



# SICKLES HIGH SCHOOL

7950 GUNN HIGHWAY, TAMPA, FL 33626

813-631-4742 EXT. 282

[www.sicklesbands.com](http://www.sicklesbands.com)

KEITH GRIFFIS, DIRECTOR OF BANDS

HEATHER LUNDAHL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

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## LEADERSHIP APPLICATION 2021 - 2022

Thank you for your interest in applying for a leadership position in the Sickles High School Band Program! Our program's proud tradition of excellence is due largely in part to outstanding student-leadership. We look forward to receiving and reviewing your application as the Marching Wall of Sound prepares for another great season!

### BAND, PERCUSSION & GUARD LEADERSHIP

**Eligibility:** To be eligible for a position in Band, Percussion, or Colorguard Leadership, the applicant must be a rising Junior or Senior.

**The Role of the Drum Major:** The Drum Majors serve as the leaders and field conductors of the Marching Wall of Sound. The highest qualities of both musicianship and leadership must be demonstrated by candidates for this position. The Drum Major must be as familiar with the music and drill as the director and the staff and ensure that all rehearsals and performances are successful. The Drum Majors exemplify the spirit and dignity of the entire program and should therefore possess these qualities to the highest degree.

**The Role of the Band Captain:** The Band Captain has many tremendously important responsibilities. Most important is working closely with the Drum Majors and the Director in ensuring that all band leaders are carrying out their jobs successfully, and that the band is prepared for every rehearsal and performance. The band captain must also keep track of all absences, whether excused or not. Knowledge of the music and the drill is essential to the role of band captain. The Band Captain will exemplify the spirit and dignity of the entire band and should therefore possess these qualities to the highest degree.

**The Role of the Percussion Captain:** The Percussion Captain oversees 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 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 should therefore possess these qualities to the highest degree.

**The Role of the Guard Captain:** The Guard Captain has many tremendously important responsibilities. The Guard Captain's duties include making sure all members understand 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 should therefore possess these qualities to the highest degree.

**The Role of the Section Leader:** The Section Leader is in charge of, and fully responsible for the results of their section. He/she must lead by example and ensure all section members learn all music and drill in a timely fashion and perform at the highest possible level. The Section Leader is responsible for reporting the rehearsal attendance of his/her section to the Director. A Section Leader must exemplify the spirit and dignity of the entire band and should always exhibit these qualities both on and off the field.

**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 critical. The Librarian's job includes working with each section leader to ensure that each member has all necessary 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 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 Sergeant.:** The job of the Spirit Sergeant is to work directly with the director, staff, and leadership in elevating the pride, spirit, and positive energy of the entire band throughout the entirety of the season. The Spirit Sergeant 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 NOT LIMITED TO:**

#### **A. Marching Rehearsals:**

1. Consults with director/staff prior to rehearsal for instructions concerning the rehearsal plan.
2. Assists and often leads the band through the warm up/stretching routine.
3. Assists director/staff 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 predesignated 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:**

1. First and foremost, this individual must possess superior musicianship and leadership.
2. A strong dedication to the Sickles Band Program.
3. The position is leadership-oriented; outstanding leadership qualities should be evident long before becoming Drum Major.
4. The candidate should possess a cooperative personality and should get along well with others.
5. Candidate should be exceptionally dependable.
6. The Drum Major is one of the faces of the Marching Wall of Sound, and should represent themselves and the band positively at ALL times.
7. Exhibits a very positive attitude and encourages morale within the band.
8. The Drum Major must be enthusiastic in his/her approach to band.
9. 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 NOT LIMITED TO:**

**A. Marching Rehearsals**

1. Consults with director/staff 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. Understand the fundamentals of proper band etiquette, discipline and professionalism.
5. Keeping discipline to a minimum.
6. Keeping track of attendance.
7. 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:**

1. Exceptionally dedicated to the Sickles Band Program
2. The individual's musical/performance ability should be of the highest level.
3. The position is leadership-oriented; outstanding leadership qualities should be evident long before becoming Band, Percussion, or Guard Captain.

4. The candidate should possess a friendly, approachable personality and should get along well with others.
5. Consistent, responsible, and dependable.
6. Exhibits a very positive attitude and encourages morale within the band.
7. The Band, Percussion, & Guard Captain must be enthusiastic in his/her approach to band.
8. 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 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. Organize 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:**

1. The individual should be intelligent, and should have the capability to think quickly under pressure.
2. A strong dedication to the band program by the individual is vital.
3. The individual's musical ability should be of the highest level.
4. The position is leadership-oriented; outstanding leadership qualities should be evident long before becoming Section Leader.
5. The candidate should possess a good personality and should get along well with others.
6. Candidate should be very dependable.
7. Exhibiting a good attitude and encouraging good morale within the band is a major responsibility of the Section Leader.
8. The Section Leader must be enthusiastic in his/her dealings with the band.
9. The Section Leader must be prepared to take responsibility for any conduct on the field, in the stands, or at contest/festival sites.



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 SHOULD BE TYPED AND PASTED INTO YOUR APPLICATION ON THE WEBSITE.**

1. Why should YOU be selected for leadership in the Sickles High School Band Program?
2. What leadership skills have you already demonstrated 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?

By submitting this application, you are showing that you understand what is being expected of you should you be chosen for the position. A leader is not expected to be at all rehearsals, they are **REQUIRED** to be at them all. There are no “free days” for a leader; they are always working hard and completely committed and dedicated to the band program at all times. Do not submit 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. Attend an outside leadership camp over the summer such as FSU or other. Information on available summer leadership camps can be found at [www.sicklesbands.com](http://www.sicklesbands.com).
7. Demonstrate the highest level of musicianship throughout the entire year.
8. If not chosen, I will assume my regular role in the band and give full cooperation to the other members selected and Director.

Please also select **TWO** current Wall of Sound members and **TWO** Sickles Faculty Members to complete a [reference form](#) on your behalf and that can be found on the home page of the [band website](#). Please make sure at least one of the student members providing a reference are a current member of the Wall of Sound leadership 2020-2021.