

# Marching Band Leadership

Leadership Auditions will be held on **Wednesday, May 29** at 3 p.m.

Prerequisite: At *least* two years of experience in the Stevenson Marching Band and 2 years of participation in a performance class or one year experience in the Stevenson Marching Band and 3 years of participation in a performance class.

Individuals must complete the section leader questions on the back prior to the audition. Return completed questions to Mrs. Wickman by 7:30 a.m. Monday, May 27.

Individuals will be expected to demonstrate:

1. Attention
2. Parade Rest
3. Mark Time
4. Box drill (which includes forward and backward marching and slides)
5. Forward march and perform the fight song memorized (individually or as a group)
6. Perform the *Star-Spangled Banner* memorized

Expectations

- Lead by positive example
- A section leader commands respect while giving respect.
- The section leader sets the tone for the entire section and determines the success (or failure of the ensemble).
- A section leader must be able to complete a task with proper form and musicianship.
- Does not question authority in public.
- Guide section in music learning and memorization
- Direct and develop quality marching and maneuvering
- Provide support to members of section
- Schedule, plan, and direct regular marching and music sectionals
- Build camaraderie

Responsibilities

- Plan sectionals
- Teach marching basics
- Assist with individual coordinates
- Attend all meetings
- Attend all activities
- Plan game night dinner
- Plan activities to build sense of unity within section
- Communicate with HMS 8<sup>th</sup> graders throughout the year

Commitments:

- Marching Band Leadership Session: Monday, June 3 (3:30-4:30p)
- Pre-Season Marching Band Session: Wednesday, June 5 (6-7:30p)
- Leadership Sessions: August 12-13 (8a-3p)
- Uniform Fittings: August 17
- Band Camp and all camp activities: August 14-16 and 18-22
- Practices and games prior to the start of school: Aug. 26 (9a-12p), 27, 28 (4-6p)
- Football games
- Competitions
- HMS marching session
- Weekly Section Leader meetings
- Season Finale
- Collage Concert (February) *and sectionals to prepare for event*
- Band-O-Rama (April/May) *and sectionals to prepare for event*
- Memorial Day Ceremony (*next required year for performance 2023*)

# LEADERSHIP QUESTIONS

Complete and return to Mrs. Wickman by 7:30 a.m. Monday, May 27.

1. Why do you want to be part of the marching band leadership team?
2. How will you motivate individuals in your section to memorize their music?
3. As leader, how will you work to make all members of your section feel a part of the band?
4. As leader, how will you ensure that your section has fun while maintaining a good work ethic?
5. What would you do to get your section under control if they were not listening to you?
6. If you are not selected to be on the leadership team, how can you use your skills to benefit the band in other ways?

## Qualities of a Leader

- Leaders do NOT talk at the conclusion of a task; they fall into attention and wait for next direction.
- When told to relax, a leader will relax body muscles, but keep the brain focused to listen for further direction.
- If the leader cannot complete a task with proper form/musicianship, he/she cannot expect members of their section to do so.
- Marching and Maneuvering
  - Attention
    - ◆ Shoulders relaxed and back
    - ◆ Chin up
    - ◆ Determination and pride in the face
    - ◆ Eyes straight ahead (always)
  - Mark Time
    - ◆ The entire foot is *slightly* lifted with each step.
  - Forward March
    - ◆ Straight leg
    - ◆ Heel grazes top of grass
    - ◆ Toes to the sky
    - ◆ Little to no upper body movement
  - Backward March
    - ◆ Straight leg
    - ◆ toe skim top of grass
    - ◆ Little to no upper body movement
  - Slides
    - ◆ 30-60-90 (hips-center-shoulders)
    - ◆ Maintain proper forward/backward marching style