

TO: STUDENTS INTERESTED IN AUDITIONING FOR NHS DRUM MAJOR FOR 2019
RE: DRUM MAJOR AUDITION INFORMATION

Thank you for your interest in applying for the drum major position for the Northwestern High School Purple Regiment for 2019. Listed below are the requirements for auditions.

ALL DRUM MAJORS APPLICATIONS SHOULD ALSO SUBMIT A STUDENT LEADERSHIP APPLICATION.

An essay addressing the following prompt must be submitted to the band office on Wednesday, May 22, 2019 by 8:30AM.

“What is the role of the drum major? Why should you be considered for the position?”

Audition clinics will be held for candidates Tuesday, May 21, 2019-Wednesday, May 22, 2019 after school. The audition will be held after-school on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 3:50PM in the band room. A panel of adjudicators will be there to provide input in selected the best candidate for the position.

In addition to the essay, the following will be required of each candidate as part of the audition process:

Conducting: Style and Ability

Conduct a marching band tune from memory. A printed score and recording will be provided to you at the audition clinic. Show proper style, articulations, dynamics, and cues (without score) while keeping a steady beat. You may also be asked to conduct in 2/4, 3/4, and 4/4 time at MM 80, 120, 144, and 160.

Marching and Maneuvering:

Mark Time, Forward, and Backward Marching using 8 to 5 corps style straight leg marching with halts. Figure 8 Block with lateral slides forwards or backwards.

Poise and Posture:

Demonstrate proper posture and body carriage throughout the audition.

Commands:

Giving Commands: Attention, Mark Time, Horns Up, Horns Down, Parade Rest
Voice Quality: Good inflection, proper footing, clarity, projection, in cadence.

Salute:

Please demonstrate a salute of your choosing during the audition.

Interview

You will need to exhibit proper form and articulation in all of these requirements. Remember that once chosen to be drum major, you will be expected to be a leader of the band. During the audition and the period leading up to it, you will be expected to show off these leadership characteristics and instill confidence in yourself and the other students that YOU will be the right person for the job.