

W.T. Eich Middle School Intermediate Ballroom Dance

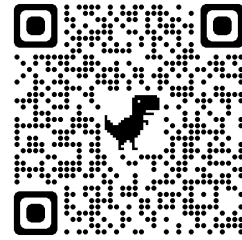
TEACHER INFORMATION:

Name: Michael Larsen

Phone: 916-771-1770 x23200

Email: mlarsen@rcsdk8.org

Website: <https://sites.google.com/rcsdk8.org/eich-ballroom-dance>



COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Welcome to ballroom dance! My goal for this class is to further your exposure to proper social behavior and the basics of American Style social ballroom dance technique. Dances taught will include Foxtrot, East Coast Swing, Nightclub Two Step, Waltz, Latin Hustle, Cha Cha, Tango, Salsa, and/or West Coast Swing. An IB Arts Process Journal will be kept in order to document ideas and personal growth, analyze experiences, critique dance performances, and help develop writing skills. Students will have opportunities to teach and perform for community and school organizations, both during school hours as well as outside of school hours.

Winter Concert: Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2025 @ 7:00pm in the Eich Gym
Spring Concert: Thursday, May 14, 2026 @ 7:00pm in the Eich Gym

Attendance and performance at the two Eich concerts is mandatory as part of this class. Students must earn a grade of 5 or higher in order to dance at a performance event.

MATERIALS NEEDED FOR CLASS:

- Effort
- Positive attitude
- Chromebook

I am asking for a \$15 voluntary donation that will be used to purchase a class t-shirt. The donation can be made via cash or check and can be dropped off in the Eich office or turned in to Mr. Larsen. Checks should be made payable to Eich Middle School.

REQUIRED ATTIRE FOR PERFORMANCES:

Leads/Gentlemen: Long pants (no jeans!), non-white socks, belt or suspenders, dress shirt, tie. Shirts *must* be tucked in.

Follows/Ladies: Dress (does NOT have to be fancy), white gloves (to be provided)

Shoes: It is recommended that students purchase dance/dress shoes (any nice looking shoe with a slick sole is fine), as they will be using these all year. Tennis shoes are not acceptable for formal performances. Flats are recommended for the ladies as high heels can be difficult to dance in.

GRADING POLICY:

All grades will be based on the following IB Arts criteria:

Criterion A: Investigating

- Ai. investigate a movement or genre in their chosen arts discipline, related to the statement of inquiry.
- Aii. analyse an artwork or performance from the chosen movement or genre.

Criterion B: Developing

- Bi. practically explore ideas to inform development of a final artwork or performance.
- Bii. present a clear artistic intention for the final artwork or performance in line with the statement of inquiry.

Criterion C: Creating/Performing

- Ci. create or perform an artwork.

Criterion D: Evaluating

- Di. appraise their own artwork or performance.
- Dii. reflect on their development as an artist.

Grades will be based 100% on summative assessments. Summative assessments will be either dance performances, writing/reflection assignments, or IB Arts Process Journal entries. Formative assessments (quizzes, quickwrites, etc.) will still be entered into the gradebook but will not count towards the final grade.

Additionally, students will receive grades based on the RCSD Learning Behaviors of:

- Engagement
- Work Completion

BEHAVIOR:

Students are expected to follow all school rules - The Wildcat Way (Safe, Respectful, Responsible). This includes coming to class on time, having a good attitude, and being fully prepared for class. Students are expected to:

- show respect to others.
- use appropriate language.
- be prepared for learning.
- participate appropriately during class.
- have no gum, food, or drinks other than water in the studio.

Failure to follow the above behavior expectations will result in the following consequences:

1. Warning
2. Other classroom consequences
3. Minor Referral
4. Major Referral

Repeated failure to follow behavior expectations will result in removal from the class.

Cat Paw Cash and other rewards can be earned for excellent behavior and exceeding student expectations.

COMMUNICATION:

Parents and guardians are a valued member of the education team. We need to work as a team in order to provide students with successful experiences. Thank you for supporting your child's learning in order to make this a successful and positive year at Eich. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at any time via email or phone.

Students: Be sure to see me if you feel like you are falling behind or have a question with **anything**. It is very important that we have good communication and you seek help the moment you need it.

Please fill out the [Google Form](#) acknowledging that you have read and understand this syllabus. Also, please include contact information as requested.

Sincerely,

Mr. Larsen