

2019-2020 Desoto Color Guard Membership Requirements

The color guard is a creative and fun group that incorporates dance and equipment work into the Marching Band show. The marching season generally lasts from August to the beginning of November where we will perform at the football half-time shows. This may be extended if the football team goes to playoffs or if the Color guard decides to perform at a basketball half time. Other miscellaneous performances may include Pep assemblies, parades, contests, Winter Guard Festival, etc. You will learn basic flag and dance movement that will be incorporated into artistic routines. You will also gain valuable team building and interpersonal skills as well as create lasting relationships with your color guard teammates. Color guard takes dedication and hard work but the end result is the personal satisfaction of a well-performed show and the gaining of valuable skills and friendships. Another added benefit is the opportunity for college scholarships at schools with color guard/winter guard programs.

Below are listed the few responsibilities that are expected of each potential color guard member:

1. You **MUST** be signed up for Marching Band, first semester whether you plan to play an instrument or not. You will receive a grade based on your participation. Tardies, absences, poor attitude, and unpreparedness will count against your grade. There will be routine memorization tests.
2. You must meet the minimum grade and attendance standards required of all extracurricular performance activities.
 - a. You must attend Desoto Marching Band camp
 - b. There will be 3 rehearsals before the end of school
 - a. Monday April 29th 6:30-8:30pm- Aux gym- **1st \$50 due**
 - b. Monday May 6th 6:30- 8:30pm- Aux gym
 - c. Monday May 13th 6:30- 8:30pm- Aux gym- **2nd \$50 due**
 - c. During June, we will have some rehearsals, after auditions I will need each student to send me a schedule of planned vacations so we can schedule rehearsals with the least number of students missing
3. You must attend all rehearsals and performances scheduled.
 - a. Once school starts this will include evening rehearsals every Monday and Tuesday nights approximately from 7 to 9 pm Mondays and 6:30 to 9 pm on Tuesdays. **These times and days are subject to change!**
 - b. On game days, you will need to bring everything you need to get ready for the game, because you will be staying at the school until the game is over.
 - c. Grades are affected by absences excused or unexcused. Schedules will be made available as soon as possible. **Students who consistently do not attend rehearsal will be put on the sideline without refund.**

4. You must purchase portions of your Color Guard uniform.
 We try to keep costs as low as possible, but the student must cover the costs of shoes, tights, uniform, and a small equipment fee. If the uniforms are ordered and the student chooses to decline membership after that time, they will still be required to pay for the uniform. Uniforms are ordered around the end of May
 - a. Each team member will also need to purchase their own make-up, appropriate under garments; this includes no panty lined underwear and support bras. We will most likely use a specific lip stain; the brand is Stella and the color is fiery and is around \$25. **Do not buy this until confirmed.** There have been also alternatives used for this color. Eye make-up will change in accordance with our show.
 - b. The first payment is due **April 29th of \$50.** A second payment of **\$50 is due on May 13th.** The remaining amount will be due on the first day of band camp.
 - c. We may order jackets and t-shirts specific for the guard. If we decide to order these, this would be additional.
 - d. The band offers many different fundraisers throughout the year. These fundraisers maybe used to pay for the cost of color guard, most likely in the form of reimbursement if this is your first year in band or color guard.

5. Cost: The actually uniform changes to match our show and depending on the show, will determine the complexity of the uniform, which determines the price. We will also to have some fundraisers during the summer to help offset these costs!
 - a. Uniform- ≤\$175
 - b. Shoes- \$35
 - c. Body Tights- \$20
 - d. Equipment fee- \$30
 - e. Shipping and Handling is included in these prices

6. You are expected to adhere to all the same attendance and rules of conduct as the band.
 No gum, food, or drinks allowed in band room.
 Keep band room and guardroom tidy.
 Sit with the band at all games. Wandering will not be allowed.
 Keep uniform and equipment in good condition and complete.
 Be courteous and supportive of your team, band, and school.
 Be sure to follow the band handbook.

Please share this information with your parents and/or guardians. If you have any questions please email Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Matthew Elliott- mfawcett07@yahoo.com

 Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____

