Purpose: The Young Ambassadors of Physical Education is the elementary physical education team of the Tacoma School District. The group shares with parents, teachers, administrators, and the general public a variety of physical activities that explain and demonstrate the intent of physical education at the elementary level.

Make-up of the Young Ambassadors: The group is open to Tacoma elementary students in grades one through five and will consist of no more than 36 students. A good faith effort will be made to assure that the students in the Young Ambassadors are representative of the student body of the Tacoma School District.

Eligibility:

1. Students will be selected during a tryout process in October. The tryout process will be based upon the following criteria:
   a. Rhythmic ability
   b. Gymnastic ability
   c. Physical fitness development
   d. Jumping rope ability
   e. Circus skills
   f. Past membership in Young Ambassadors
   g. Ability to work hard
   h. Ability to listen and follow directions
   i. Reliability
   j. Parental support
   k. Demonstration of exemplary conduct in and out of school

2. Students must continue to maintain tryout criteria along with good standing in both academic and school citizenship during the entire school year. When a student’s teacher, principal and/or coach feel a student is not maintaining appropriate tryout criteria, academic and citizenship levels that student is no longer eligible to participate as a member of the Young Ambassadors. The Young Ambassadors staff on a regular basis monitors student’s progress. If there is a problem, a conference will be set up for all of the concerned individuals with the parents.

3. Previous Young Ambassadors students, who remain in elementary school, will need to tryout each year if they wish to remain on the team. This will encourage the students to keep up on their skills.
**Length of the Season:** The season will run approximately from October through the end of April, unless special situations create a need to extend the season.

**Practices:** Practice will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 – 6:00 on days that school is in session. Practices are held at DeLong Elementary School.

**Attendance:**

1. Attendance is mandatory for all practices and performances with the exception of illness. Two unexcused absences from practices or performances will result in loss of group membership. Special permission may be granted for certain family obligations.
2. If a student is ill or misses the practice prior to a performance, that student will not participate in the next performance. After returning to practices, the students will pick up his/her normal responsibilities with the group.
3. If a student is ill or misses a practice, it is expected that one of the instructors be notified before practice or an additional unexcused absence will be recorded. This also helps staff to know that the student is safe.
4. If a child has been to practice but will miss a performance due to illness, it is expected that one of the instructors be notified as early as possible prior to the program.

**Transportation:**

1. All travel arrangements for practices and performances in the greater Tacoma area are the responsibility of the parents.
2. Transportation to performances out of the greater Tacoma area will be furnished by the Young Ambassadors through an official school bus or chartered bus,
3. Students should be picked up from practice within fifteen (15) minutes of the schedule ending time. If a student is picked up late twice, the students will be placed on probation. If a third late pick-up time is recorded while the student is on probation, the student will be dropped from the group.

**Expenses:**

1. The uniform cost is the responsibility of the parents. The uniform articles then become the property of the student but it is expected that they be worn only for Young Ambassador Performances. The uniform consists of:
   a. Girls- team leotard, undergarments, team t-shirt, and matching shorts
   b. Boys – team gymnastics uniform, team t-shirt, and matching shorts
   c. All students are expected to provide basic, clean white tennis shoes and white “footies” for performances
   d. The Young Ambassadors program will provide a warm-up suit for the season. This warm-up suit should be worn only to performances.
e. The Young Ambassadors program will provide a bag for the season to carry any necessary items for performances. This bag should be used only for performances.

f. If a student is dropped from the group or if the student quits there will be no refund for uniform expenses.

2. There is the possibility that we may travel on an extended tour. If this happens, a travel fee may be charged for each Young Ambassador.

Parents Responsibilities:

1. Assist with communications as described in the attendance section
2. Help their child care for and wash his/her uniform
3. Provide transportation to and from practices and performances in the greater Tacoma area
4. Support Young Ambassador fundraisers and other activities
5. Attend parent meetings when they are called
6. Meet the financial obligations