priority should be to display and encourage spirit and pride for AMS.

Squad Members and Practices

- Members will be chosen at a formal tryout session.
- Members MUST participate in all tryout practices.

Practices and Games

- Squads will have practices each week. A schedule will be given out at the beginning of each month. All practices are mandatory and other schedules should revolve around cheerleading practices. Additional practices may be added when needed and we will try to do it a week ahead of time so parents and cheerleaders can plan for it. We appreciate your flexibility.
- During football season, games are usually held on Mondays/Tuesdays; however the schedule is subject to change. You will also be given a schedule at the beginning of the season, and cheerleaders will be expected to be present at all games that are assigned on the monthly schedule. We will try to follow all schedules as closely as possible.

Attendance Requirements

- ABSENCES CAN BE THE DOWNFALL OF A GREAT CHEERLEADING SQUAD! **If one or more squad members are absent from a practice or game, the other members are forced to make last minute changes. This can be both stressful and dangerous to squad members.**
- You will be expected to be at all games and practices. **Academics first**, AMS cheer second to all other activities. Remember, joining other clubs and sports will cause you to have to split your time which can **run you the risk of forfeiting your position in routines/performance**.
- **If you commit to cheerleading you are committing to attend every game.** Unexcused absences are those caused by anything other than illness or family emergencies. In addition, just because a cheerleader asks to be excused doesn't mean that the excuse will be granted. Absences must be asked for and excused.
- If you are ill or have a family emergency, the coach needs to be notified by a parent or guardian in order for this absence to be excused. Please notify the coach before the absence.
- Students must be present half the school day (full 2 class periods) to be eligible for practices and games scheduled for that day.



Grades

- A minimum grade of a 70 must be maintained throughout the cheering season (each 9 weeks) in each class period.
- Cheerleaders are students first and athletes second, therefore grades will be monitored by the coach every 3 weeks. If a student is failing ANY class at report card, they will be ineligible to participate in cheer for 3 weeks. They may attend practice, however, attending tutorials in lieu of practice is encouraged because the cheerleader will be unable to attend any games or performances during their loss period.
- Cheerleaders need to be sure to schedule tutorials with a teacher to maintain passing grades. Just be sure to inform a coach that you will be attending tutorials in a **timely manner**. Teachers usually have the same schedule throughout the school year. Telling a coach at the last minute that you are attending tutorials is unacceptable and truly can impact the practice schedule, thus hurting the team.

Expected Behavior

- All AMS guidelines for student conduct must be followed at all times.
- **Promote a positive image for the school community—your peers, parents, teachers, and community members.**
- **While representing AMS (especially in CHEER UNIFORMS/ATTIRE), cheerleaders must not:**
 - Drink alcoholic beverages
 - Use controlled substances/ tobacco products
 - **Show unsportsmanlike conduct**
 - **Bully peers (at all!)**
 - **Use profanity**
 - Vandalize any areas in and around the school, or in the community
 - **Show displays of affection (No PDA)**
 - Be academically dishonest
 - Inappropriate content on social media websites
- You must attend all practices and games. Unless there is an emergency. Parents should contact a coach.
- Your attitude and ability to work with other different personalities must be exceptional.
- Lying or fabricating the truth will not be tolerated and can result in immediate termination from the squad.
- **Part of a coach's job is to know where you are at all times during practices, games, and special events. Consequences will be issued for failure to follow the coach's direction or to stay in assigned areas during events.**
- **While safety is our number one goal, please understand that you should expect bumps, bruises, and other occasional minor injuries. This is all part of cheerleading. It is also important to keep horseplaying to a minimum to avoid unnecessary injuries.**
- All official cheerleading decisions and activities will be made by the Coaches. All coaches are to be given respect and cooperation by cheerleaders and parents at all times.
- **Lack of respect will not be tolerated and can be grounds for dismissal.**

****Being in correct uniform means wearing the appropriate uniform—black sports bra, bloomers, hair ribbon, socks*, shoes having hair pulled up. Complete uniform also means wearing no jewelry, glitter, or extremely bright fingernail polish. Your nails must be trimmed short.***

Coaches, sponsors, and/or principals reserve the right to make changes/additions to the rules as needed. In addition, if you have any questions or concerns, please respect the following chain of command:

- Tara Polk & Alana Bethea, Cheerleading Coaches
- Naeem Khowja, Assistant Principal
- David Lopez, Principal



Please make sure every page after this one is reviewed carefully and signed by parents/guardians and cheerleader/mascot candidates. Thank you!

If you have any questions, please contact T. Polk at 281-983-8422 or tspolk@ga.aliefisd.net or check out our cheer page at www.aliefmscheer.weebly.com or scan the QR code.



ALIEF MS



**2018-2019 Participation in Cheerleader/ Mascot Tryouts
Parent Consent Form & Emergency Medical Release**

My child, _____, and I have discussed the responsibilities of being a cheerleader, such as cost, time involved, job commitment, physical requirements and performance requirements. I understand his/her obligations and responsibilities.

I give him/her permission to participate in the tryout and understand as well as agree that the decision of the judges will be final.

Parent Signature

Date

Student's Name _____ Age _____

Birthdate _____ Home Phone _____

Home Address _____ City/Zip Code _____

Known Allergies _____

Is student taking medication routinely? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, what type and how often? _____

Family Physician _____ Phone Number _____

Family Hospitalization Insurance Co. _____

Address _____ City/ Zip Code _____

Policy Number _____

Emergency Contact Person #1 _____ Relationship _____

Phone Number _____ or _____

Emergency Contact Person #2 _____ Relationship _____

Phone Number _____ or _____

Parent/Guardian Permit Waiver (Release of Liability)

If, in the judgment of any representative of the school, the said student should need immediate care and/or treatment as a result of an injury or sickness, I do hereby request, authorize, and consent to such care and/ or treatment as may be given to said student by any physician, trainer, nurse or trained school representative, and I do hereby agree to indemnify Alief ISD School Board, Employees and Agents of responsibility of liability from any claim by any person whomsoever on account of such care and treatment of said student.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

2018-2019 Parental/Cheerleader/ Mascot Agreement
PARENT/GUARDIAN, please initial on each line.

_____ I, the undersigned, have read and fully understand the rules and regulations which will govern my son/daughter if he/she is chosen to represent their middle school as a cheerleader.

_____ I understand that the honor carries much responsibility and hard work, and that it is very time-consuming. I am willing for my child to assume the responsibility, and I will give my support to the activities and the sponsor by recognizing and meeting the responsibilities and schedules.

_____ I further understand that this is a UIL extra-curricular activity and that attendance at all practices, games, special functions, and summer camp is a requirement of the selected cheerleader.

_____ I have also read the Alief ISD Cheerleading Constitution and understand the policies which the cheerleaders must abide. If my child is selected as a cheerleader/mascot, he/she will fulfill all of the requirements to the best of his/her abilities and realize that failure to maintain these rules will carry consequences that are outlined in the Student Handbook, Student Code of Conduct, and Alief Middle School Behavior Contract.

_____ It is understood that if my child does not pass all subjects each grading period, that according to state law, they will not perform, go to the game with the school, or be able to participate in any cheerleading function until they regain eligibility. **This does not include attendance at practices.**

_____ I understand that my child only has two (2) absences from any cheerleading performance (this includes any activity where the uniform is worn) or five (5) unexcused absences from any cheerleader related activities before he/she is dismissed from the squad. **Missing cheerleading as a parental punishment is not an excused absence.**

_____ *If my child is suspended from school or is assigned CLC/ALC, he/she will be removed from his/her position on the squad without refund.*

_____ I further agree that I release Alief ISD, the sponsors, and the bus driver from liability should an accident or illness occur to my child during practice, travel, and/or games. If, in the judgement of any representatives of the school, the said student need immediate care and treatment as a result of an injury or sickness, I do hereby request, authorize, and consent to such care and treatment as may be given be said student by any physician, trainer, nurse, or trained school representative, and I do hereby agree to indemnify the school and any school representative from any claim by any person whomsoever on account of such care or treatment of said student.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student Name _____ Student Signature _____

2018-2019 Financial Responsibility and Commitment Agreement

I understand that, if chosen, I will be **required** to pay for my son/daughter's uniform pieces, accessories, and attendance at summer cheerleading camp. The financial agreement of the **estimated** \$200 (new)/ \$90 (returning) applied to this year's (2018-2019) squad is NONREFUNDABLE after an order and/or purchase has been made in the name of my child, even if my child is remove from the squad for academic, behavioral, or any other reason. **If the first installment (\$100 New/ \$50 Returning Members) is not paid at this parent meeting, your child will lose their spot on the on the cheerleading squad. My child may not participate in any activity as long as these payments have not been made in fully by the payment dates given. I understand and have read Article 4 of the Middle School Cheer Constitution in detail.**

Again, I understand that if the first payment is not made IN FULL (cash only) at the first parent meeting, my son/daughter will lose his/her spot on the squad.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student Name _____ Student Signature _____

CHEER LEADER COMMITMENT FORM

I am aware that my child will be committing him/herself to a full year obligation.

Students, please initial on each line:

_____ Fall Season (Football/Volleyball)

If he/she makes the squad, and he/she plays on the volleyball or football team, I am obligated to split time

_____ Winter Season (Basketball)

If he/she makes the squad, and he/she plays on the basketball or football team, I am obligated to split time

_____ Spring Season (Soccer/Track/baseball/softball)

If he/she makes the squad, and he/she plays on the soccer, track, baseball, or softball teams am obligated to split time

_____ Competition Season (pending)

If he/she plays other sports but can dedicate time for the competition squad, he/she will be fully dedicated to the team not missing any practices.

_____ Other Clubs and Organizations

If he/she makes the squad and also joins other clubs and organizations, I will make my **first priority** the cheerleading squad.

_____ I understand that by choosing not to attend practices and performances for whatever reason that I risk the possibility of not being eligible to perform if I do not know the material to the coaches' standard.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student Name _____ Student Signature _____

2018-2019 Alief ISD Middle School Cheerleading Constitution

Please review a copy of the Alief ISD Middle School Cheerleading Constitution BEFORE signing this form. The constitution can be found at this link, located under "Resources": <http://aliefmscheer.weebly.com/resources.html> or scan the QR code to access this document.



***Hard copies of the constitution are available upon request.*

Article 11 CONSENT FORM

Parental/Cheerleader Agreement

I have read the responsibilities for Cheerleader. I understand that the honor carries much responsibility and hard work, and that it is very time consuming. I am willing for my child to assume the responsibility and I will give my support to the activities and the sponsor by recognizing and meeting the responsibilities and schedules. I have also read the constitution, by which the cheerleaders must abide.

We further agree that we release Alief ISD, the sponsor, and the bus driver from liability should an accident or illness occur to our child during practice, travel, and/or games.

We understand that if our son/daughter does not pass ALL subjects each grading period, that according to state law, they will not perform, go to the game with the school, or be able to participate in ANY cheerleading function until they regain eligibility.

Parent's signature

Date _____

Cheerleader's Signature

Date _____

Coach's/Sponsor's Signature

Date _____

Alief MS Cheerleading Questionnaire

Name: _____

Grade: _____

- Why are you trying out for Cheerleading/Mascot?

- Is your reputation important as a cheerleader/mascot? Why?

- What three characteristics do you feel are most important for cheerleaders /mascots to possess? Why?

- Why should a cheerleader/mascot be responsible for maintaining good grades and attitude?

- What would you do if a member of your squad had a very bad attitude?

Alief MS Cheerleader Tryout Scoresheet 2018-2019

First and Last Name: _____ Current Grade: _____

COACHES USE ONLY BELOW!

TRYOUT #: _____

Grade Eligibility *(Report Card Needed)* YES NO

Discipline Eligibility YES NO

Discipline Score: _____

Teacher Evaluation Total Score: _____

Tryout Score: _____

OVERALL SCORE: _____

Administration Evaluation Form for AMS Cheerleading Tryouts 2018

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Please complete this form and return it to **Ms. Polk** (2125) with only your name and grade filled in. **Do not give this to the office!** Administration evaluations count for 10% percent of the candidate's score. It is very important that the form is returned. Information on the candidate will be filled out according to discipline referrals, tardy slips, absences, and the previous grading period. Information will be completed based on previous school year.

Sincerely,
AMS Cheer Staff

Each candidate begins with 100 points and deductions are made for each of the listed factors below.

TEN POINTS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR THE FOLLOWING REFERRALS (10 points per occurrence)

Referral:	# of occurrences:	Points Deducted:
1. Disrespect	_____	_____
2. Insubordination	_____	_____
3. Cheating	_____	_____
4. Physical Violence	_____	_____
5. Fighting	_____	_____
6. Profanity	_____	_____
7. Bullying	_____	_____

FIVE POINTS WILL BE DUDUCTED FOR THE FOLLOWING REFERRALS (5 per occurrence)

Referral:	# of occurrences:	Points Deducted:
1. Gum	_____	_____
2. Tardy (3)	_____	_____
3. Cell Phone	_____	_____
4. Dress Code	_____	_____

- 1-5 Absences = no deduction**
- 5-10 Absences = 5 point deduction**
- 10+ Absences = 10 point deduction**

SCORE:

Deductions due to Absences: _____

Administrator Clearance: (circle one) YES NO

Administrator's signature: _____

**School administrators reserves the right to deny cheer candidate eligibility to tryout out for cheerleading. **