

Gregory S. Dingwall, Ed.S., Director

120 Melvin Johnson Dr.

Livingston, TN 38570

Livingston Academy Band

Phone: 931-823-5911 x292

Fax: 931-823-8834

Email: [gdingwall@oc-sd.com](mailto:gdingwall@oc-sd.com)

Website: [www.la-sotw-band.net](http://www.la-sotw-band.net)

**Student Leadership Application Process - 2020**

**Drum Major Interview and Audition Information**

**Band Captain / Lieutenants Interview Information**

**Deadlines and Dates:**

The essay and all other required material must be turned in by Friday, May 8th, 2020 by 3:00 PM.

The interview will be held on TBD, via Teams or the Band app.

The conducting audition will be held on the same day and time of interview. (We Will Rock You & National Anthem). (Drum Major candidates only)

**Qualifications:**

The position of **Drum Major** of the Livingston Academy Band is open to all upcoming *third* and

*fourth* year band members. The position of **Band Captain (Band only) / Lieutenants (includes Color Guard)** of the Livingston Academy Band is open to all upcoming *second, third*, and *fourth* year band members. Because these positions require a higher level of musical knowledge and understanding (musicianship)( guard work) , it is not typical for younger or less experienced band members to audition or for an auxiliary member to audition (Drum Major Only). Leadership experience in either the band or another organization is highly recommended. Candidates must meet and maintain Overton County School’s standards for academic eligibility in extracurricular activities.

**Requirements:**

Auditions for the position of Drum Major will consist of three phases other Officers, the first two phases:

1. All candidates must complete and write an essay explaining his/her reasons for wanting to become Drum Major or other Band Officer. This essay should reflect the candidate’s leadership skills, his/her definition of a true leader, the goals he/she will set, and why he/she is best suited for this job. The essay must be typed and should conform to the rules of basic grammar and composition.

2. The second phase will consist of an interview with the director(s). The candidate’s qualifications will be reviewed at this time and various questions typical of a job interview will be asked. It is expected candidates will dress and groom themselves appropriately for this phase.

3. The final phase will be the actual conducting audition in front of the band (exception, this year a live stream of the DM candidate conducting to pre-recorded music). All candidates will be given a 3-minute practice session with the band prior to the audition (exception this year). Candidates will be required to conduct the National Anthem and an assigned piece from the band’s repertoire (listed above).

**Guidelines and Other Information:**

1. It is very important to understand that this audition process will not be decided based solely on conducting (DM). This process should be treated like a job interview and not a competition where the person with the highest score wins. The finalist(s) will be selected based on the information in the essay, interview, and audition, an unbiased decision will be used when selecting the drum major (s), Band Captain and Lieutenants.

2. There are no “assistant” positions – If more than one Drum Major is chosen they will share the responsibilities equally as partners. In the event that the new drum major (s) cannot fulfill their duties, the Band Director will select any replacements or successors. Band Captain is 2nd in line to the Drum Major with Lieutenants being 3rd in line and are chosen based mainly on leadership skills and maturity. In the event that the new Band Captain or Lieutenants cannot fulfill their duties, the Band Director will select any replacements or successors. Because it is possible there may only be one finalist, everyone needs to prepare him or herself for the possibility of not being selected. This is not meant to sound cruel – it is simply the truth.

3. Drum Major Candidates -It is important to understand that you are auditioning for the top student leadership position in the band. Band Captain/ Lieutenants - It is important to understand that you are interviewing for the next to the top student leadership position in the band. These are not position’s to be taken lightly; we pride ourselves on the tradition and spirit that this band represents. You must be prepared to make this job your FIRST priority. The Drum Major (s) and Band Captain/ Lieutenants cannot miss rehearsals or performances, nor can they adopt sloppy etiquette and poor attitudes. All appointments, meetings, and athletic events must be scheduled around band activities. If you do not think you can handle this, then drop out of the application process now!

4. It is important to realize that conducting is only a small portion of the Drum Majors’ duties. In fact, all student leadership jobs consist of about 90% leadership and 10% conducting or work. Do not audition/interview just because you want to wear a flashier outfit and conduct the band and or boss them around! This is a very small portion of the job. Your Audition will be graded on a scale including 60 points academics/interview/essay, and 40 points conducting (Drum Major only).

5. All deadlines and audition dates have been set. There will be NO make-up dates or deadline extensions. You must work around other conflicts to be at these functions. Plan accordingly.

6. If you do not feel that this selection process is fair, or if you do not feel that the Band Director can make an honest, justifiable decision on the finalists, please do not audition for this position.