

COMMENDATION FORM FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Person(s) to be Commended:

Ella Beason, Lake Ridge High School Student

Justification for the Commendation:

Recently, Ella Beason, one of the Drum Majors of the Lake Ridge High School Eagle Marching Band, was selected to be one of the Drum Majors of the Macy's Great American Marching Band that will perform in the 99th Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade! Honoring America's finest high school musicians, color guard members and dancers, this band is composed of select students from across the United States. The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is internationally recognized as the official start of the holiday season and world-famous as a uniquely American entertainment extravaganza. This prestigious band will take an honor position among the gigantic helium balloons, impressive floats carrying celebrities, and the nation's top marching bands. Stepping-off from Central Park, the Band will be cheered by the 3.5 million spectators lining the parade route. Arriving at Macy's Herald Square, the Band will perform for celebrity hosts, a grandstand audience, and more than 50 million TV viewers watching the broadcast live on NBC. To be selected as Drum Major, Ella participated in the Smith Walbridge Drum Major Clinics in July and demonstrated exceptional leadership, conducting, marching, and overall character in order to be one of only two people chosen among over 400 applicants from across the United States. At the camp, she earned the title of "First Class Drum Major" by going through several phases of rigorous tests which proved her ability to be a great selection for this honorable role. She will go to New York over Fall Break and participate in the parade on Thanksgiving morning!

Requested Month of Board Meeting for Commendation: December 2025

Principal, Director, or Supervisor's Approval: Dr. Darwert Johnson

Date: 12/10/25

Associate Superintendent of Communications & Marketing Approval: Laura Jobe

Date: 12/10/25