

Greetings!

Congratulations on your choice to pursue a leadership position with “That Altus Band”! There are four parts to the audition process. First, you will pass out teacher recommendation forms to your classroom teachers and have them return them to me by April 28th. Second, we will meet and have an audition orientation meeting on April 27th. Third (Drum Majors only), we will meet to practice for an audition on April 28, May 1, & 2nd. These practices will prepare you for your live audition, which will take place on May 3rd. Fourth, there will be an interview that you will be asked to prepare for that will take place on May 3rd in conjunction with your audition.

The Drum Major of the Marching Band is the most important leadership position in the program. A qualified student should show dedication, hard work, and strong character traits in order to be an effective leader. A Drum Major should also be a very strong musician and respond well to the direction and requests of the Band Director and Band Staff. Section leaders, color guard captain, librarian, and a loading crew captain will be selected as well for positions on the leadership team. Students in these positions will also show strong character traits in order to be an effective leader.

Please note that if you are selected as drum major, you will be required to attend a drum major camp during the summer to help prepare for the upcoming marching season. I will make arrangements with you based on when you are available and come up with a solution that will fulfill the needs of the program.

I look forward to working through this process with all of you, and again congratulations on taking your first step towards becoming the Drum Major of “That Altus Band”!

Sincerely,

Mr. Hastings

Leadership Descriptions

The band director and staff appoint the student leaders of “That Altus Band” after teacher recommendation forms, auditions, and interviews are completed. All students are looked upon as potential future leaders from the time they enter the band program as freshmen. These positions are all full year appointments, even though some duties listed below may refer only to Marching season.

All students appointed as leaders shall, in addition to their listed duties, strive to uphold the image and spirit of the band at all times. These appointments are to be considered an honor and a responsibility, **not a privilege**. Leaders should aid the band director and staff in every way possible. Please be aware that all leaders are to be available to teach or help teach at all camps for Marching and Symphonic/Concert Band. You are expected to keep the lines of communication open between each other and between students and the director and staff at all times.

es·prit de corps (e, sprē də 'kôr/) noun: a feeling of pride, fellowship, and common loyalty shared by the members of a particular group.

Leadership positions include: Band Captain, Drum Major, Section Leader, and Color Guard Captain.

Band Captain (a year-round position)

1. Enforces band rules and maintains order.
2. Maintains "esprit de corps" within the band.
3. Makes announcements to the band as directed or when the need arises.
4. Delegates set-up for Marching Practice Field for rehearsal. Sound system, yard line markers, etc.
5. Participates/Leads in tuning/warm-up exercises with Drum Majors at marching rehearsals.
6. Assists section leaders with uniform inspections. Keeps records of improper uniforms.
7. Checks attendance at each after school marching rehearsal and record absences.
8. Make up marching folders with music for all sections.
9. Reports any major problems to the director.
10. Assists the band director in all ways possible.
11. Helps with the organization of the annual Band Banquet.

Qualifications include: Junior or Senior only, proficient on instrument, ability to communicate one-on-one or address the group as a whole. At least one year experience in “That Altus Band”.

Drum Major (a year-round position)

1. Enforces rules and maintains order during marching rehearsals.
2. Conducts warm-up exercises and basics blocks.
3. Directs and controls the band in field rehearsals and performances.
4. Delegates set-up for Marching Practice Field for rehearsal. Sound system, yard line markers, etc.
5. Maintains "esprit de corps" within the band.
6. Runs the metronome during rehearsals.
7. Reports any major problems to the director.
8. Assists the Band Captains with uniform inspections and overseeing section leaders during marching rehearsals.
9. Conducts and is in charge of pep rallies.
10. Conducts the bands in the stands at football games.
11. Assists the band director in all ways possible.
12. Helps with the organization of the annual Band Banquet.

Qualifications for Drum Major include: proficiency on respected instrument; ability to read musical score; ability to properly warm up band; at least one year's experience in "That Altus Band".

Section Leader (a year-round position) Including: Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Mellophone, Baritone/Trombone, Sousaphone, Percussion, Guard

1. Enforces band rules and maintains order.
2. Directs after-school sectional rehearsals.
3. Maintains "esprit de corps" within the band.
4. Is responsible for section's marching and playing performance on the field and behavior in the stands.
5. Keeps a daily record of attendance in designated notebook and reports to Band Captains any absences.
6. Inspects uniforms of section members.
7. Attends all meetings called by the Drum Major or Band Directors.
8. Reports any problems to the Drum Major and Band Director.
9. Assists with issuing school instruments and conducting inventory in the fall and spring.

10. Issue and collect instrument rental forms.
11. Helps to keep your instrument shelf area clean.
12. Make up marching folders with music for all sections.

Qualifications include: 1 year experience in "That Altus Band"; proficient on instrument.

Percussion Section Leader (a year-round position)

All of the duties of section leaders, plus the following:

1. Directs percussion rehearsals during the summer and the regular marching season.
2. Is responsible for seeing that all percussion equipment is put in its proper place after each rehearsal and kept in an orderly manner.
3. Makes sure that all rehearsal sites are clean before leaving.
4. Helps keep percussion areas in the band room clean and organized.
5. Oversees the loading and unloading of all percussion equipment at all band functions.
6. Keeps a record of all issued equipment and its condition.
7. Reports any vandalism to the band director immediately.
8. Helps keep percussion equipment area in the band room organized and clean.

Qualifications include: 1 year experience in "That Altus Band"; proficient on instrument.

Color Guard Captain

All of the duties of section leaders, plus the following:

1. Organizes and directs Guard warm-ups and rehearsals.
2. Assists in teaching the marching show to the Guard.
3. Makes sure that all rehearsal sites are clean before leaving.
4. Is responsible for seeing that all guard equipment is put in its proper place after each rehearsal and kept in an orderly manner.

5. Oversees the loading and unloading of all guard equipment at all band functions.
6. Keeps a record of all issued equipment and its condition.

Qualifications include: one year's experience in "That Altus Band" Guard (Marching Band).

Other Positions of Responsibility as needed and selected

Librarian (a year- round position)

1. Keep music library neat and orderly.
2. File and copy music as needed.
3. Make up marching folders with music for all sections.
4. Aid in passing out new music and collecting and filing it at the end of the year.

Loading Crew Captain

1. Collect lists from section leaders, Drum Captains, and Guard Captains of what is to be loaded.
2. Help to Load and unload all equipment and uniform carts for performances throughout the year.
3. Check to be sure that everything is tied down securely before truck is locked.
4. Check with band directors to ensure that all equipment is loaded.
5. Arrive at all marching performances 30 minutes before reporting time to unload all equipment in an **orderly and safe manner.**
6. Check to insure that all uniforms are hung up neatly and in order before dismissal of each cart.
7. No student will be allowed to drive the equipment vehicle at any time.
8. Assist Pit Crew in whatever needed capacity.

Altus High School Band

Leadership Council Recommendation

Teacher: _____

_____ has asked that you comment on their abilities in the areas of student's leadership. **Please know that I value your opinions a great deal.** Please be completely honest and candid. These comments will be seen only by the Band Director. Thank you for your willingness to help that band students and band program at Altus High School.

Professionally,

Mr. Hastings

Please circle a ranking for this student in the areas listed below using the following scale:

5 = Outstanding 4 = Above Average 3 = Average 2 = Below Average 1 = Poor

Ability to Make Wise Decisions: 5 4 3 2 1

Respected by Peers: 5 4 3 2 1

Maturity: 5 4 3 2 1

Ability to get along with others: 5 4 3 2 1

Responsibility and Reliability: 5 4 3 2 1

Academic Achievements: 5 4 3 2 1

Discipline/Classroom Behavior: 5 4 3 2 1

Punctuality: 5 4 3 2 1

Appearance and Neatness: 5 4 3 2 1

Willingness to learn: 5 4 3 2 1

Total Points: _____

On the back of this form, please include any additional comments or information that you feel would help in making an appropriate decision. **Please place this form in Mr. Hastings' box by April 28, 2017.** Thank you for your time.

TEACHER'S SIGNATURE _____

Leadership Questionnaire

Please type and return to Mr. Hastings

1. Why do you want to be the next drum major/band captain/color guard captain/section leader/loading captain/librarian?
2. How do you define leadership and why do you think your peers will respect you as a student leader?
3. Define your own strengths and weaknesses. How will you address the weaknesses?
4. Why do you like being in band? Is there anything you dislike about being in band?
5. What was good about the student leadership this year? What didn't you like about the student leadership this year?
6. What do you think you can improve about band and why?
7. Talk to me about communication. Do you have any good strategies to get your ideas across to other students in the band or me as your director?
8. Talk to me about our chain of command. Why is it important? How would you handle a disagreement with someone above and or below you in the chain of command?
9. Scenario: You hear members of the band gossiping about another band member's poor marching. How do you handle it?
10. To what extent should a drum major/band captain/color guard captain/section leader/loading captain/librarian be held responsible for the people in their section?