

Leadership Application 2017-2018

Here is our mission statement

Read it and reflect...

The Spartanburg High School Band is an inclusive and welcoming program that centers around musical performance, learning organizational skills and personal growth. We give performances of all types in several different musical areas: Concert Band, various chamber ensembles, Jazz Band, Marching Band, Percussion Ensemble and Winterguard. Through musical performance, band members create close ties, friendships, memories and mentorships as we strive to create musical excellence.

Our goal as leaders is to help facilitate this mission statement. We need to selflessly give of our time and energy to make sure that this band program thrives! Please understand that being a leader is a selfless endeavor and there should be no ego involved. You're not a leader to tell people what to do, you're there to jump out in front and lead the pack.

Leadership Expectation Components

- I. Past/Current Leadership Initiative
 - a. The band directors will examine (as stated *numerous* times throughout band season) how you have served in the past
 - i. please note this is NOT referring to past positions you have had, it simply refers to how you conduct yourself each day
 - b. We are always watching for students who go above and beyond
- II. Character
 - a. Leaders always do the RIGHT THING. Even when nobody is looking. Character is *what* you do when nobody is watching.
 - b. Leaders selflessly help the band in whatever capacity needed.
 - i. "We're unloading fruit at 6:30am? Got it, see you then."
 - ii. "You want us to practice in the mornings? Sounds good, let me go play some long tones."
 - c. Leaders in the band program are expected to do what is right, on AND off the field. Being a leader is a full-time job with full-time demands. When their peers need them, leaders are there to help out in whatever way is necessary.
- III. Service
 - a. Being a leader is serving.
 - b. Leaders do what is necessary, even when they don't want to. If it has to be done, they do it with a smile on their face and make it fun. They bring others along and make sure they have a good time too.
 - c. Leaders help out with NO expectation afterwards. Leaders don't expect anything in return. They just lead the way on getting things done.
- IV. Attendance
 - a. Attendance is paramount in marching band. Leadership members are expected to be at everything and make other organizations work around the band schedule. This excludes major things of which McAllister is already aware (i.e. College Night, Choir Concert, etc)
- V. Maturity
 - a. Leaders are expected to trust the judgement of the band directors in the selection process
 - b. Regardless of what position one holds, leaders realize that they are important in the position they are in

Application and Interview

The leadership **application** can be found at www.spartanburgband.org/leadership

Some considerations:

1. Leave plenty of time to fill out the application.
2. There is a timestamp, so if you do it last minute, we will know.
3. Grammar matters.

Interviews will take place between now and the week of the banquet with McAllister and/or Welchel. Interview questions will be in a wide range determining your best placement for a leadership position.

Leadership Descriptions

****Read First****

Students who apply for leadership positions should be ideal band students in all respects. They should exemplify all the qualities essential to leadership. Students will be selected for various leadership positions on certain criteria:

- Initiative
- Behavior in rehearsal
- Behavior outside of rehearsal
- Application Packet
- Interview Essay
- Interpersonal Relationships
- Charisma
- Arrives early
- Leaves last

****Please note that all positions should go above and beyond the descriptions. The duties listed below are the essentials.****

Drum Majors

Drum Majors are at the top of the leadership hierarchy. They are expected to arrive early and depart last. Drum majors coordinate with the leadership, creating initiatives and activities to better the band. The drum majors are charismatic, energetic, and are team-players. Drum majors are also expected to be good musicians/players and solid conductors.

**** The drum majors should anticipate the needs of the band (and band directors) and take care of as much as possible before it becomes urgent ****

Band Captain

The Band Captain is the “on-field” equivalent to the drum major. The only difference in expectation is that the Band Captain doesn’t conduct. The Band Captain leads the other captains in initiatives and activities to better the band. He/She also inspects and maintains any systems within the band to make sure that everything is professional and pristine (a well oiled machine)

Brass Captain

The Brass Captain primarily coordinates and leads the brass section leaders. This team works on everything brass: marching, music, instrument maintenance, flip folders, etc. The Brass Captain inspects the sections regularly at practice and performance, making sure all brass players are appropriately prepared and presentable. Another duty is to help coordinate with section leaders and members to create camaraderie within the section, developing a group identity as brass players.

Drum Captain

The Drum Captain primarily coordinates and leads the drum and pit section leaders. This team works on everything percussion related: marching, music, instrument maintenance, flip folders, etc. The Drum Captain inspects the sections regularly at practice and performance, making sure all percussionists are appropriately prepared and presentable. Another duty is to help coordinate with section leaders and members to create camaraderie within the section, developing a group identity as percussionists.

Woodwind Captain

The Woodwind Captain primarily coordinates and leads the woodwind section leaders. This team works on everything woodwind related: marching, music, instrument maintenance, flip folders, etc. The Woodwind Captain inspects the sections regularly at practice and performance, making sure all brass players are appropriately prepared and presentable. Another duty is to help coordinate with section leaders and members to create camaraderie within the section, developing a group identity as woodwinds.

Equipment Captain

The Equipment Captain takes the lead with movement and storage of equipment. Whenever the band moves, the Equipment Captain takes the Equipment Crew (Loading Crew) and gets everything loaded/unloaded quickly and efficiently. The Equipment Captain should create a group positive mentality within the crew and cultivate an intense work ethic, as moving the band efficiently is one of the most important parts of what we do.

Section Leaders

The section leaders are responsible for their sections. Anything positive or negative that happens with a section falls on the section leader's shoulders. Section leaders should take ownership of their sections, creating a group mentality and section pride. Section leaders make sure to communicate with all members about rehearsals, expectations, rules, traditions, etc. They also maintain every system within their section, from proper attire to having all materials (i.e. flip folders/coordinate sheets)

Uniform Crew

The Uniform Crew is responsible for everything to do with uniforms. This crew helps with maintenance, distribution, inspection, and proper use of the uniforms. The Uniform Crew operates the uniform room whenever the band arrives and needs to suit up. They also keep an eye out for people who need help with their uniforms (as well as gentle reminders about how to wear it properly). The uniform crew communicates with other leadership members about uniform needs and information that needs to be passed along. The Uniform Crew is all about efficiency.

Librarian(s)

The librarian helps keep all of the music throughout the season in order. The librarian keeps extra copies of music on hand (should have a bag with extra music at *all* events) and makes sure that musicians always have music. The "library" at the side of the band room is kept in order by the librarian. The librarian removes items obstructing the library. The librarian also helps throughout the concert season with music distribution and collection, keeping all parts accounted for and in score order.

Field Crew

The Field Crew maintains the rehearsal environment. They arrive first and get everything ready for rehearsal (i.e. field markers, paint, sound equipment, drum major podiums, etc). The field crew makes sure that ticks are always painted (which takes deceptively long!), reminds director when lines are getting worn out, and keeps up with measuring/painting equipment. The Field Crew *always* makes sure we close down the field correctly: we don't leave out *ANY* of our things (especially paint!!), there is no trash on the field, all gates and are closed and locked properly.

Team Members

Leadership Team Members are essential to helping with every aspect of the band. Team Members are the go-to people for captains and section leaders. Team Members also coordinate initiatives of their own (of all sorts) to better the band. Team members are responsible for the general camaraderie of the band, keeping everybody's spirits high and pumped about rehearsal, performance, and just band.