



# *Stevenson High School Instrumental Music Department*

Heather Wickman, Director of Bands and Orchestra

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## **ASSISTANT DRUM MAJOR AUDITIONS**

**Wednesday, May 1 (3-6p)**

### **Overview:**

The Stevenson High School Marching Spartans Drum Major is the highest student leadership position within the organization. A Drum Major is expected to be a highly responsible and dependable individual, who shows pride and dedication at all times. A Drum Major is also expected to put in extra time, including arriving to rehearsals and performances early, and leaving late. Most importantly, the Drum Major is the student representative of the Marching Band Directors, the school, and the community.

### **Qualifications:**

1. Current sophomore
2. Participation in marching band during your freshman and sophomore years.
3. Excellent attendance
4. Positive attitude

### **Events you MUST be able to attend:**

1. MSU Drum Major/Color Guard camp - July 5-7 at MSU
2. Marching Band Pre-camp August 14, 15, 16 and all section leader sessions
3. Marching Band Camp August 18-August 22 (Covenant Hills Camp & Retreat) and all accompanying functions including practices the week after camp.
4. All home football games
5. All Pep Band functions
6. All after school practices
7. HMS marching clinics and game
8. All competitions
9. Any possible playoff games (Extended Season)
10. Season finale performance
11. Collage Concert and Band-O-Rama
12. Instrumental Music Awards Night

# Audition Procedure

**PART 1:** Individuals who successfully complete part 1 of the audition process may be invited to continue through part 2. Complete part 1 and turn in to Mrs. Wickman by 7:30 a.m. Friday, April 26.

- 1) A 1-2 page typed essay addressing the following topics:
  - Why you want to become Drum Major?
  - What makes you the best candidate for Drum Major?
  - What makes an effective leader and/or Drum Major?
  - What weaknesses will need to be addressed before you become drum major?
  - If you become assistant drum major, how will you create an effective relationship with the senior drum major, section leaders, and band members?
- 2) A resume of your credentials. List all awards, ensembles, private lesson study, leadership roles in various organizations, etc. This should be in resume form and separate from the written essay.

**PART 2:** Individuals who successfully complete part 1 of the audition process *may* be invited to continue through part 2. *(3-5 individuals will continue to part 2)*

- 3) Applicants will be assessed on:
  - Conducting: All individuals auditioning will conduct a volunteer group on the *SHS Fight Song* and the *Star Spangled Banner*.
  - Marching Technique: All individuals auditioning will march a box drill to demonstrate their marching technique.
  - Calling Commands: All individuals auditioning will demonstrate their ability to call commands - Attention, Parade Rest, Forward March, Mark Time, and Halt.
  - Teaching: All individuals auditioning will teach a non-marching band member one of the following techniques. Parade Rest, Attention, or Roll Step. The student will be provided for you.
  - Interview: All individuals auditioning will have a brief verbal interview with the Marching Band Director and leadership.
- 4) The audition on the above requirements along with the interview will be after school on **Wednesday, May 1**.

## Final Decision:

The final decision will be made based on the analysis of the written statement, resume credentials (turn these in well before the interview date,) conducting technique, marching technique, teaching skill, and verbal interview. Failure to complete one of the above requirements may nullify you from the audition process.