



Drum Major/Section Leader Training Packet Titan Regiment 2019

Welcome Band Scholars,

All scholar leaders are important and vital to the organization and success of our band. As an upperclassman, you must set the best example for everyone. You will have a positive effect on the entire band by simply presenting your best. Scholar leaders will be called upon to teach drill, teach music, run warm-ups, demonstrate music and marching technique, organize rehearsals and sectionals, give individual instruction, and assist the directors and staff on a daily basis. Scholar leaders will serve as a liaison between the directors and the rest of the band. Words like musicianship, leadership, cooperation, communication, professionalism, responsibility, discipline, patience, and respect will be keys in your success as a leader in this band. This is a full-year commitment and does not conclude at the end of marching season.

During the actual audition, you will be asked to conduct a piece selected by the Director and demonstrate proficient knowledge of tempos and meters. You will also be asked to call commands to a block formation and work your way through a given teaching situation. Drum major candidates (only) will be asked to conduct an additional selection (2-3 minutes in length). A knowledge and application of the Band Handbook is mandatory. You must also attend at least two leadership meetings: 2/26, 3/5, and 3/12 from 7-9am in the MNTHS Band Hall.

Please check the website for additional conducting material:

www.titanregiment.org

You must provide **2 references** from valued adults other than family members, i.e. teacher, employer, coach, church leader, etc. Reference letters must be completed and turned in to your directors by March 13, 2019. The final aspect of the audition is a formal interview. Questions will address leadership style, philosophy, the Band Handbook, and overall vision for our band program.

Audition Day: Order of events

Call commands to Block formation

Conduct Star Spangled Banner or equivalent as a group

Scales and Percussion Rudiments (selected by one of the judges)

Drum major candidates will conduct prepared piece (recording provided)

Interview with panel of judges



Qualities and Responsibilities of Student Leaders

If you are selected to be a scholar leader, proper arrangements must be made for you to attend a mandatory leadership camp and retreat

Section Leader

Responsible for the organization and musical performance of the section. Strong skills in leadership, organization, musical ability, and teaching ability required. Knowledge and understanding of the Band Handbook. You are the liaison between your section and the directors. Take daily attendance of section and report to the directors any positive and negative behavior of members in your section.

Drum Captain

Responsible for the organization and musical performance of all percussionists, both marching battery and front ensemble. Strong skills in leadership, organization, musical ability, and teaching ability required. Knowledge and understanding of the Band Handbook. You are the liaison between your section and the directors. Take daily attendance of section and report to the directors any positive and negative behavior of members in your section.

Guard Captain

Responsible for the organization and visual performance of the guard. Strong skills in leadership, organization, dance and equipment ability, and teaching ability required. Knowledge and understanding of the Band Handbook. You are the liaison between your section and the directors. Take daily attendance of section and report to the directors any positive and negative behavior of members in your section.

Drum Major

Although excellent conducting skills (timing, precision, accuracy, and musicality) are a definite prerequisite for the position, the role of Drum Major at the *Titan Regiment* requires additional skills which are of equal importance. The scholar in this role will find themselves fulfilling the duties and responsibilities comparable to an assistant band director and a staff member. These various roles will very likely encompass as much time as actual time spent conducting on the podium. Knowledge and understanding of the Band Handbook. Take daily attendance report to the directors any positive and negative behavior of any members and/or section leaders.

In addition to conducting, the following is a list of skills needed to be successful in this position:

Music Rehearsal: More than just “running” a musical segment, the drum major needs to be able to correct problems, address issues such as timing, articulation, phrasing, balance, blend, intonation, and accuracy, and be able to **model** these concepts to individual sections as well as the full ensemble.

Marching Fundamentals: The drum major needs to be able to explain, teach, and correct the fundamentals associated with marching including posture, technique, and general movement.

Drill: The drum major needs to be able to teach drill, rehearse drill segments, and clean both individual and ensemble technique.

Game Flow: An understanding of the game of football is essential. Knowing when to play, the appropriate selection to play, being aware of when to stop a song, etc.... is vital to the efficiency of game-day flow.

Administrative Tasks: Various tasks may be required including organizing sheet music and drill sheets, planning logistics, moving equipment, etc. Host weekly meetings with all section leaders to align the goals and progression of the program tasked by the directors.

Recruitment and Public Relations: As one of the most visible units of the *Titan Regiment*, the drum major must constantly present a positive image and realize that they are representing the Band Program as well as Manor New Tech High School. This person will also be expected to help with recruiting new students and engaging with prospective freshmen and/or their parents.

Character: Not everyone will have positive remarks to share. The drum major needs to be able to handle critique, even when people in or outside the band seem mean-spirited. Responding with the appropriate professionalism is required at all times.



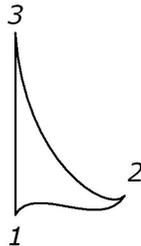
Study Packet

Basic Conducting Patterns

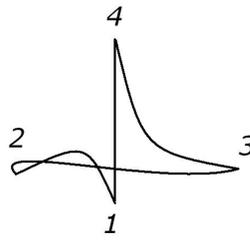
2/4



3/4



4/4



Prepared Piece (Drum majors only)

We will take into consideration how you perform basic patterns, communicate musical ideas through conducting, and adjust to dynamic contrasts. You will find the required musical selection on the band website:

www.titanregiment.org

Vocal Commands

“band ‘ten hut” (call-out) “**Titans**”
1 2 3 4 -

“band horns up”
1 2 3 (4 - hit)

“mark time mark”
1 2 3 **and** (4 -mark)1-2-3-4

“band parade rest”
1 2 3 (4- hit/move)

“forward march”
1 2 3 & move

“Set”

Interview:

Prepare to explain your desire to be a student leader, what you think you can contribute, and your ideology behind all of this.

Again, remember whether you are chosen or not you will still be a leader of our band. Always act like it. Set the positive example of attitude, energy, commitment, and conformity. You will make a difference in our program. Make sure it is a positive one.

And to those that do receive a title, remember that having that title doesn't make you who you are. **YOU** do. You must show respect towards everyone, even when it's hard. You must display a positive attitude at all times. You must commit your **POSITIVE** energy, during band, to the band. And conformity is not just for your “underlings”. You, too, are a part of this band. You are not expected to know everything; it is a learning process. You will make mistakes. Learn from them and ask questions.

Thanks for auditioning!



2019-2020 Manor New Tech *Titan Regiment*
Student Leader Application

Name: _____ Instrument: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Grade level: _____

Circle the position(s) you would like to fill:

Drum Major

Drum Captain

Section Leader

Guard Captain

1. What characteristics make you a positive, capable leader?
2. Are you signed up for both semesters of band next year? If not, what is the conflict?
3. Have you ever given or taken lessons? Elaborate. If you have not taken lessons, do you plan to?
4. On average, how much time did you spend per week practicing your instrument (outside of class and full band rehearsal) in the past year?
5. What awards, clinics, or other auditions have you participated in since beginning band? What do you plan in auditioning for next year?
6. How would you handle a scholar who is being difficult and non-compliant?

Please submit this form to:

Mr. Thomsen

Director of Bands - Titan Regiment

Manor New Tech High School

christopher.thomsen@manorisd.net

Deadline is Wednesday March 20, 2019