

# Liberty Middle School Digcom/LMS News Audition Packet

## Elective Description:

Thank you for expressing an interest in becoming a member of the LMS News team! Digcom is a unique elective that allows students to show their creativity and grow their media talent while also featuring exciting events in Liberty's school culture. Students are selected for this elective based on an application, audition, and teacher recommendations (*students who may have requested this class on their LMS registration forms will still need to complete the audition process*).

Being selected as a member of the news team is a privilege, and each student plays an integral role in the program. Every student is part of the Digcom puzzle and must work independently and cooperatively to create media that will meet the high standards we have set for each LMS News Media production.

Digcom meets a full block each day and is a year long elective. While the class meets once daily, news happens all the time. For this reason, it may be necessary for students to obtain footage, edit, or perform other duties before or after school. Each student is responsible for making the arrangements to accomplish those tasks.

As a news team, we are producing media that reflects on us as individuals, on our school, and on our school system. Because we want LMS News Media to be a positive reflection of us all, each news team member will take pride in the work he or she does while also upholding the quality expectations we will set as a team.

## LMS NEWS JOB DESCRIPTIONS:

**Producer** – This is the most important job for each LMS News episode/media post. This person directs the news meeting to decide story, footage, posts, and graphics assignments. This person monitors the progress of scripts, footage, and social media posts throughout the production week. This person gives daily episode progress updates to the director (Mrs. Odom).

**Floor Manager** – The floor manager is responsible for keeping up with equipment. This person makes sure equipment is used properly and turned in at the end of each class or assignment. This person also operates as a camera person on story assignments.

**anchors & Reporters** – This person will develop story ideas, create story scripts, collect story footage, and conduct story interviews. This person will answer to the producer and will check in with ideas and updates weekly.

**Tech/Editor** – This person will help maintain the LMS News social media accounts as well as edit footage for reports.

# LMS News Audition Process

## **Audition Application:**

Each applicant should complete the "Liberty Middle School Digcom Class Application" included in this packet. Applications include a short essay response that can be typed or written in blue or black ink. Completed applications are due by 3:30 on Friday, March 23rd. Applicants may turn in packets to the LMS front office, Mrs. Sedberry's room 112, or scan and email them to [lcsedberry@madisoncity.k12.al.us](mailto:lcsedberry@madisoncity.k12.al.us)

## **Teacher Recommendations:**

Applicants must have two recommendations from teachers who feel that they are **responsible, independent** and **trustworthy** enough to be a member of the LMS News team. Teacher recommendation forms are included as the last page of this packet. Print the form and deliver it to these two teachers. Teachers will complete their recommendations online, so applicants will not turn in the recommendations for their teachers. Recommendations are due by 5:00 on Friday, March 23rd.

## **Audition:**

Applicants will audition for a spot on the news team. All applicants will be asked a few short questions before a screen test audition. During the screen test, all applicants will deliver a mock news script in front of the camera. The mock script is included in this packet. Applicants should use the script to help them prepare for the audition. This will be the script they deliver on camera during the audition. There is no need to memorize the script. Applicants should just look and sound comfortable delivering it.

Once completed applications have been turned in, applicants will be assigned an audition time. Auditions will take place at Liberty. Applicants will be notified of their day and time by parent email. Auditions will begin at 3:15 on Tuesday, April 3rd and Wednesday, April 4th. Applicants will be assigned an audition spot for one of those two afternoons.

## **Parent Contact & Permission:**

Applicants must have a parent's permission to audition for the LMS News. There is a place for a parent's signature on the LMS News application. This signature must be present for an application to be considered complete. A parent signature also shows that parents are aware of the audition process and agrees to have his or her child dropped off and picked up in time for his or her scheduled audition.

There is also a place for a parent email address on the application. This is the email address we will use to notify applicants of their audition times. Please make sure to include a regularly checked email contact.

## **LMS News Team Posting:**

The final roster for the 2018-2019 LMS News Team will be posted on Mrs. Sedberry's webpage on the LMS website.

# Liberty Middle School Digcom Class Application

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Current School: (Circle)   LMS        MES        MCES        HES        CES

**Please answer the following questions as accurately as possible.**

1) Which jobs would you like to perform as a member of the LMS News team? (Circle any that apply)

News Anchor   Reporter   Camera Person   Computer Editing   Producing   Script Writing

2) What grades have you earned in English so far this year?

First Nine Weeks \_\_\_\_ Second Nine Weeks Grade \_\_\_\_ Third Nine Weeks Grade \_\_\_\_

3) Which other electives are you planning to take next year? (ex. Band, Choir, Art, etc.)

4) Do you plan to participate in LMS sports next year? If so, which sports?

5) Do you have any experience with computer editing? (Circle yes or no)

Yes   No   (If you circled yes, please explain)

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6) For your last answer, please write a brief essay on a separate sheet of paper explaining why you would like to be a part of the Digcom team and a member of the LMS News staff. Please share which jobs you would like to perform on the newscast and why. Also, tell a little about yourself. What are your goals and ambitions? Do you work well in stressful situations? Do you enjoy working independently and collaboratively? You may type your essay and include with your registration packet.

**Registration packets are due by 3:30 p.m. on Friday, March 23rd. Packets can be dropped off in the LMS front office, Mrs. Sedberry's room 112, or scanned/emailed to [lcshedberry@madisoncity.k12.al.us](mailto:lcshedberry@madisoncity.k12.al.us).  
LATE PACKETS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**



## **Liberty Middle School Digcom/LMS News Team Teacher Recommendation**

**Student Name:**

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I am auditioning to be a member of the LMS Digcom/News Team!

Please take a moment to fill out a recommendation for me before 5 PM on Friday, March 23rd. Everything is online to make completing this recommendation easier for you! Please use the following link to complete the recommendation form:

<https://goo.gl/forms/w16qUjvvKFligQiK2>

Thank you for supporting me!

# Audition MOCK SCRIPT

## Fall Break Broadcast

### Teaser

Several of our students are participating in memorable field trips, and many of our winter sports teams are finalizing their rosters. All this and more, coming up on LMS news.

### Opener

Welcome to the Fall Break edition of LMS News.

I'm \_\_\_\_\_.

### Story 1 – Fall Gala:

The fall gala was last Friday. Students were given the chance to go into the annual haunted house for \$4. The gala also provided food, music, games, and fun. Students got to snap and share photos in a spooky photo booth, and the DJ kept the dance floor full all night long.

Let's go to Sara with more on this story.

### Story 2 – Food Drive

Thanks Sara!

SGA just finished its yearly food drive. They collected 3,705 canned goods from LMS students. The items will be donated to Madison Missions just in time for the holiday season to begin. Thank you SGA representatives and LMS students for helping make a difference in our community.

Now it's time for weather with Andrew Johnson.