DRUM MAJOR AUDITION INFORMATION

Friday, May 9th (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, & 6th Periods after school 4:30-6:30)

What We're Looking for in a Drum Major:

- Servant Leader (not on a power trip!)
- Confidence (but not cockiness!)
- Musicianship
- Poise
- Organized & Responsible
- Self-Discipline
- Good Communication Skills (Verbal & Kinesthetic)
- Outstanding Role Model
- Good Conducting Abilities
- Showmanship
- Physical Fitness & Endurance
- Mental Sharpness
- Good Rhythm & Feel for Tempo
- Score Reading Comprehension
- Problem Solver NOT a Problem Creator
- **NO DRAMA!!!**
- Make mature, intelligent decisions
- Positive Motivator
- Be Involved and Visible with the Band
- Have a General Concern for Others
- Approachable (Not Stand-offish)
- Willingness to give up time from other things for the band
- Focused on the "We" and "Us", not the "I" and "Me"

The Formal Tryout Process:

Inside Introductions – Total of 15 pts.

- Salute – *5 pts.*
- Introductions (name, grade, instrument, leadership positions held-*if any*) – *5 pts.*
- Questions from Judges – *5 pts.*

"***Outside" Marching – Total of 30 pts.***

- Vocal Commands (volume, enunciation, clarity, precision, timing "think marine drill sergeant") – *15 pts.*
- March Style (posture & image, execution, style) – *15 pts.*

Inside Conducting – Total of 55 pts.

- Basic Patterns (4-3-2-1 Drill…2 measures Staccato, 2 measures Legato for each time) – *15 pts.*
- Prepared Music – *"Part 1 of 2017 Show"* (showmanship, energy, facial expressions, patterns, cues) – *20 pts.*
    - *Music can be downloaded at the following link: http://www.miltonhighschoolband.com/leadership-info.html*
- Personal Selected Music – max.of 3 ½ minutes - *20 pts.*
- Final Short Salute – *0 points*

Suggestions:

1- Be well prepared! You will be nervous!
2- Watch yourself conduct in a mirror! That is the best way to clean!
3- Stay in your conducting "window" or "box".
4- Watch out for fly away fingers, curly Qs, and unclear patterns.
5- Remember that the band must be able to follow your conducting (the ictus is important).
6- If you get off, recover quickly. (don't get flustered; we won't restart the music)
7- Dress comfortably with comfortable marching shoes, yet look sharp!