

Dear Cheerleading Candidates & Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for your interest in trying out for the 2016-2017 Grace Preparatory Academy Cheerleading squad. We appreciate your enthusiasm and interest in our program. Cheerleaders will promote spirit at all sporting events. In addition to supporting our fellow athletic teams, we will continue to promote school spirit representing Grace Preparatory Academy throughout the community.

Cheerleaders must meet certain qualifications in order to be considered for spot on the squad. All interested students must be in compliance with the eligibility guidelines as outlined in the GPA Athletic Handbook and TAPPS regulations to be eligible to participate in the cheerleading program. This can be a truly rewarding experience, but it also requires a tremendous time commitment. Additionally, a squad member must be able to work well with others; as cheerleading, is a team activity!

Please be aware of this as you prepare to take on the challenges and responsibilities of becoming a member of the Grace Preparatory Academy Cheerleading Team. Please read the following packet carefully and return all other necessary forms to Coach Faith Smith's teacher box, on or before Friday, March 11th, 2016.

Thank you and good luck!

Sincerely,

Faith Smith
Head Coach

**GPA LION GUARD CHEERLEADING TEAM
FORMS CHECKLIST**

Name _____ Grade _____

_____ *"Cheerleading Application"* signed and dated by parent and applicant

_____ *"GPA Cheerleading Code"* signed and dated by parent and applicant

_____ *"Candidate Release Form – Candidate"* signed and dated by applicant

_____ *"Candidate Release Form – Parent"* signed and dated by parent

_____ *"TAPPS Acknowledgment of Rules Form"* signed and dated by parent and applicant

_____ *"Teacher Evaluation Forms"*

_____ Grades check for passing

_____ Potential squad members and a parent attends mandatory informational meeting scheduled for Monday, March 21st at 4:30pm.

Grace Preparatory Academy

2016-2017 Cheerleading Tryout Information

(for all upcoming 9th-12th grade girls)

Material Clinics: March 21st & 23rd

Tryouts: Thursday March 24th

Informational Meeting: Monday, March 21st

Cheer application due by March 11th by 2pm

YOU MUST BE ELIGIBLE TO TRYOUT

(Eligibility is based on guidelines outlined in the GPA Athletic Handbook and TAPPS regulations)

IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION

Friday, March 11 – CHEER APPLICATION PACKET DUE in Coach Smith's box, no later than 2pm.

To participate in the material practices and tryout, all required paperwork must be submitted by the deadline. *NO EXCEPTIONS.*

Monday, March 21st & Wednesday, March 23rd CHEER CLINIC from 3-4pm

Thursday, March 24th – TRYOUTS at GPA from 5-7pm. Candidates will be notified by Saturday if they met the requirements and made the squad.

Monday, March 21st– MANDATORY INFORMATIONAL MEETING at GPA. Meeting will begin at 4:30pm. Information about uniforms, practices, fundraising and more will be discussed at the meeting. Potential squad members and a parent attends mandatory informational meeting scheduled for Monday, March 21st at 4:30pm.

Informational Meeting

For all current 8th – 11th grade girls

Interested in the 2016-2017 GPA Cheer Squad

WHEN: Monday, March 21st

WHERE: Auditorium @ 4:30PM

WHO: A parent and yourself

WHAT: Exciting Information about the
GPA 2016-2017 Cheer Squad

**This meeting is an extremely important part of try-outs.
ALL potential squad members and a parent are
REQUIRED to attend this informational meeting in order
to tryout for the squad.*

Grace Preparatory Academy 2016-2017 CHEERLEADING APPLICATION

Grade next year 2016-2017 _____

Spring 2016 G.P.A. _____ Accumulative G.P.A. _____

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Cell #: _____

E-mail: _____

ALL Social Media Usernames: _____

PARENT / GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Primary Parent: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone #: _____ Cell #: _____

Secondary Parent: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone #: _____ Cell #: _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY – LIST TWO CONTACTS

Emergency Contact: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone #: _____ Cell #: _____

CHEER INFORMATION

Cheerleading Experience: _____

Gymnastics Experience: _____

Have you tried out for GPA Cheer before? _____

SIZING INFORMATION

Shoe Size _____ Tee-shirt size _____ Short size _____ Sports Bra Size: _____

Instructions: Please answer the following questions in the space provided honestly and neatly.

1. What is your motivation for applying for a position on the GPA Cheerleading squad

2. What are some of your inner qualities that would make you an asset to the squad?

3. Describe leadership qualities you possess.

4. What will you personally bring to the squad?

5. How do you deal with conflict in-group situations?

6. What ideas do you have to increase school spirit and attendance by GPA students at the games?

7. Do you consider yourself a follower, supporter or a leader and why? (All are considered good attributes)

8. What are your strengths and what are your weaknesses?

9. What kind of activities at school or otherwise will you be participating in or leading in 2015-2016?

10. Being a cheerleader for GPA often requires about 12 – 15 hours per week, summer camps and practice prior to school starting in the summer. Can you commit to that amount of time?

Do your parents agree to this? _____

Can your parents make sure you attend all the required events? _____

11. How do you manage your time including time to study?

All students must be in compliance with the eligibility rules at outlined in the GPA Athletic Handbook and TAPPS regulations.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

GPA Cheerleading Code

2016-2017

- God is sovereign over my life and my team.
- I understand that it is a privilege to be a part of Grace Prep's Cheerleading program.
- I will carry myself with dignity, upholding the standards set by this team, to the best of my ability.
- I will seek humility over attention.
- I will support the teams and my school not only by my actions but by my words.
- I will not gossip, slander or speak unkindly toward another team member. Instead I will support each member and rejoice in their successes because I know that God gave each of us unique abilities.
- I will not gossip, slander or speak unkindly toward students or staff of my school.
- I will consider personal humility in my clothing choices at all school functions.
- I will endeavor to have my actions be above reproach.
- I will be considerate of my teammates by being on time to practice, dressed appropriately and ready to do what needs to be done.
- I will understand that while practice can be fun, it is not a time for socializing.
- I will not publicly display affection with a boyfriend at games, school or school functions. I know that as a member of the cheer squad, I am held to a higher standard.
- I understand that I am expected to be at every football game...including play-offs.
- I understand that when I miss a game, practice or planned activity, it affects the entire team and I will do my very best to be dependable.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to take good care of my uniform. I will keep it neat and clean at all items and return all the pieces in good repair. Any damaged or missing pieces will be my financial responsibility to replace.
- I understand that if I cause damage to another team member's uniform, shoes or apparel, I am financially responsible for the replacement of the item.
- I understand that I will return all GPA cheerleading uniforms and other issued items in the event that I do not complete the school year or withdraw from GPA before the completion of the year.
- I understand that camp is MANDATORY for ALL team members, June 20th - 23rd from 9-5pm.
- I understand boot camp is MANDATORY for ALL team members, August 1st - 3rd from 9-12pm.

- I understand that I am expected to follow the Code of Conduct outlined in the GPA Cheerleading Handbook.
- Finally, if I do not fulfill, for any reasons, my obligations to GPA Cheerleading Team, I am financially responsible for all money spent on my behalf.

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

Candidate Release Form

Parent

My child, _____ has my permission to be a Grace Preparatory Academy Lion Guard Cheerleading Team.

(please initial in spaces provided)

_____ I understand that she must abide by the rules and regulations set forth by the GPA Cheerleading Handbook and be present for all practices and games. It is my responsibility to have my child at all functions on time! In case of an emergency, I give permission for my child to ride with the sponsor and/or other parent when necessary. I have read the rules and regulations and understand that the violation of any of these rules may lead to a temporary or permanent suspension from the squad.

_____ I understand that qualified judges will evaluate my daughter and we agree to abide by the decision of the judges.

_____ I understand the costs involved as stated in the Cost Information Handout.

_____ I understand that by the very nature of the activity, cheerleading and gymnastics carry a risk of injury. Cheerleading activities require learned skills and behaviors. These will be taught, practiced, and documented as each participant achieves mastery prior to the performance of each skill. It should be made clear that even though mastery of objectives and skills has been reached, and safety precautions enforced, accidents still may occur. No matter how careful the participants and coach are, how many spotters are used, or what landing surface is used, the risk cannot be eliminated. The risk of injury includes minor injuries such as muscle pulls, dislocation and broken bones. The risk also includes catastrophic injuries such as permanent paralysis or even death from landing or falls on the back, neck, or head. I understand these risks and do hereby release Grace Preparatory Academy and its employees from any liability due to accident, injury or illness should it occur.

_____ I also agree to support my child's efforts wholeheartedly throughout the season.

_____ Upon making Cheerleader your child must present evidence of a current medical, physical examination. This must be less than 12 months old submitted within two weeks of making the squad.

_____ **I have read the attached information packet and cheerleading code of conduct and rules. I also understand that every member of the cheerleading squad will be expected to follow these rules and regulations, and I agree to abide by these regulations. I understand that if I have any questions or concerns regarding cheerleading, I should contact the appropriate cheer coach. I understand and agree to abide by the GPA Lion Guard Cheerleading Team Handbook. Furthermore, I give my consent for the below named student to represent GPA as a cheerleader and participate in extra-curricular activities with knowledge of the responsibilities, conduct expectations and risks involved with being a GPA cheerleader.**

_____ / _____ / _____

Parent Signature

Date

Candidate

I am interested in being a cheerleader at Grace Preparatory Academy. I understand the risks inherent to this sport. If elected, I promise to abide by the rules and regulations set forth by the GPA Cheerleading Handbook. I promise to cooperate and follow the instructions of the cheerleading coaches at all times.

I understand that cheerleaders and spirit groups exist to promote good sportsmanship, good citizenship, wholesome and enthusiastic school spirit, and cooperation both within the schools and among schools. Members of these groups have a fundamental responsibility to play a leadership role in helping the school to achieve the worthwhile objectives of the schools activities.

Further, I understand that I am to behave in a manner that is becoming to me as an individual, as well as to the organization I represent. I should be aware that in or out of uniform I am a representative of the cheerleading squad, Grace Preparatory Academy, and I agree to act accordingly.

I will:

- Be a leader and set an example for those around me.
- Remember SAFETY FIRST!!! NO COACH - NO PRACTICE!!!
- Follow a workout program designed for the development of strength in order to: prevent injury; increase strength and coordination, endurance, flexibility and confidence.
- Keep track of my academic progress (know when I need to get help or attend tutorials). I know that if I am not passing my classes, I am placing an undue burden on the rest of my squad.
- Attend and be on time to all practices and games.
- Promote school spirit.
- Remember that I am a member of a TEAM and there is no "I" in team.
- Give respect to ALL adults.
- HAVE FUN!!!

I, _____, am trying out for the position of cheerleader. I am aware of the time involved in being a GPA cheerleader. I am prepared to give 100% and have a positive attitude throughout the year. I understand that my obligations as a cheerleader do not begin and end with football season, but begin with cheerleader tryouts and continue throughout the entire school year. Furthermore, I understand that it is my responsibility to provide my own transportation to and from cheerleader practices and events unless a bus is provided . I understand that as a cheerleader I am expected to behave in a manner that is becoming to me, as well as, to my squad. I also realize that grades are very important and that it is my responsibility to remain eligible. It wastes time, money, and energy when I am unable to perform. I have read and understand the attached information packet and GPA Cheerleading Handbook. Furthermore, I have read the Cheerleader's Code of Conduct and understand my responsibility as a Grace Preparatory Cheerleader. I agree to follow and abide by all of these rules and regulations.

Student Signature

_____/_____/_____
Date

Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools

Student Acknowledgement of Rules

Student Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Grade Level: 9 10 11 12

Is the student transferring from another high school this year? YES NO

This form must be completed by the student and parent/guardian each year prior to participation in TAPPS activities at the member school. In accordance with the TAPPS Constitution and By-Laws, we attest that the above named student:

- has not reached 19 years of age prior to September 1 of the current year.
- has not graduated from high school
- did not enroll in the ninth grade more than four years ago
- did not enroll in the tenth grade more than three years ago
- did not participate with or against high school students more than four years ago

Student presently resides with biological or adoptive parents? YES NO

If the student is not presently living with biological or adoptive parents,

- If a US citizen, the student must be in compliance with the rules set forth in Section 80 of the TAPPS By-Laws and approved by TAPPS prior to varsity participation in Fine Arts or Athletics.
- If not a US citizen, the student must be in compliance with the rules set forth in Section 102 of the TAPPS By-Laws and approved by TAPPS prior to varsity participation in Fine Arts or Athletics.

Student is a returning high school student or incoming ninth grade student? YES NO

If transferring from a high school,

- the student was withdrawn from the previous high school, enrolled in and attending the new school prior to the TRANSFER DEADLINES as posted on the TAPPS website.
- The student is in compliance with the provisions presented in Section 104 of the TAPPS By-Laws
- The student has not participated on a high school team, select, AAU, club, 7 on 7 team or similar organized activity coached or directed by a staff member at the new school in the past 12 months.

The above named student

- is a full time day student at the member school as defined in the TAPPS Constitution and By-Laws
- has not represented a college in any contest
- is in compliance with the TAPPS awards rule as presented in the TAPPS By-Laws
- is in compliance with all TAPPS eligibility requirements as presented in the TAPPS Constitution and By-Laws

The school has explained and we are/will be in compliance with the TAPPS governance pertaining to In Season, Off Season and Summer Participation.

The school has explained and we are/will be in compliance with TAPPS governance preventing unattached participation in TAPPS activities.

I understand and attest that the burden of proof pertaining to the eligibility of my child rests solely with the student and parents. In the event eligibility is subject to review, we will provide all information requested by TAPPS included but not limited to birth certificate, transcripts, financial information and all reasonable and pertinent information necessary to establish the student's eligibility to compete.

Parent Signature / Date

Student Signature / Date

Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Student Acknowledgement of Rules

The health and safety of our student athletes is a primary concern of TAPPS and TAPPS member schools. In compliance with TAPPS governance, the school has

- Provided the school's injury reporting policy
- The school's day of contest attendance policy
- The school's return to play policy and procedures
- The school has provided education and training regarding:
 - **CONCUSSIONS**
 - **SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST**
 - **STEROID ABUSE**
 - **HEAT STRESS** and
 - **DEHYDRATION**
 - **BLOOD BORNE PATHOGENS**
- We have provided the school with a current medical history and physical form which includes any previous or current injuries/conditions for the student prior to practice or participation.
- We will accurately report all injuries and illness to the school in a timely manner.
- We agree that the school may report all information pertaining to injuries to TAPPS or assigned entity.
- We agree that the student's name, likeness and information may be shared with TAPPS and other entities as determined by TAPPS.

The parent and student understand and agree that even though protective equipment may be worn and precautions taken, the possibility of accidental injury remains. Neither TAPPS, nor representative of TAPPS, assumes responsibility should an injury occur.

I attest that my child will abide by all TAPPS rules as they are presented in the TAPPS Constitution, By-Laws and Contest rules. I understand that if the student is found to be out of compliance with TAPPS rules and governance, the student's eligibility to compete and the school's eligibility to compete in any activity in which the student participated may be in question. The minimum penalty for participation by an ineligible player is forfeiture of contests in which the player participated.

I understand and agree that the executive management, control and final authority for this association rest with the TAPPS Executive Board. The Executive Board shall determine all governance and subsequent compliance therewith.

We attest that we are in compliance with all information presented in this Acknowledgement of Rules form. It is our understanding that non compliance with the terms presented may result in sanctions presented to the student, team and school.

By signature below, we attest that participation in TAPPS activities is voluntary and that the student/parents assume all risk for death, injury or personal loss to the participant. The undersigned promise to forever hold harmless the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS), its officers, employees and representatives against loss, damage or expense from any and all claims, demands or actions that may be brought against any or all of the said parties because of accident or occurrence while said participant is in route to or from, or participating in a TAPPS sponsored contest.

Parent Signature / Date

Student Signature / Date

Cheerleading Evaluation Sheet

Teacher _____

Student _____

Student Instructions: Please fill out one sheet for each of your teachers. Fill in teacher name and student name in the above blanks. Return the filled out sheets to Rhonda Satterfield as soon as possible so she may distribute them to teachers.

Teacher Instructions: Teachers please fill out the below form and return to Rhonda Satterfield no later than April 10th. These forms are confidential and will not be shared with the student or her parents. Upon completion of the process, they will be shredded

Please rate the above student in the following areas:

	Weak	Moderate	Average	Above Aver.	Excellent
Academics					
Relates well to peers					
Respects authority					
Manages time					
Discipline					

Other Comments: _____

Please return to Faith Smith's teacher box, no later than Friday, March 11th at 2pm.

Cheerleading Evaluation Sheet

Teacher _____

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