Corcoran High School Panther Pride

Drum Major Handbook

The Drum Major of the Panther Pride Marching Band and Colorguard should always set the example in attitude, behavior, work ethic, attendance, and preparedness. The Drum Major is the student leader of the band and should be a model for all other band members. The Drum Major is also the liaison between the band directors and band students. The Drum Major should command the respect of other band students with humble and helpful actions, not with orders or commands.

Duties of the Drum Major:

- Be early to all band activities/functions. You should be the first student to arrive and the last student to leave.

- The Drum Major should know all band students names and form a positive relationship with all band students.

Prior to Rehearsal:

- Be one of the first students to arrive.

- Communicate with the directors prior to rehearsal for any help that you can give.

- Take PA System to field and set up as needed.
• Be prepared to check roll and turn that into a director when finished.

• Have all podiums necessary for rehearsal set up prior to rehearsal starting.

• Set out yard line markers if needed.

• Encourage other band students to move quickly to their spots and have all materials needed for rehearsal (Drill Charts, Music, etc.)

**During Rehearsal/Performance:**

• Check roll at the beginning of rehearsal. Ask Section Leaders to report anyone absent in their section when you come to their section. Do this as quickly as possible.

• Should a director not be available at the start of rehearsal, the drum major should start rehearsal by following the normal warm up procedure. (Parade Rest, Set/Attention, Horns Up, Warm up). Have section leaders help with gaining the attention of the band students. Do this in a positive manner without yelling at the band.

• The Drum Major should be prepared with all music and drill charts necessary for rehearsal. The Drum Major should know how the score and drill charts relate to each other. For example Set 14-15 happens in measures 52-60, in 32 counts. You should be able to relay this information to a director or student when needed.
• When learning drill, the drum major should be prepared to help with placing of students and the marking of sets.

• The drum major should be ready to start each rehearsal segment at the appropriate tempo.

Rehearsal Routine:

*Parade Rest*

“Set”/ *Call the Band to Attention if needed.*

*Give Instruction as to where to start and stop.*

Horns Up (Do this silently if possible) – Once your hands go up that is the cue for the met to start if it is being used.

Eight Count Count Off (silently with hands or metronome if being used)

“Check and Adjust”

Parade Rest / Further Instructions

If inside, be prepared to assist with making copies or helping hand out any new music to the ensemble.

Be prepared to conduct as needed with music rehearsals. When not conducting be following the score and marking as needed.

Ensure uniforms are being worn and taken care of properly.
Rehearsal/Performance:

Be one of the last students to leave the rehearsal/performance area.

If outside, ensure that the field is clear of any trash and that no one has left anything behind.

Store any podiums as necessary.

Pick up and store yard line markers.

Leave the rehearsal/performance area neat and orderly.

Return Long Ranger/PA Equipment to the bandhall and place on charger.

Ensure that no uniforms have been left behind.