



Choctaw High School Marching Band

The Pride of Choctaw and Halftime/Pep Marching Band

Many members of “The Pride” consider this activity one of the most rewarding activities possible and find themselves lifelong fans of both marching band and music in general. Often the friendships and bonds forged in this activity survive long after their high school days are over. The hard work and time commitment only serve to reinforce the concept that there are students who are willing to sacrifice great amounts of time and energy in order to succeed on levels they previously thought impossible.

“The Pride of Choctaw” Marching Band

To be a member of “The Pride”, Choctaw High School’s competitive marching band, students must:

1. Complete an audition process. This process will be outlined during the spring semester and both musical and visual abilities will be taken into account. Students who are accepted should; Enroll in both the fall and spring semesters, sign and return a participation contract, and attend all events of the competitive marching band
2. Attend each rehearsal. “The Pride” and “Halftime/Pep Band” rehearses each school day from 7:45am until the end of first period, Tuesday evening from 6-8:30pm, and selected Saturdays as outlined in advance. The color guard and drum line will attend at least one sectional rehearsal each week. This day and time will be set when adjunct guard and percussion staff are available. The color guard often times begins practice earlier than the full ensemble when adjunct instructors are available. “The Pride of Choctaw” and “Halftime/Pep Band” performs at each football game including the Fall Break game.
3. Remain academically eligible for competition

Acceptance of a spot in the competitive marching band is optional. As such, members of the competitive marching band will attend each rehearsal and performance without exception or excuse.

1. As this is an optional activity, and a privilege to those who have the ability to commit time and energy to one of the single greatest activities our school has to offer. Homework, jobs, and all non school activities must be managed. Just as with all other teams or activities, members will need to manage time and resources wisely in order to balance all requirements. Only illnesses that prevent school attendance will be given consideration.
2. Students who are not able to shuffle work, homework, and other activities may find it impossible to accept the rigors of a spot in “The Pride of Choctaw”. Assistance and tutoring are available for new students who may need assistance managing time requirements.
3. At rehearsals, members who are not in attendance may be replaced by those students with halftime spots who are in attendance. Should a prolonged illness prohibit participation, spots will be filled.
4. Students who do not successfully learn music, guard work, drill, etc. may be replaced at staff discretion.
5. Should a spot be filled with another student, it may not be possible for the original student to regain a position unless another spot becomes available.

Halftime/Pep Band

It is the hope of the band staff that developing marchers with halftime/pep band only roles will strive to earn a spot in the competitive marching band next year. If used correctly, this time can be used to improve both marching and playing skills.

1. All students who are not accepted into “The Pride” will perform in the stands at each football. Students who attend rehearsals and performances will be given an opportunity to perform during halftime.
2. These members will not perform at competitive performances.
3. These members may be given the option of upgrading their status to include a spot in the competition band should spots become available. Should this opportunity present itself the band staff will select students who have shown both musical and visual competency. In addition, a student’s attitude and attendance will be taken into account.

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www.choctawband.com