



Sickles High School

7950 Gunn Hwy.
Tampa, FL 33626
813.631.4742 ext. 282
www.sicklesbands.com

Keith Griffis, Director of Bands Mary Freitas, Principal
Keith.griffis@sdhc.k12.fl.us

Leadership Application

Description of Band Leadership Positions

Drum Major

Eligibility: To be eligible for the position of Drum Major, the applicant must be an upcoming Junior or Senior and must have been a member of the Marching Band *each year* that they have been at SHS. If you cannot accept the possibility that you may not be chosen, then you should not try out for this position.

Band, Percussion, & Guard Leadership

Eligibility: To be eligible for the position of Band, Percussion, or Guard Leadership, the applicant must be an upcoming Junior or Senior and must have been a member of the Marching Band *each year* that they have been at SHS. If you cannot accept the reality that you may not be chosen, then you should not try out for this position.

The Role of the Drum Major: This student is both the leader and conductor of the band on the field. The Drum Major must know the music and drill every bit as well as the director and the staff. The Drum Major must ensure that all rehearsals and performances are successful, and that the band is well represented at all times. The Drum Major exemplifies the spirit, dignity of the entire band and should therefore possess these qualities to the highest degree.

The Role of the Band Captain: The Band Captain has many important roles. Most important is working closely with the Drum Major and the Director in making sure all band leaders are carrying out their jobs and making sure the band is prepared for every rehearsal and that the students are on task. The band captain must also keep track of all absences, whether excused or not. The Band Captain carries out supervision of all discipline actions such as tardiness, disruption on the field, focus, and anything else that the director or staff needs. Knowledge of the music and the drill is essential to these roles, as the Band Captain will be on the field and able to quickly address and help out any confusion or problems that need to be adjusted. The Band Captain will exemplify the spirit and dignity of the entire band and therefore should possess these qualities to the highest degree.

The Role of the Percussion Captain: The Percussion Captain is in charge of the entire percussion section. It is up to the Percussion Captain to ensure that each percussionist knows their music and attends all rehearsals and sectionals. The Percussion Captain serves as a role model for the entire band and serves as a liaison for the percussion section to each of the sections of the band. This student must maintain discipline and lead the section to success with performances and behavior. The Percussion Captain will work closely with the Drum Majors and Band Captain to make sure all rehearsals and sectionals run smoothly. The Percussion Captain will exemplify the spirit and dignity of the entire band, and therefore should possess these qualities to the highest degree.

The Role of the Guard Captain: The Guard Captain is in charge of the Sensations. The Guard Captain's duties include making sure everyone knows their routines, and organize sectionals when necessary. The

Guard Captain is in charge of the Sensations' attendance and being sure it is reported to the band director and guard coach. The Guard Captain is the liaison between Sensations and each of the other sections of the band. Additionally, the guard captain must be a superior performer, holding their section to the highest standards of performance. The Guard Captain will exemplify the spirit and dignity of the entire band and therefore should possess these qualities to the highest degree.

The Role of the Section Leader: The Section Leader is in charge of and fully responsible for their particular section. The Section Leader must not only have his/her music and drill down, but must also assist in helping others in their sections achieve at the highest level. The Section Leader must be made aware of all absences before they happen so that the Section Leader can report this to the Band Captain. The Section Leader is to be a role model to others in their section, and be able to assist their section members in all facets of band. The responsibility of making sure each and every participant in their section is learning their music and drill is imperative and should push their section to be the best in the band. A Section Leader will exemplify the spirit and dignity of the entire band and therefore should possess these qualities to the highest degree.

The Role of the Librarian: Between music for stands tunes, pregame, halftime, parades, homecoming, middle school band night, and various other occasions for which the Wall of Sound performs, the task of ensuring all students are equipped with the correct music and part is absolutely crucial. The Librarian's job includes working with each section leader to ensure that each member has all music and drill for each rehearsal. The librarian is responsible for keeping and maintaining an organized library and binder of all show music, stands tunes, and drill sheets for each season. This is a huge responsibility, and individuals considered for this position must possess outstanding leadership and musical qualities, as well as superior organizational skills.

The Role of the Equipment Manager: No aspect of marching band is more essential than that of logistics. The Equipment Manager's job includes maintenance, inventory, and logistics of all marching band instruments and equipment. This leader must ensure that podiums, field markers, and speakers make it out to the field for each rehearsal, and that all instruments are properly placed, cared for, and in many cases repaired. This leader must also help coordinate the loading of the band trailer prior to each performance, working directly with the Director, Percussion Captain, and Guard Captain to ensure everything that needs to be loaded makes it on the trailer. This student must possess superior musical and leadership qualities, and display an outstanding ability to work well with others.

The Role of the Spirit Sgt.: The job of the Spirit Sgt. is to work directly with the director, staff, and leadership in elevating the pride, spirit, and positive energy of the entire band for the entire season. The Spirit Sgt. is responsible for selecting the section of the week, leading bonding activities, and ensuring that every member of the Marching Wall of Sound feels welcome and successful. This student must possess superior musical and leadership qualities, and display an outstanding ability to inspire his/her peers and work well with others.

Duties of the Drum Major include but are not limited to:

A. Marching Rehearsals

1. Consults with directors/technicians prior to rehearsal for instructions concerning the rehearsal plan.
2. Assists and often leads the band through the warm up/stretching routine.
3. Assists directors/technicians in the teaching of marching drills.
4. Help individual band members with difficult sections of the drill.
5. Maintains discipline at all times. (On and off the field, in and out of class)

B. Music Rehearsals

1. Consult with director prior to each rehearsal and make every attempt to be thoroughly acquainted with all aspects of the music to be rehearsed, including conducting techniques and possible problems that may be encountered in rehearsal or performance.
2. Lead the band through preliminary warm-up routine.
3. Be prepared to take charge of specific groups for sectional rehearsals.

4. Keeps a metronome at all times to maintain consistent pulse.

C. Performance

1. Take responsibility for making sure the band is assembled in the proper formation at the pre-designated time and place.
2. Leads the band through the stretching routine.
3. Be responsible for moving the band from one area to another in an orderly fashion.
4. At football games, make sure that the band is seated in a pre-determined formation, and that order is maintained.
5. Conduct the band when they play pep tunes in the stands or at pep rallies.
6. Understand the fundamentals of proper band etiquette, discipline, and professionalism.
7. Know when to bring the band and auxiliary units to attention.
8. Give all the commands during performances.
9. Conduct and control all aspects of the field show.
10. Set the perfect example at all times in dress, leadership, punctuality, alertness, precise marching, & esprit de corps.

Desirable Qualities of a Drum Major

- First and foremost, this individual must possess superior musicianship and leadership qualities.
- A strong dedication to the Sickles Band Program.
- The position is leadership-oriented; outstanding leadership qualities should be evident long before becoming Drum Major.
- The candidate should possess a cooperative personality and should get along well with others.
- Candidate should be exceptionally dependable.
- The Drum Major is one of the faces of the Marching Wall of Sounds, and should represent themselves and the band positively at ALL times.
- Exhibits a very positive attitude and encourages morale within the band.
- The Drum Major must be enthusiastic in his/her approach to band.
- The Drum Major must be prepared to take responsibility for any conduct on the field, in the stands, or at contest/festival sites.

Duties of the Band, Percussion, & Guard Captain include but are not limited to:

A. Marching Rehearsals

1. Consults with directors/technicians prior to each rehearsal for instructions concerning the rehearsal plan.
2. Assist with inspection prior to performances.
3. Assists directors/technicians in the teaching of marching drills.
4. Help individual band members with difficult sections of the drill.
5. Maintains discipline at all times. (On and off the field, In and out of class)
6. Keeping attendance.

B. Music Rehearsals

1. Consult with director prior to each rehearsal and make every attempt to be thoroughly acquainted with all aspects of the music to be rehearsed.
2. Help other sections if needed during rehearsals.
3. Be prepared to take charge of specific groups for sectional rehearsals.

C. Performance

1. Help the Drum Major in taking responsibility for making sure the band is assembled in the proper formation at the pre-designated time and place.
2. Assist with general inspection.
3. At football games, make sure that the band is seated in a pre-determined formation, and that order is maintained.

4. Conduct the band in an emergency where the Drum Major cannot be present (Band Captain).
5. Understand the fundamentals of proper band etiquette, discipline and professionalism.
6. Keeping discipline to a minimum.
7. Keeping track of attendance.
8. Set the perfect example at all times in dress, leadership, punctuality, alertness, precise marching, & esprit de corps.

Desirable Qualities of a Band, Percussion, & Guard Captain

- Exceptionally dedicated to the Sickles Band Program
- The individual's musical/performance ability should be of the highest level.
- The position is leadership-oriented; outstanding leadership qualities should be evident long before becoming Band, Percussion, or Guard Captain.
- The candidate should possess a friendly, approachable personality and should get along well with others.
- Consistent, responsible, and dependable.
- Exhibits a very positive attitude and encourages morale within the band.
- The Band, Percussion, & Guard Captain must be enthusiastic in his/her approach to band.
- The Band, Percussion, & Guard Captain must be prepared to take responsibility for any conduct on the field, in the stands, or at contest/festival sites.

Duties of the Section Leaders include but are not limited to:

A. Marching Rehearsals

1. Consults with Drum Major and Band Captain prior to each rehearsal for instructions concerning the rehearsal plan.
2. Makes sure their section is warmed-up and ready for rehearsal.
3. Assists directors/technicians in the teaching of marching drills within their section.
4. Help individual band members with difficult sections of the music and drill within their section.
5. Maintains discipline at all times. (On and off the field, In and out of class)

B. Music Rehearsals

1. Making sure not only their music, but also those in the section have their music down and memorized.
2. Run and hold weekly sectionals as needed.

C. Performance

1. Help the Drum Major and Band Captain in taking responsibility for making sure their section is assembled in the proper formation at the pre-designated time and place.
2. Make sure that their section is seated in a pre-determined formation at football games and that professionalism is maintained in the stands.
3. Understand the fundamentals of proper band etiquette, discipline and professionalism.
4. Maintaining disciplines at all rehearsals/performances.
5. Keeping track of attendance within your section.
6. Set the perfect example at all times in dress, leadership, punctuality, alertness, precise marching, & esprit de corps.

Desirable Qualities of a Section Leader

- The individual should be intelligent, and should have the capability to think quickly under pressure.
- A strong dedication to the band program by the individual is vital.
- The individual's musical ability should be of the highest level.
- The position is leadership-oriented; outstanding leadership qualities should be evident long before becoming Section Leader.
- The candidate should possess a good personality and should get along well with others.
- Candidate should be very dependable.

- Exhibiting a good attitude and encouraging good morale within the band is a major responsibility of the Section Leader.
- The Section Leader must be enthusiastic in his/her dealings with the band.
- The Section Leader must be prepared to take responsibility for any conduct on the field, in the stands, or at contest/festival sites.

Application for Band Leadership Positions

(Please print the following 2 pages and submit with your essay)

Name:

Grade (next year) _____ Years in Band (including middle school) _____

PLEASE CIRCLE THE POSITION(S) YOU ARE APPLYING FOR:

BAND LEADERSHIP

(Band Captain, Percussion Captain,
Section Leader, Spirit Sgt., Librarian,
Equipment Manager)

DRUM MAJOR

SENSATIONS CAPTAIN

Write a short essay stating your case for why you should be chosen for SHS Band Leadership. You may use the following questions as a guideline for your essay.

THIS MUST BE TYPED.

1. Why should YOU be selected for leadership in the Sickles High School Band Program?
2. What leadership skills have you *already* brought to the Band? (i.e., describe what you have done to earn this position)
3. Have you held a leadership position in any organization or activity before?
4. What is your vision for this band program? How do you hope to positively affect the Marching Wall of Sound?

Students selected for the Drum Major Positions will be expected to attend the FSU Marching Band Leadership Camp held July 8th-13th on the Campus of FSU. Exceptions will only be granted in extreme circumstances. Captains and section leaders are also encouraged to attend! More information about the camp can be found at www.music.fsu.edu/quicklinks/summermusiccamps

ALL students selected for a leadership position in the Marching Wall of Sound will be expected to attend the Gerhardt Band Leadership Clinics held at the University of Tampa over the summer (free of charge) June 18th – 21st, approx. 9am-12pm @UT. More details to come.

By returning this application you are showing that you understand what is being expected of you should you qualify for the position. A leader is not expected to be at all rehearsals, he/she is **REQUIRED** to be at them all. There are no “free days” for a leader, he or she is always working hard and completely committed and dedicated to the band program at all times. Do not return this application unless you have absolutely no hesitations about what these positions entail.

It is understood that if I am selected for leadership, I will be expected to:

1. Support the Band Director and Staff with the utmost dedication, devotion and loyalty.
2. Maintain a strong dedication to the **entire** band program.
3. **Not miss any rehearsals, performances or functions of the band** except for *severe* circumstances.
4. Up-hold the highest possible standards as set for all band members.
5. **Participate in all special band events** (audition for All-County, Solo & Ensemble Festival, any other performances, etc.)
6. Demonstrate the **highest level of musicianship** throughout the *entire* year.
7. **If not chosen**, I will assume my regular role in the band and give full cooperation to the other members selected and Director.

Date: _____

Student Name _____

Signature _____

Student Email Address: (please print legibly)

Parent Name _____

Signature _____

Please also print out **SIX** of the reference forms. **THREE** are to be filled out by fellow marching band/sensation members and **THREE** are to be filled out by Sickles High School Teachers/Administrators.

The last two pages of this application (including the essay and **ALL SIX** of the reference forms) are due back to the Mr. Griffis on or before **Friday, April 13th, 2018.**

Applications will not be accepted after the due date.