


INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 271
Bloomington, Minnesota

REQUEST FOR SCHOOL BOARD ACTION

DATE OF BOARD MEETING: May 22, 2017

SUBJECT: Cooperative Sponsorship for Kennedy/
Jefferson Dance Program


ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Matt Hanson
Kennedy High School Activities Director

APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE CABINET MEMBER: Eric Melbye 
Assistant Superintendent

RESOLUTION FOR THE SCHOOL BOARD TO ADOPT:

RESOLVED, that the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves a cooperative sponsorship for the Kennedy and Jefferson Dance program effective with the 2017-2018 school year.

REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Approve. 

DETAILED BACKGROUND:

The Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) allows two or more member schools to form a cooperative sponsorship of an activity and /or sport when student participation numbers at schools are not sufficient to field a team. Kennedy and Jefferson high schools have agreed to cooperative sponsorship of the Dance program for the 2017-18 school year. Kennedy, with the greater number of Dance participants, will serve as the host school, and the team will compete as the Kennedy Eagles. Under MSHSL bylaws, we are petitioning bylaw 403.00 so that we can compete in regular and post season as one team.

This is a renewal of a cooperative agreement for Dance. The schools currently have cooperative agreements for Alpine Ski, Competitive Cheerleading, Gymnastics, Girls' Golf, Girls' Hockey, Nordic Ski and Wrestling. Dance and Girls' Hockey need annual renewal.

The cooperative sponsorship application will be submitted to the MSHSL for approval once the School Board of Independent School District 271 approves this resolution. Approval of the agreement must be granted prior to the start of the Dance season, which is October 23, 2017.

Application for Cooperative Sponsorship

Application must be submitted to the League office not later than the first day of practice for that sport season.

The governing boards of each participating school must jointly make application for cooperative sponsorship.

On behalf of the following schools, we hereby apply for cooperative sponsorship of Dance Team
 beginning with the 20 17 - 20 18 school year. (activity) (boys' or girls') (Adapted-CI or PI)

List **ALL** schools included in the cooperative sponsorship. *Attach another form if necessary.*

	School	Enrollment (9-12)*	City	Administrative Region**	Competitive Section**
High School #1:	Bloomington Kennedy	1150	Bloomington, MN	3AA	1AAA
High School #2:	Bloomington Jefferson	1513	Bloomington, MN	3AA	1AAA
High School #3:					
High School #4:					

*Enrollment reported to the State of Minnesota on October 1 of the previous school year.

**Current (Number and Class)

- Do any of the above schools belong to a conference in this activity?
 Yes This application must include a review and comments from the conference(s) of which the schools are members.
 No
- Do any of the above schools currently have a cooperative agreement in this activity?
 Yes An application for dissolution must be submitted for the existing agreement.
 No
- Describe the conditions which have prompted your request to co-sponsor this activity. (See model resolution at [www.mshsl.org/About MSHSL/Membership Information: A History & Model Resolution for School Boards](http://www.mshsl.org/About_MSHSL/Membership_Information:_A_History_&_Model_Resolution_for_School_Boards))
See Attached Letter

- List the number of students, by grade level, who participated in this activity during the previous year. *If the school did not sponsor the program last year, indicate the number of students expected to participate in this cooperatively-sponsored activity this year if approved.*

	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
High School #1		5	4	4	0	3
High School #2				2	2	1
High School #3						
High School #4						

= 16
= 5

- Team Identification: (Indicate how cooped schools should be identified in tournament programs): _____

Bloomington Kennedy Killaens

- Team Colors: Navy Blue + Gold Team Mascot: Eagles

- Host School (school that will receive revenue share check): Bloomington Kennedy 5/15/17

Board of Education (or designee)

School

Date

Signed _____
 Signed _____
 Signed _____
 Signed _____

Official Action of the MSHSL Board of Directors

Approved Not Approved

Signature: _____ Date: _____
 MSHSL Executive Director



May 15, 2017

We help students thrive and dreams come alive

Dave Stead
 Minnesota State High School League
 2100 Freeway Boulevard
 Brooklyn Center, MN 55430-1735

Dear Mr. Stead,

The Bloomington School District is seeking a renewal of the cooperative sponsorship in dance with Kennedy and Jefferson High Schools, per the Bylaw 403.00 2c AA Exception.

Since we have implemented this cooperative sponsorship, the dance team participation numbers at Jefferson High School have been increasing. There has been a slight decline in the numbers from both schools the past couple of years. We hope that the numbers from both schools increase during this upcoming school year. If we were forced to split at this time, Jefferson would not have enough numbers to support a program. Our hope is that in the near future, Jefferson will have enough students to field their own team. Information on the dance participation numbers for the past six years are listed in the chart below. Without this cooperative sponsorship, Jefferson students would not have an opportunity to dance and participate in this team sport.

Jefferson	Students	Kennedy	Students
2011-12	14	2011-12	43
2012-13	10	2012-13	26
2013-14	9	2013-14	24
2014-15	8	2014-15	12
2015-16	6	2015-16	10
2016-17	5	2016-17	15

Kennedy and Jefferson have been a cooperative sponsorship team for the past eight seasons. This co-op has allowed students from Jefferson an opportunity to participate on a dance team for the past eight years. This co-op is truly about providing the Jefferson students an opportunity to participate on a dance team, and building back their program so they can sustain their own team. Bloomington does not have a studio to feed the dance program. Most of our dancers start dancing when they try out for the high school team. As you can see by our conference and section results below, we still struggle to be successful.

Year:	Conference Results:	Section Results:
2011-2012	9 th out of 9 (South Suburban Conference)	10 th J/F, 10 th H/K
2012-2013	9 th out of 9 (South Suburban Conference)	12 th J/F, 10 th H/K out of 13
2013-2014	9 th out of 9 (South Suburban Conference)	11 th J/F, 11 th H/K out of 15
2014-2015	4 th out of 6 (Metro West Conference)	12 th J/F, 11 th H/K out of 15
2015-2016	4 th out of 6 (Metro West Conference)	13 th J/F, 14 th H/K out of 14
2016-2017	4 th out of 6 (Metro West Conference)	13 th J/F, 14 th H/K out of 14

It is our hope that by continuing to offer a combined Kennedy/Jefferson team we would be able to:

- 1) Offer Jefferson students a chance to be a part of a dance team that competes in the Metro West Conference and at the section level.
- 2) Continue to increase interest in Dance at Jefferson so that Jefferson can field its own competitive team in the future.

Kennedy would be the host school for this co-op. We are seeking this cooperative agreement because we believe it is in the best interests of student-athletes at Jefferson High School.

Class AA Exception:

- 1) Identify and document the reasons for the appeal: See above information.
- 2) Provide a summary of what each of the applying schools has done to promote participation in the activity in their school:
 - a) Kennedy's team is a full-strength, independent program.
 - b) For the past eight years at Jefferson, we have tried numerous recruiting, promotion, and team-building activities; below is a comprehensive list. The Jefferson numbers have been on the decline in the past few years even with our efforts.
 - i) Parent meetings;
 - ii) Recruiting meetings at freshman orientation;
 - iii) Offering youth camps and clinics within the Jefferson enrollment area;
 - (1) Performing at Jefferson athletic events, pep fests and middle schools to increase awareness;
 - (2) Providing equal leadership on the booster club and dance captains between the two schools to ensure more Jefferson involvement and commitment;
 - (3) Hiring an assistant coach that works in both buildings to assist with promotion and recruitment.
1. Written response from the Metro West Conference and 1AAA Dance section:
 - a. The Metro West Conference is in full support of the proposed cooperative sponsorship;
 - b. Section 1AAA is in full support of the proposed cooperative sponsorship.
2. A Student Interest Survey was conducted in the Spring of 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2015. We will conduct another survey again in the spring of 2017, but all surveys have indicated a continued student interest in dance at Jefferson.
3. History of participation in the Jefferson/Kennedy dance program: (see table above)

Please feel free to contact us if you have need any further information or have any questions.

Sincerely,
Matt Hanson
Activities Director
Kennedy High School
952.681.5047
mhanson@isd271.org

Chad Nyberg
Activities Director
Jefferson High School
952.806.7719
cnyberg@isd271.org