

Dance

Dance courses include studies in the major areas of dance—technique, history, creating original dance movement, the choreographic process, aesthetic criticism, and performance. The National Core Arts Standards and the Maryland State Dance Standards are the basis for the middle school dance curriculum. Creative thinking, expression through movement, and appreciation for the art form are integral parts of the program.

Students enrolling in Dance Education courses are expected to wear appropriate footwear and clothing during class for safety and instructional purposes. While each school will more clearly define this requirement, typical dance class attire includes dance shoes, leotards and tights, compression shorts, pants, tank or shirt. All students taking a dance course are required to perform in an end-of-year dance concert at their school with other possible performance opportunities afforded throughout the school year. The National Core Arts Standards for dance and the Maryland State Dance Standards are the basis for the curriculum.

L6601/2/3 | **Dance 6**

Students will explore creative movement, improve physical fitness, identify the relationships between dance and various cultures, work with classmates, and improve individual abilities. The class includes ballet, modern, jazz, tap, choreography, production, design, careers, aesthetic criticism, and dancer health.

L7701/2/3 | **Dance 7**

Students will improve their abilities in several dance styles, experience dance performances from various cultures, have fun creating and analyzing their own dances, increase their dance vocabulary, have performance opportunities, research historical dance figures and famous dancers, and improve their physical fitness.

L8801/2/3 | **Dance 8**

Students will extend what they think they know and can do in dance. Choreography, analysis, enjoying performing, and building a dance portfolio are included. The class includes improvement of skills in ballet, modern, jazz, tap, choreography, production, design, careers, aesthetic criticism, dancer health, and physical fitness.

L16/7/8 | **Dance for Athletes 6/7/8**

This course focuses primarily on the development of footwork, coordination, core strength, and agility as the student engages in kinesthetic movement and patterns. Students learn how dance training techniques improve athletic performance.