



## Sweetheart Director, Mrs. Katie Cade



Mrs. Cade grew up in Oak Ridge North where she attended school K-12th grade. From a young age she was involved in dance and first became a member of the competitive South Montgomery County Starlettes Dance Team. In junior high she was a line officer for the York Jr. High Liberty Babes and later in high school she was a member of the Oak Ridge H.S. Liberty Belles for 4 years and a two-year Dance Troupe member. During high school, she completed an internship teaching at Boni's Dance Studio.

After high school, Mrs. Cade attended Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX where she graduated in 2002 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Dance. At Texas Tech, Mrs. Cade was an officer of Chi Tau Epsilon, The National Dance Honorary Society. She was also involved in many of the dance department productions and danced in the ballets, "Giselle," and "Carmen," and several Senior recital pieces. She served as Dance Captain for two university productions.

Mrs. Cade began her teaching career at MacArthur High School in Houston where she taught dance and was the Director of the Brigade Belles Dance Team. She helped to organize the Aldine I.S.D. Dance Extravaganza and led the Brigade Belles to an award-winning season. In May of 2003, Mrs. Cade became the Director of the Willis H.S. Sweethearts. In addition to directing, Mrs. Cade does much choreography for other schools in the Houston area. She is also a staff member and adjudicator for ShowTime International and has worked as a teacher for Lone Star Jazz. In 2006, Mrs. Cade was nominated as one of the Top Ten Directors by the Dance/Drill Team Directors of America. She is also a member of Texas Dance Educators of America.

During her time as the Sweetheart Director, the team and officers have received many awards and have continued to be recognized as one of the top drill teams in the area. Their awards include officer and team Best in Class awards, Sweepstakes, Winner Circle, and numerous choreography and judges awards. The Sweethearts, officers, and Dance Company continually win their divisions and bring home numerous awards to Willis every year. The Sweethearts have been named ShowTime National Champions in 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2011 and the Officer line has been named National Champion Officers in 2007, 2009, and 2011. The team has also traveled and competed in 2007 and 2011 in New York City and the Champions Dance Nationals at the College of Staten Island. In 2011, the team won the Medium Division beating out teams from Utah, California, Louisiana, and New York.

Under her direction, the Sweethearts also host the Texas Pride dance contest every February. Another highlight in the community is the annual Sweetheart spring show, "Summit." "Summit," showcases not only the Sweethearts, but also the middle school dance teams and the dance program at Willis High School. Mrs. Cade is proud to be the Sweetheart Director and a teacher in Willis I.S.D and she wants to also acknowledge her amazing and supportive family to all of their love and support! Mrs. Cade is the proud wife of Tim Cade and super proud mother of McKinley and Jackson.

