

It seems that every year the dancing at school functions escalates to levels beyond teacher and advisor control.

Unfortunately, this problem is not uncommon, and dances across the country are being supervised strictly to prevent any unwanted “dirty dancing”.

With State Leadership Conferences right around the corner, the question of whether a dance should be an option as a social event is eminent because of the problem with dirty dancing.

This has been an issue for years, and as today’s music gets more risqué, dirty dancing is more likely to occur now than it ever was. As difficult as it may be, advisors must set the tone by making it clear that dirty dancing is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at any HOSA function. In order to make everyone feel comfortable in the dance environment, it is absolutely necessary to strictly chaperone and break up any provocative or inappropriate dancing.

It is most important to set a “no tolerance” rule for any possible dirty dancing that may occur. This rule should be set prior to the dance, and it should be made clear that as soon as unacceptable dancing occurs, the parties at fault will be escorted from the dance floor and will then be forced to leave the dance. It may be difficult to step in and break up this dancing, but as a chaperone it is necessary to ensure that everyone at the dance feels comfortable with his or her environment. Some schools are even handing out written guidelines stating what type of dancing will be allowed when the students purchase their tickets to the dance, which also gives the chaperones an idea of what they should watch out for.

In addition to enforcing the “no tolerance” policy, it is the responsibility of the state and local advisors to work with the DJ of the dance to ensure that only appropriate music will be played. Your DJ should be able to determine what will promote inappropriate dancing and refrain from playing those particular songs. If guidelines are set before the dance begins, there should be no questionable music during the dance.

It is most important that the HOSA members understand that if they remain appropriate during the dance that everything will run smoothly and there will be no reasons not to have a dance the next year.



Dirty Dancing Dilemma

