

Drum Majors

The Drum Majors are individuals in the band who act as functioning field directors. In other words, they are the ones conducting and leading the band in performance. However, the Drum Major position is much more than conducting performances. They are often the first ones to arrive and the last ones to leave the practice or performance. They bear a measure of the responsibility to make sure the marching band is on task and in step with the goals of the ensemble. The Drum Major is the first and foremost servant-leader. The Drum Major does what it takes to make sure everyone in the band has what he or she needs and is consistently devoted to the band. They also have the authority to inform and correct section leaders and individual members, but are subordinate to the band director and his assistants. Drum Majors will also be doing a significant portion of rehearsal both inside and on the field. **REMEMBER: BEING DRUM MAJOR IS A POSITION OF RESPONSIBILITY, NOT OF PRIVILEGE.**

Qualifications for drum majors:

- Must have a good rapport with the director and other students.
- Must have a proven record of leadership and service to the band.
- Students who have conflicting activities during marching season are discouraged from trying out for drum major.
- Students must make concert band a priority on their academic schedule. An independent study is not acceptable.
- Must have at least one year of experience in the marching band.
- Must be an upcoming junior or senior.
- Preference will be given to students who can attend any drum major camp.
- Drum majors may be required to play their instruments for part of football season.

2014 Drum Major Audition: Wednesday, April 23rd immediately after school

Category 1: Written Responses. You are to thoughtfully write responses to four questions.

Category 2: Verbal Commands. Band Ten-Hut, Marktime March, Forward March, and Halt

Category 3: Conduct to a Recording. You are to conduct Avicii's "Wake Me Up". You are to show a clear beat pattern, dynamic changes, and maintain good posture and leadership qualities. Your left hand will be evaluated for musicality.

Category 4: Salute. You are to prepare a short (12-16 beat) salute with or without music. This salute will be evaluated for musicality.

Category 5: Leadership. You will be asked a question at random about a leadership issue.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Years in Marching Band: _____ Years in Concert Band: _____

Category I: Written Responses (1-10)		Score:
Category II: Verbal Commands (1-10)		Score:
Category III: Conduct to a Recording (1-20)		Score:
Category IV: Salute (1-10)		Score:
Category V: Leadership Question (1-10)		Score:

Total _____

If selected as a drum major, will you commit to attending a drum major camp in the summer?
YES or NO

If selected as drum major, do you agree to attend every scheduled rehearsal and performance of the marching band and will you make marching band your top priority during the season?
YES or NO

If selected as drum major, do you agree to attend various workshops held during activity period until the end of the year to sharpen your musical skills?
YES or NO

If you are not selected as drum major, do you agree to respect the band director's decision, support the selected drum majors, and continue to be an outstanding and supportive member of our marching band?
YES or NO

If selected as drum major, do you agree to possibly play one or two songs during football season depending on drum major selections?
YES or NO