

**2017-2018 Band Council
Application**

Drum Major

"A good leader takes a little more than his share of the blame and a little less than his share of the credit." - Arnold H. Glasglow

As I look back on the history of this band program, it is easy to remember the great student leaders. They sacrificed of their own wants, and put others before themselves. There are few harder tasks you could take on than to want a peer leadership position in a group with such high standards. You will be asked to maintain near perfection in your music, your character, your speech, your attitude, and your decisions. Please think through what you are about to commit to. Being a leader is not always fun, it is not always easy, and it does not come without a lot of hard work and mental preparedness.

It has been said what it easy is usually not what is right.

I depend on you - whether or not you are chosen for a specific title. Please know that I consider you a part of the core of this band just simply because of your application.

-Mr. Thye

Prepare a 3-ring Binder containing:

1. **DESCRIPTIVE ESSAY**- including the following: (Be Creative!)
 - a. Describe yourself. Help me get to know you.
 - b. Explain what position you are applying for.
 - c. Define a leader - in your words.
 - d. What are your strengths and weaknesses?
 - e. What policies, procedures, or traditions would you like to see kept intact.
 - f. Give some thoughts on how you would make your applied position better.
 - g. How does a leader attain the attention and respect of their section without abusing their power?
 - h. React to the following scenarios:
 1. As a Drum Major, you will have additional freedom, and "free time". How would a responsible leader use the extra time? What daily responsibilities would be appropriate?
 2. The band director has made a decision or statement that you disagree with strongly. What is your role, and when/how should your concerns be expressed?
 3. In every season, there are times when emotions get high and negativism can frequently occur. The staff may be visibly discontent or over demanding. Students are threatening to quit. Every year there are certain student leaders that rise through their own frustrations (without others knowing it) and begin to mend the group. They appear "to never have a bad day", and remain a true "core" of the band. Think through this. What is the role of the Drum Major?
2. **ICE BREAKER**: Please create a game/activity that could be played at a New Member Camp or Band Camp that would allow everyone to get to know each other. These activities should be carefully thought out to include everyone, and to not embarrass anyone.
3. **CREATIVE PROJECT**: The last portion of the application I am leaving up to you! I want you to show me your creative and imaginative side. I want students in the leadership council that are

not afraid to be themselves, and are continually creating new ways of solving problems or making the band better. There are no boundaries with this - you can create, write, organize, perform, develop, or help with anything and whatever that portrays you as a unique and creative person. Most importantly, have fun!

LASTLY, prepare the score to 'Dawn of a New Day' by James Swearingen. You will conduct (memorized) to the audio track provided.

- **The score and audio track can be found on the band website:**
- **<http://thunderband.org/marching-band/2016-band-council/>**

AUDITION DAY/ Applications Due:

WEDNESDAY, April 26th (3:30pm – 5:30 pm)

Note: The selected Drum Major must be a part of the new member camps, auditions, and summer workshops. Please tell me if you have conflicts.

New Member Practice: Monday, April 24th (4:30pm-6:30pm)

New Member Practice: Monday, May 1st (4:30pm-6:30pm)

2017 Thunder MB Try-outs! Saturday, May 6th (9:00am-12:00n)

Thanks for your application!!