



The Seahawk Sound Band Organization

The Pep Band of the University North Carolina Wilmington

From the President,

I am in between the position of being a friend and being a director. The difference is how I manage people and how I move on to the next task. If you are here, I know that you have a very strong passion for music and an honest talent for leadership and education. If you stick around, I will see you progress and emerge as a leader in this ensemble.

I ultimately believe above all things, that your majored college education is first. I've told every one of the members this from day 1. If you have a test, homework, study group, etc., take care of that before coming to any event. I will not accept accusations from professors or students that attempt to use this organization as an excuse for low accuracy in classes. The SSBO Leadership Council is even equipped to get you in contact with someone that will help/study with you. I will even study with someone if it will help them to do well.

The friend part of me will mold this organization around all of the members this year... whether it is moving/canceling a rehearsal, getting the supplies that you all need in order to do well and spending out of my own pocket, or canceling a required performance. The director part of me will only do that if absolutely necessary for the organization's greater good. I want everyone to have fun, sound excellent, and look sharp while performing. This will bring us into higher honors and develop a higher standard for our future members.

Sound Members, part of me wants to hold on to you all, but the director part of me knows that time and opportunities will send each of you away at given times. I will have to remember those memories of the greatness you all have achieved, congratulate you all on a job well done, replace what I have lost, and build again in hopes to create an organization... a band... a line... that is stronger and more prepared than the one I had before. I must be the director if anything is to succeed from here. Every part of me wishes that you all could be here as long as possible, but I also understand that you have to do what you have to do. This is your time to do something great for yourself, and you should know that I will always be here to help in any way I can.

So when you decide to move on, or choose to stay around for a little longer, you will always be a part of the Sound. Amplify yourself and let your dreams be heard.

Kenneth Watts Jr
President and Student Director
Class of 2011 – Music Education
Seahawk Sound Band Organization