

coming together as *one*

"Leadership is not a position or title, it is an action and example," as many say. A few dance team members proved that this year during the dance season.

Compared to last year, the dance team has grown a considerable amount, and making the leap from five members to seven has its challenges.

There are more people, which paves the way to inevitably having opposite opinions, varying ideas, and conflicting personalities.

Unfortunately, this combination is the perfect environment for conflict to grow. When asked about some common difficulties, one of the girls anonymously mentioned, "It upsets me when underclassmen are disrespectful because we try hard and then they're just rude."

Despite this, the girls were able to come together, and certain members took it upon themselves to take on extra

responsibility for the sake of the team. Leadership played a major part in this, and everyone on the team displayed this quality in their own individual way. For example, there was a bump in the road when no one was able to come up with a new dance, so some girls helped create the dances, which were all unique and required a lot of practice after school.

"Samantha and Allison both have good dance moves because they watch Kpop a lot, so they have cute little things to do," said Ericka Moffett [9]. [Kpop is a common abbreviation for "Korean Pop" music, which is growing in popularity in the United States.]

After the hardest obstacle to overcome in dance was dealt with,

which was creating the dances, the girls all ended up having fun and enjoying the dances.

When asked what her favorite dance practice was, Allison Moss [10], made this statement, "It was the dance practice that I pantsed Kassey Wetovick [12]. It was really funny. I just walked up and did it, she wasn't expecting it at all I don't think."

"I really like practice, and I try my best, and I like learning new songs. My favorite dance was 'Shut Up and Dance With Me,'" said Arianna Parmenter [9].

So, in the end, the dance team was able to come together, solve their problems, and have a good time dancing at all the home events, Just For Kix's shows, and the wrestling meet.



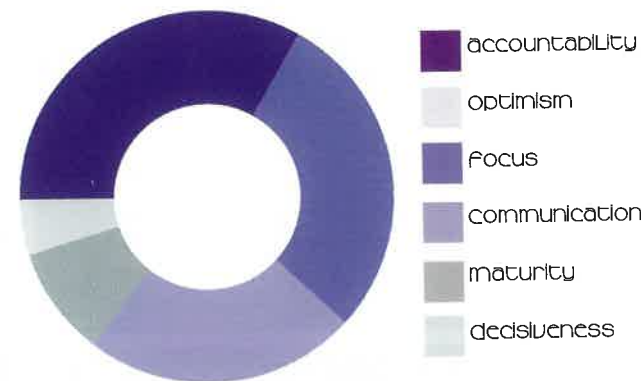
PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT Two members, Abby Parlin [9] and Arianna Parmenter [9], practice the pom dance to "Cake By the Ocean" by DNCE. Members usually practiced upstairs on the walking track to prepare for their performances.

HELLO, ITS ME Getting introduced before performing with the junior spirit squad after the parade, Samantha Moss [10] smiles and waves to the crowd proudly. This was her second year dancing and cheering in the Funfest parade.

PHOTO READY Dancing to the song "Shut Up and Dance" by Walk the Moon, Allison Moss [10] pauses with a pose and smiles towards the crowd gleefully. This was the teams fourth dance during the season and one of the most worked on dances.

GOT SPIRIT During the first pep rally of the year, Ericka Moffett [9] dances to the school song along with the rest of the spirit squad to start off the football scrimmage. It followed after the community pep rally. Moffett helped with the event, "Would You Rather?"

What are the top traits of a leader?



KICKIN' KICKS The dance team girls, (from left to right) Samantha Moss [10], Kassey Wetovick [12], Ericka Moffett [9], Danielle DeVore [12], Abby Parlin [9], and Allison Moss [10] get ready to start the kick line for the song "Summer of '69" by Bryan Adams.

ON THE MATS Performing their Christmas dance at wrestling districts, Abby Parlin [9] and Danielle DeVore [12] smile as they do their signature poses to the song "5 More Days 'til Christmas" by The Cheatch Girls. This was the only time they danced on the mats.



HANDS UP Performing to the song "Shut Up and Dance" by Walk the Moon, the dance team simultaneously put their arms up and pose together. This was their first time performing this song after practicing it for weeks after school beforehand.



POSER While dancing to the song "Lay It All on Me" by Rudimental ft. Ed Sheeran, Kassey Wetovick [12] poses by herself due to two members falling ill. The dancers pulled off one of their best performances that night despite the missing dancers.