



Memorial Color Guard



What is Color Guard?

In the Fall, the Color Guard is an integral part of the award winning Memorial High School Marching Band. They provide visual aspects by using dance, movement, flags, rifles, and sabres. When the marching band performs, listen to the audience and you will hear a lot of gasps, sighs, “wow”s, and cheers when the Color Guard pulls out a new flag or tosses a rifle – making it turn 2, 3, 4 or even 5 rotations. We also compete in various marching band festivals and contests in the Fall. The Memorial Color Guard is open to all students, boys and girls, who will attend Memorial HS next year. **You do NOT have to play a band instrument to perform in the Color Guard.*

What is Winter Guard?

During the winter and spring months, the color guard participates in the Texas Color Guard Circuit (www.texascolorguardcircuit.org) series of competitions as the **Memorial Winter Guard**. The Memorial Winter Guard performs a choreographed routine using dance, dramatic expression, colorful flags, rifles, sabres, costumes, props and recorded music to create an amazing show.

Color Guard is a **SPORT** due to its physical and competitive aspects. Physical stamina is needed to put together movement, dancing, and equipment work at the same time.

Color Guard is also an **ART**. Performers use the elements of expression and their equipment to tell a story. The music and colorful floor set the stage while the performers complete the show.

Color Guard is a year-long **CLASS** offered during the school day. There are also after-school rehearsals, football games, competitions, and occasional Saturday rehearsals.

*Questions? Call the Memorial High School Band Office at 713-251-2686 or
Contact our color guard instructor, Julianah Iwelu at Julianah.Iwelu@springbranchisd.com*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Is previous experience necessary?

A: No. During the Color Guard Audition Training Clinic we will teach you the basic skills needed for a simple audition routine. We have a great instructional staff to help you quickly learn what you need to know.

Q: Do I have to be in Band or play an instrument to join?

A: No. Over the years, only some of our members have also played an instrument in band. Our color guard students participate in many different activities including choir, orchestra, art, and yearbook (just to name a few).

Q: Do I get P.E. credit for participating in Color Guard?

A: Yes! Color Guard is a year-long course where you will earn 1 credit of Fine Arts/Elective. In the Fall semester, students signed up for Color Guard 9 & 10 will earn an additional ½ credit of P.E. for your participation in the marching band. Two full years in Color Guard can fulfill your P.E. requirement for graduation.

Q: How do I join?

A: It's easy! Just sign-up for Color Guard as one of your elective choices. Bring your completed forms with you to the Color Guard Training Clinic during the week of April 24-28. If you have not already signed up for the Color Guard class, we will help you submit a schedule change request.

Q: I am in 8th grade and I don't know anyone at Memorial HS yet. May I bring a friend with me?

A: Yes! Many of our Color Guard members join with friends. Older students can also bring their friends with them to try out something new. As a member of the color guard, you will have the chance to make **MANY** new band friends – about 130 of them...all BEFORE the school year even starts!

COLOR GUARD TRAINING CLINIC AND AUDITION

Training Clinic: Monday, April 24, 2017 – Thursday, April 27, 2017 (4:00-5:30pm)

Audition Date: Friday, April 28, 2017 (4:00-5:30pm)

Location: Memorial HS Gym #3

What to Wear: Wear comfortable clothing – shorts or work-out pants, t-shirt, and tennis shoes

What to Expect: Expect a lot of fun! Our staff will teach you the basic skills you will need to complete a short audition routine on Friday. Expect to learn some beginner dance techniques as well as flag fundamentals.

MARCHING BAND ORIENTATION – SPRING 2017

When: Thursday, June 1, 2017 (2:00-5:00pm) and
Friday, June 2, 2017 (10:00am–4:00pm)* – *lunch will be provided*

Where: Memorial HS Band Hall and Gymnasium

Who: All students enrolled in Band and Color Guard for the 2017-2018 school year

What to Wear: Wear comfortable clothing – shorts or work-out pants, t-shirt, and tennis shoes.

**You will be fitted for your fall marching band uniform and place your order for your required performance wear items. A price sheet will be available during the training clinic. Payment is required to place the order.*

IMPORTANT SUMMER MARCHING BAND DATES

July 24-27, 2017 Color Guard Camp (8:30-11:00am, 12:30-4:00pm) – MHS Performing Arts Center

July 31–August 3, 2017 Summer Marching Band Rehearsals (8:00-11:00am, 12:30-4:00pm)

August 6-9, 2017 Summer Marching Band Rehearsals (8:00-11:00am, 12:30-4:00pm)

August 14-17, 2017 Summer Marching Band Rehearsals (5:00-7:30pm)

Thurs., August 17, 2017 MEET THE BAND Picnic (performance @ 7:00pm) – *More details will follow*

Fri., August 18, 2017 FISH CAMP Performance and Band POOL PARTY – *More details will follow*

Sat., August 19, 2017 MEET THE MUSTANGS Pep Rally – *More details will follow*

**Memorial H.S. Color Guard
Audition Information Sheet
2017-2018**

Name: _____ Student ID: _____

Birth Date: ____ / ____ / _____ Grade Next Year (2017-2018): _____

Home Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Student E-mail: _____

Parent/Guardian 1: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Parent/Guardian 2: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Please describe any formal dance training that you have participated in:

Please list any school-sponsored organizations or athletic sports that you are involved in:

Information Sheets are due by Thursday, April 27, 2017

Permission Form and Contract

We, the parents/guardians of (please print) _____ give our child permission to participate in the Color Guard Training Clinic and Auditions for the 2017-2018 Memorial HS Color Guard. If our child is selected, **we understand that the color guard is a year-long class and a year-long commitment.** Our child will attend all marching band rehearsals and performances, including Color Guard Camp (**July 24-27**) and Summer Band Rehearsals (**beginning on July 31st**). Mustang Band performances include all pep rallies, football games, playoff games, marching festivals, and UIL Marching Contest.

In the spring semester, we understand that our child will participate in the **Memorial HS Winter Guard**. This will include afternoon/evening rehearsals 2-3 times per week beginning in November, occasional Saturday rehearsals, and all winter guard competitions. (A complete rehearsal and performance calendar for winter guard will be available in the fall semester.) We understand that our child will be expected to meet the performance standards of the organization and to maintain passing grades, or they will be subject to removal from any or all performances.

We understand that there is a \$225 marching band & color guard fee due in August. This fee will help supplement the cost of costumes, flags, equipment, and other expenses incurred during marching season. In addition, we understand there is an additional \$225 winter guard fee to supplement the costs incurred during winter guard competition season – costumes, equipment, bus transportation, water and snacks for competitions, etc.

We believe that our child is capable of accepting the responsibility of performing with the Memorial Color Guard. We give our consent for our child to participate in the Color Guard Training Clinic and Auditions, the Memorial HS Mustang Band, and the Memorial HS Winter Guard. We understand that the decision of the directors is final.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Permission forms are due on Friday, April 29, 2016