

MISSION

Kingwood High School Band:
To facilitate achievement through a student's realization of their potential in band.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM

The goal of the Kingwood High School Band Program is artistic achievement. Performance in band demonstrates the proper process for maximizing potential as an individual and as part of a group. This model is then applied to multiple facets of life. The end result is a merging and development of musicianship, citizenship, and scholarship.

WELCOME

Welcome to the Kingwood High School Band Program. You and your student are about to begin a very exciting journey of being a member of this prestigious organization. It is difficult to explain the mystique of this organization. However, as you start coming to events, you will find parents and students from past years with the same excitement that you will be experiencing.

Of course everyone knows about the winning tradition of this wonderful band. And yes, winning is fun, but let us not forget what is truly important: hard work, discipline, endurance, being gracious no matter the placement, developing musical appreciation and skills, and forging new friendships. These aspects are far more important than any awards. You will find that these are the qualities our directors continue to stress every day. However, it is also your job as a parent to reinforce these ideals to your children. And please remember: it is just as important for parents to show great sportsmanship and character as it is for our band to do so. Let us continue to be a part of this 'first class operation', as we have been known to be in the past.

Because it can be overwhelming for parents at the beginning of the year, this handbook has been compiled to help orient you to the many different aspects of the band. The design of the handbook is to inform students and their parents, and to address questions and concerns that may arise throughout the school year. Although we have tried to be as thorough as possible, there may be questions or concerns that are not answered in this handbook document. The policies and rules within this handbook are in addition to the Humble I.S.D. and KHS student handbook and have been approved by the school principal. Please feel free to call the band hall or send an email with any questions that you might have.

Band Hall: 281-641-6995

Destry Balch
Director of Bands
destry.balch@humble.k12.tx.us

Brittany Peters
Assistant Director of Bands
brittany.peters@humble.k12.tx.us

MEMBERSHIP

I. PREREQUISITE

Prospective Kingwood High School Band students must have had prior band instrumental training. The training must have been continuous and on a standard band instrument. Students cannot discontinue their training and then be re-admitted to the program.

II. RETENTION

Membership and retention in the KHS Band is determined through a required annual audition as well as continued evaluation throughout each school year. The criteria include an evaluation of the following:

- 1) Enrollment in a middle or high school band program for the previous school year.
- 2) The student's technical proficiency on their primary instrument
- 3) The student's reliability and personal commitment to band requirements.

Every prospective KHS Band Student will be offered fair opportunity for placement and retention in the band so long as these criteria are met. It must be understood that the 'primary instrument' mentioned in criteria number two refers to the band instrument that the student has received consistent training on. Because of the instrumental requirements of the music that is being studied, students cannot change instruments without director consultation and approval.

The above criteria have no correlation with the number of years that a student has been enrolled in the band program.

III. AUDITION INFORMATION

All prospective KHS band students are required to go through an audition process on the band instrument that they have received prior training on. The audition information can be obtained through their director. Students who were enrolled in the band program must complete an audition that takes place during the spring semester in order to be considered for membership the following year.

Current students who are enrolled in the program must complete their audition on the designated audition day or on an alternate day set by the director. Failure to complete the audition by this time will render the student ineligible for membership.

Audition material consists of designated major scales, a chromatic scale and two brief musical exercises.

When the audition process is considered complete, membership will be granted only when the student performs an acceptable audition. An acceptable audition takes place when all parts of the instrumental requirements are played in their entirety.

IV. PLACEMENT

Each student will be placed in chair order based on the scores of the audition. It should be noted that placement due to seniority or previous placement is not taken into consideration when the audition occurs.

On the occasion that there is an academic schedule conflict with the student's band placement, the director and the student's campus counselor will resolve the conflict. There are many variables that come into play when a student's classes are scheduled.

V. AFTER PLACEMENT OCCURS

Once the student has been assigned to a band class, advancement of chair ranking can only take place within that particular band. Advancement to another band rarely takes place. The occasion when this does take place is when a student has moved out of the district or has been removed from the program and, thus, creates a vacancy. In these cases, filling the void that was created will be done at the director's discretion. If no student is able to meet the musical or leadership expectations of the class where the vacancy occurs, the directors reserve the right to leave the spot vacant until a student is found to be competent enough to meet those expectations.

VI. TRANSFER STUDENTS

Transfer students must complete their audition by appointment with one of the directors. They will be placed based on their individual instrumental abilities and the overall instrumental needs of each band class.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Listed here is a brief explanation of financial obligations that occur as a part of being in the KHS Band. This list is as comprehensive as possible. However, there may be other occasions on which additional financial obligations may occur.

I. ANNUAL FEE

Each student must turn in a fee at the beginning of the school year which covers the cost of uniform cleaning during the marching season and at the conclusion of the season, and the rental of copy machine and paper purchases for the year. This fee is presently set at \$50.00.

II. 9th GRADERS AND NEW STUDENTS

New students, including incoming 9th graders, will pay \$50.00 in addition to their 'Annual Fee' of \$50.00. This will total \$100.00. The justification for this additional fee is so we can purchase additional uniform parts, in particular, cross-belts.

II. T-SHIRT

As part of the marching uniform each student will be required to purchase a t-shirt. Orders will be taken through the band department for uniformity and price control. The cost of the t-shirt is \$10.00 per shirt. This shirt will be part of the 'full band uniform'. If the student has a t-shirt from a previous year that still fits and is not discolored, they will not need to purchase a new t-shirt and there will thus be no cost involved.

III. HOT WEATHER UNIFORM

Starting with the 2014-2015 school year, the band will have a 'hot weather uniform' – khaki shorts and dri-fit polo shirt. Both of these items will be ordered through the band department. The combined cost is \$59.00

IV. MARCHING SHOES - WHITE

As a part of the marching uniform – hot weather or formal, each student will purchase white marching shoes. Orders will be taken through the band department for uniformity and price control. The cost of marching shoes is approximately \$30.00. If the student has shoes from a previous year that still fit, there will be no cost involved.

V. UNIFORM TOTE BAG/GARMENT BAG

When traveling, each student will be required to carry their performance attire in a garment bag. The purpose of this bag is to keep the uniform clean and protect it from damage. Although the purchase of this bag is optional, most students purchase this bag due to its ability to be easily recognized, durability, and uniformity. For most students this is a one time purchase. The cost of the garment bag is approximately \$29.75.

VI. FUNDRAISING

Each year the band has one major fund-raising event – Yankee Candle. Each student is asked to sell a minimum amount or make a donation. If a student does not choose to participate in the fundraiser or make a financial donation they are responsible for the payment of their accompanist during Solo & Ensemble. (For the list of items that these funds help pay for please see the section on ‘Band Boosters’.)

VII. INDIVIDUALLY OWNED INSTRUMENTS

Students who play the following will provide their own instruments: Flute, Bb Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet/Cornet, and Trombone. Many students choose to own a ‘step-up’ instrument of professional manufactured standards. This is not required but is strongly encouraged.

Each student who owns their own instrument must also provide their own supplies for the use and care of that instrument.

VIII. SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS

Students who play the following will have, due to cost, their instrument provided for them by the school district: Piccolo, Oboe, Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, French Horn, Baritone/Euphonium, Tuba, and Percussion.

Each student who uses a school owned instrument must check out the instrument through the band office. The student is responsible for the use and care of that instrument. This might include the payment of repair cost for damage that occurs while in the student’s care.

Each student must also provide their own supplies for the use and care of that instrument. For example, in many cases students will be required to provide their own mouthpiece for the use of the school owned instrument.

IX. SUPPLIES

During Marching Season students need to provide their own flip-folder and lyre for performances at the games.

During Concert Season students need to provide their own black three-ring binder/notebook and pencil.

Percussion students will be expected to provide their own sticks and mallets as needed for both marching season, all-region auditions, solo/ensemble and concert season.

Students may be given assignments to record themselves and turn in the recording for grading. The recording may need to be in one of the following formats: CD, a digital recorder, or most likely via email or the www.charmsoffice.com website.

X. INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE ENHANCEMENT

When students practice on their own, it would be extremely beneficial if they had a music stand, a metronome and a tuner. These are tools that will pay great dividends in each student’s instrumental development.

XI. FORMAL CONCERT PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

Male students - In all cases we will contact a supplier for the purposes of uniformity and cost efficiency. If the student's attire from the previous year still fits, there will be no purchase cost.

Concert Band: black shoes and black socks; black pants; cummerbund and bowtie; tuxedo shirt

Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble: black shoes and black socks, cummerbund and bowtie; tuxedo shirt, pants, and jacket.

Female students - In all cases we will contact a supplier for the purposes of uniformity and cost efficiency. If the student's attire from the previous year still fits, there will be no purchase cost.

All female students will need to have a black concert dress and black closed toe shoes.

XII. TRIPS & MEALS

The band takes several bus trips throughout the year. Charter buses may be used for 'big' trips while school buses are used for Friday night football games and competitions in close proximity to the school. You will receive itineraries with times and locations for all trips.

You will be notified if spending money is needed for meals.

There also may be trips in which the band travels and stays over-night. Notification of these trips will occur many months ahead of time. The balance of the trip is always the responsibility of each student. There will usually be a payment plan and at least one fund-raising event for the students to help with the cost of the trip. When the trip is relatively expensive, there will be several fund-raising opportunities.

XIII. PRIVATE LESSONS

Pending instructor availability, private lessons are offered on every instrument. All of our instructors are professional players or advanced-level university students. The cost of each lesson varies from teacher to teacher and also depends on the length of the lesson. Private lessons are not required, but they are highly recommended.

XIV. CONTESTS NOT PAID FOR BY HUMBLE I.S.D.

All-Region Jazz: An entry fee is paid by each student who enters this competition.

State Solo/Ensemble Contest:

- * An entry fee is paid by each student who enters this competition.
- * Transportation costs for buses may have to be covered by the students who enter this competition.
- * In addition, there may be an 'ensemble coaching fee'. The students will need to have rehearsals in preparation for TSSEC (Texas State Solo/Ensemble Contest).

XV. BAND BANQUET

Each spring, the booster group holds a banquet for the students. Students, excluding seniors, are asked to purchase a ticket that will help off-set the cost of the facility rental, meal, and DJ for the dance.

XVI. SOLO ACCOMPANIST

Kingwood Band Boosters supports solo/ensemble competition through financially providing piano accompanist. If a student signs up for an accompanied solo or ensemble, and then does not follow through with the performance, the accompanist is still going to be paid. The student will then be expected to reimburse Kingwood Band Boosters for the fee that was contracted for their accompanist. This policy is in place to hold the student accountable for following through on their preparation, rehearsal and performance.

Although the booster group compensates accompanist at the solo/ensemble contest, there are accompanists that we utilize who charge more than the booster group can provide funding for. If a student desires to use one of these more expensive accompanists, they will be asked to provide the difference for the cost of hiring them. If a student does not participate in fundraiser and a financial donation is not made, the student will be responsible for the payment of the accompanist.

XVII. MUSIC FOR SOLO CONTEST

Each student that will be playing a solo at the solo/ensemble contest will be required to provide the original solo part and the accompaniment music. The students will be given an opportunity to acquire the music from one of the vendors that will set up a display at the KHS Band Hall. The music can be ordered from this company and payment made to them.

XVIII. FLAG LINE

Each student who auditions and is selected for the position of 'flag line' will have additional expenses. These expenses will cover items such as but not limited to boots, tights, jackets, etc. This fee will also help in the purchase of flag line supplies and extra uniform parts.

MARCHING SEASON: AUGUST – NOVEMBER

I. AUGUST CAMP (SUMMER BAND)

August marks the beginning of our busy marching season. Certain organizational activities begin during the last few days of July. Attendance at this camp is mandatory, so plan vacations accordingly and feel free to speak to the directors with any concerns.

UIL rules dictate that a high school band program cannot begin their marching drill until August 1. However, there are fundamental and preliminary works that can occur prior to this date. Generally speaking, it takes about one month to get the marching band up and running and prepared for the first game. As you can imagine, this puts a very important emphasis on these rehearsals that occur prior to the beginning of school. The dates and times vary, but prepare for 5 to 7 hour days.

Some of the things that will take place during this camp include:

1. Marching fundamentals are learned/reviewed
2. Learning show music
3. Marching tryouts
4. Uniform distribution
5. Forms and fees collected
6. Items ordered: Shoes, T-shirts, garment bags
7. Football program pictures
8. Learning 'stand tunes' (music for football games that we play in the stands.)
9. Lots & lots of bonding between old and new band members.

II. ATTENDANCE

The success of the band depends heavily on the commitment and trust of each member. Therefore, students should adjust personal schedules to accommodate the required outside-of-class rehearsals. Work or a part-time job do not excuse missing outside-of-class rehearsals or performances. **If possible, all medical appointments during marching season should be scheduled after school on Wednesdays.**

Band members are required to attend all rehearsals and performances.

Note: There are no excused absences. If it is important for us to work/rehearse/practice during after school hours, and it is, then it is mandatory for the team to be present.

If, for whatever reason, a student misses any kind of rehearsal/practice, they will be expected to make up not only the time, but also the aspects and/or the curriculum that were missed. The make up will be the responsibility of said student. The make up will be in addition to the scheduled rehearsals/practices. The make up will be at the directors discretion.

The KHS Band Program will not support the retention of students who choose to merely attend the band classes but are not willing to attend after-school rehearsals and performances. Consequently, all members are required to participate in extended rehearsals and performances as part of the total band program. If the required after-school rehearsals and events cannot be attended, the student will need to consider an alternative academic class choice.

III. REHEARSAL RESPONSIBILITIES

For outside rehearsals, proper footwear is a must – cross-trainer tennis shoes. Light colored clothes and a cap are the best type of attire. It also will be helpful to have a small water jug, sunscreen, and sunglasses. Students will have an opportunity to change from their school clothes to their marching clothes at the conclusion of school before marching rehearsal begins.

On most weeks the full marching band rehearses on Monday from 6:30-8:30 PM and Tuesday, and Thursday from 3:30-5:30 PM. We will rehearse on Monday evenings in an effort to get out of the heat at least one day a week. After four or five weeks of school, Monday rehearsals will move to 3:30-5:30. There is always a ‘run-through’ rehearsal prior to each marching performance. Wednesday afternoons will be added to the weekly rehearsal schedule in cases when there is a Thursday football game, or when additional rehearsal time is needed to better prepare for marching competitions.

Attendance at after-school marching rehearsals is a requirement for all students enrolled in the program.

Those students who participate in seasonal KHS competitive sports will be excused from portions of marching practices as approved by the directors on a case-by-case basis.

Specific itineraries for each week will be communicated through class and through email.

If possible, all medical appointments should be set Wednesday after school during marching season.

On occasion there are extra rehearsals for some sections. These sectionals are called either by the section-leader or one of the directors. Attendance by all members of the section is mandatory. Many times these extra rehearsals are short, usually about 15 to 20 minutes in length.

IV. MARCHING UNIFORMS

The formal marching uniforms are the property of the Humble Independent School District. Any loss or damage to any part of the uniform will need to be paid for by the student who is responsible for the uniform. No student will be issued a uniform unless the Uniform Contract and cleaning fee has been turned in at the beginning of the marching season.

It is the responsibility of the student to clean their shoes prior to each performance (polish not provided by the school.)

Marching Band performance attire will consist of two uniforms:

The warm weather uniform consists of the khaki shorts and dri-fit shirt, white no-see-em socks, and white band shoes. Socks provided by each student. All other items are purchased through the band department for uniformity. Belts and hair clips should blend in and be of neutral color – brown or black.

The full band uniform consists of white band shoes, white socks that cover the ankle, band T-shirt, and band uniform.

As uniformity is a key factor, any articles of clothing that draw attention to an individual, while in uniform, is not acceptable. Jewelry, nail polish (other than clear), glitter, face paint, hair paint, hair accessories, etc., are not a part of the uniform and should not be worn to any marching performance.

Although the uniform ‘tote bags’ are an excellent method of transporting the uniform to and from performances, they are absolutely terrible places to store uniforms either temporarily or permanently. The uniform must be allowed to dry out and hung up properly (not in the uniform bag) in order to not only lessen the damage caused to the uniform due to perspiration, but also to keep the uniform from smelling. It must be noted that a garment bag containing a uniform left unattended is evidence of obvious neglect.

Uniforms will be kept hung on assigned racks at school. If a student needs to take a uniform home, it should be checked out and in through the Uniform Captain and returned as soon as possible. Each uniform should be hung up properly and placed on assigned spot on rack after each football game and performance.

The sleeve length and pant length are the only things on the uniform that may be altered. The hem may be taken up or let out to the correct length. **NO MATERIAL MAY BE CUT.** Students are responsible for the cost of alterations on the uniform.

V. MARCHING SELECTION

Even though every member of the band is considered valuable, there is a set number of marchers who are selected to perform in the performance ‘block’. The formations that are utilized in military style marching necessitate an even number of ranks and files in order to execute formation changes. Selecting students who are qualified to march in the performance ‘block’ is a process that begins early in the new marching season. That process is an evaluation of each individual marcher that involves the following four areas:

- 1. Attendance at August Camp (Summer Band) as well as all scheduled playing and marching rehearsals**
- 2. Music Memory Playing Tests**

In order to evaluate musical proficiency, music memory playing tests are given frequently during classes during the course of the marching season. Students who fail to make passing grades on these tests will not be considered in the selection process when decisions are made.

Also, a student who is in the performance block will place themselves in jeopardy of losing their spot if they do not keep up their instrumental skills or pass their music memory tests.

- 3. Marching Fundamental Proficiency**

Evaluations of marchers are done in a formal marching tryout in which each member is required to march a short fundamental drill in small squads of 4 to 8 members each.

In addition to this formal audition, each member will be constantly evaluated as a member of the block.

The areas that are evaluated are body carriage, marching style, stride, instrument carriage, sharpness of execution, playing while marching, and focus during the drill.

- 4. Cooperation, work ethic and general attitude**

Work ethic refers to the student’s ability to maintain a positive, cooperative, and productive working attitude both during class time, as well as during after-school rehearsals and

performances. Listening to and following directions given by directors and designated student leaders is vital with respect to the evaluation process. In short, if a student appears as if they are not trying, they will be in jeopardy of being replaced. This is in effect even for those students who have a regular position in the block.

VI. ALTERNATE MARCHERS

Once marching tryouts have been completed, certain students will be designated as ‘Alternate Marchers’. These are students who show deficiency in at least one of the four areas of evaluation that is listed under ‘Marching Selection’ in this handbook.

If after-school rehearsals or August/Summer Band Camp were not attended, it will be nearly impossible for the alternate marcher to be given a marching position in the ‘block’ at any point during the course of the season.

Alternate marchers are still expected to attend all rehearsals. These students will not be able to earn a performance spot if they are not given daily opportunity to develop their skills or show efficiency in the four areas of the ‘Marching Selection’ segment in this handbook.

During marching rehearsal, these students will be given a non-performance position that will ‘shadow’ what the band is doing. They will also be asked to fill in marching positions that have been vacated by students who have an excused absence. We know and understand that this is difficult because the student could possibly be in a different spot each day. If the student has a work attitude of contribution, they will have a sufficient chance to prove whether or not they have earned a performance position.

VII. GAME ATTENDANCE

A full itinerary will be posted on-line each week. The departure time is specific, but the return time is estimated. All students are expected to attend the entire game until the full band is dismissed after the conclusion of the game.

CONCERT SEASON: NOVEMBER – MAY

Because the marching band performs so often publicly, it is believed that concert season is sometimes ‘forgotten’. This is far from being true. Concert season is the time when most of the musical and instrumental training takes place.

I. PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

At the conclusion of marching season there are several individual and group performance opportunities.

Individual Competitions: All-Region Jazz Band auditions and clinic/concert, All-Region Band auditions and clinic/concert, All-Region Orchestra clinic/concert, Ensemble Recital, and Solo and Small Ensemble competition at the Regional and State level.

Full Band Performances: Holiday Concert, Winter Concert, Spring Concert, Pre-UIL Concert, and Concert and Sight-reading Contest.

There are occasions when the band takes an overnight trip. These trips and performances vary. Communication is given many months in advance. These trips are usually funded by each student through fund-raising or payment.

II. REHEARSAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Each instrument section will be required to attend a one-hour sectional and/or small ensemble rehearsal after school. This sectional and/or ensemble rehearsal is sometimes scheduled with the input of the students so that conflicts with other school activities can be kept to a minimum.

Section rehearsals are conducted to reinforce the curriculum that is being taught during classes and to better prepare for performances as well as contests.

Ensemble rehearsals occur once a week during January and February, and this is in addition to the student’s band sectional. Ensemble rehearsal is for the purpose of preparing for ensemble contest which is held on a Saturday in late February.

III. ATTENDANCE

The success of the band depends heavily on the commitment and trust of each member. Students should, therefore, adjust personal schedules to accommodate the required outside-of-class rehearsals. Work or a part-time job is not an excuse for missing outside-of-class rehearsals or performances. **If possible, all medical appointments should be set on a day other than the assigned small group and full band rehearsals that occur after Marching Season.**

Band members are required to attend all rehearsals and performances.

Note: There are no excused absences. If it is important for us to work/rehearse/practice during after school hours, and it is, then it is mandatory for the team to be present.

If, for whatever reason, a student misses any kind of rehearsal/practice, they will be expected to make up not only the time, but also the aspects and/or the curriculum that were missed. The make up will be the responsibility of said student. The make up will be in addition to the scheduled rehearsals/practices. The make up will be at the directors discretion.

For section rehearsals, it is the responsibility of the student to make up the time that has been lost due to absence by setting up make-up times with the director in order to receive full credit.

The KHS Band Program will not support the retention of students who choose to only attend band classes and who are not willing to attend after-school rehearsals and performances. As part of the band program all members are required to participate in all rehearsals and performances. If the required after-school rehearsals and events cannot be attended, the student will need to consider an alternative elective choice.

IV. CONCERT SEASON PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

Please refer to 'Formal Concert Attire' under the 'Financial Obligations' section of this handbook.

V. TESTING

During the concert season, students will still have instrumental proficiency tests assigned by the directors. These assigned tests may occur during class, after school, or as a 'turned in' assignment.

Turned in assignments will give the student an opportunity to submit a recording of themselves on the assigned music and/or excerpts. These assignments are listened to, adjudicated, and graded. The physical device that the recording was made on will then be returned to the student. For further details refer to the 'Supplies' section of the 'Financial Obligations' section of this handbook.

VI. ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

All students will be required to participate in an ensemble recital and the UIL Solo/Ensemble Contest in a small ensemble.

All students enrolled in Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble will additionally be required to prepare and perform the following:

- 1) All-region testing during the fall semester
- 2) Class I solo and Class I ensemble for the February UIL Solo/Ensemble Contest

GENERAL POLICIES

I. REHEARSALS

Although there are numerous rules, expectations, and procedures for each class and rehearsal, the following three rules encompass almost all that we expect from our students during class.

1. Be on time.
2. Respect your peer's right to learn.
3. Respect your director's right to teach.

II. INDEPENDENT TRAVEL

For performance events that occur off KHS campus, there will be transportation provided. In all cases, students are required to travel on the transportation that is provided. During football season the transportation for all games is provided. The purpose of requiring students to ride the bus is due to limited parking at the stadium and insuring that students are on time for the event.

In the event that a student must travel independently, they will be required to submit an 'Independent Travel Form'. These forms are provided either through the band office or they can be printed from the KM4B Web Site – www.km4b.com

The form must first be filled out and signed by the parent and student. Then, a signature from the band director is required, and finally, one of the KHS Assistant Principals must approve the form. The form is then turned in to the band office. In all cases, the forms are expected to be turned in 24 hours before departure time.

There are three different situations that could take place when the student's travel options are altered:

1. The student will be traveling with the band to the event, but departing with their parent.
2. The student will be traveling with the parent to the event, but traveling home with the band.
3. The student will be traveling to and from the event with their parent.

In any case that the student will not be traveling home with the band, the parent, and only the parent, may sign the student out.

A student will never be allowed to travel to or from a performance on their own.

III. BUS TRIP GUIDELINES

Once a bus has been assigned, switching to another bus is not allowed unless there are special circumstances that may warrant a change.

Chaperones are guests of the KHS Band and must be treated with respect at all times. Chaperones are there for the benefit of the band. Trips could not occur without their presence and assistance.

IV. FACILITIES

Students are expected to treat the Band Hall, and all of the equipment and contents, with the utmost respect. Handling the personal belongings of fellow band members will not be tolerated. During class time or

rehearsals, food and drink are not allowed in the Band Hall. Due to the amount of money invested in the band's instruments, equipment, and facilities, non-band members are not allowed in the band hall.

V. SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS

Students who are issued an instrument owned by Humble ISD are responsible for the cleaning, care and upkeep of the instrument. Humble ISD will pay for all repairs that may occur as a result of normal use. However, it is the student's responsibility to pay for repairs in cases where there is evidence of neglect or misuse of the instrument. It also the student's responsibility to pay for a replacement in situations where the instrument is stolen or lost.

In most cases, the student will be expected to provide their own mouthpiece for use with the instrument.

VI. STUDENTS IN MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES

There are many students in the band who elect to participate in other school activities and organizations. It is the practice of KHS that sponsors and coaches work together so that students can successfully perform in each organization they choose to participate in. Conflicts with band performances and other school activities rarely occur. When they do, it is the student's responsibility to inform the band director. These conflicts are generally worked out between the band director and the sponsor of the other organization. These conflicts are worked out on an individual basis to the best benefit of the child, the organization, and the activity involved. Band performances take precedence over other activity's practice sessions. Conversely, the other school activity's performances, competitions, games or matches should take precedence over band practice. If a band performance occurs at the same time as another activity's performance, the two sponsors will work to resolve the issue.

School club events do not take precedence over any band activities. Outside of school events and organizations do not take precedence over any band activities.

VII. GRADING CRITERIA

In accordance with the guidelines of the Texas Education Agency, as well as the Humble ISD, Fine Arts Classes are considered to be curricular in nature. Therefore, instrument playing and written tests, as well as homework assignments, are part of that graded curriculum. Additionally, outside-of-class rehearsals are deemed as 'extensions of the classroom' and are also curricular in nature.

The grading template that has been established by the band programs in Humble ISD includes: 60% Summative and 40% Formative grades. This particular template is set up to better clarify how each of the grades are assigned in the band classes and how those grades are defined and categorized.

The summative side of the template (60%), includes evaluation of assignments. These assessments can be in the form of tests, homework assignments, etc. Summative grading can also be comprised of oral, written or playing tests (live, recorded, memorized or with music) that will usually occur on a weekly basis.

In order to better serve the individual student, as well as the ensemble needs, the KHS band program believes strongly in the student's opportunity to retest if a playing test grade is found to be deficient. This philosophy is founded on the belief that we want our students to be as musically proficient as possible. Opportunities for retesting may take place within five school days immediately following the original test day/date. It should be noted that a retest will only take place if the initial test is adequately attempted.

The formative side of the template (40%), includes the band director's assessment of each student's level of participation in class on a daily basis. This assessment is comprised of an evaluation of the following items:

- Prompt and appropriate seating at the beginning of class
- Demonstration of a positive, supportive, and cooperative attitude
- Utilization of proper body posture, instrument posture, and hand positioning while playing
- Clear demonstration, through proper techniques, of a characteristic instrument tone quality
- Clear demonstration of care and respect for instruments, uniforms, equipment, facility, etc.
- Level of participation during after-school rehearsals and performances
- Appropriate participation in oral skills
- Brings all band materials to class and stores them properly
- Demonstration of appropriate preparation and completion of assignments
- Respect towards the rights of the other classmates' opportunity to learn without distractions, as well as remaining attentive and on task while listening carefully to the teacher's instructions

VIII. ELIGIBILITY

All students who participate in band are responsible for maintaining minimum academic standards, which includes earning grades of 70 or above in each subject at the end of each grading period. A student is declared academically ineligible if they have received an average grade of 69 or less in one or more subjects at the end of a six week grade reporting period.

Students who have failed a class are still required to attend after-school rehearsals and on-campus performances during the time that they are academically ineligible. Students who failed a class may be reinstated for UIL or off-campus performances if they are passing all subjects at the end of the fourth week after the new six weeks has begun.

It is the recommendation of the band department that a student reconsider their interest in band if the student is consistently declared academically ineligible. In this particular case, it would be more beneficial to the student if they had the opportunity to use their time for structured study or tutoring programs as well as spending more effort and time on homework rather than spending time outside of school for individual and corporate band practice.

IX. CONSEQUENCES

There are varied consequences that may result from a student making an inappropriate decision concerning any of the previously mentioned topics or any other issue that may occur throughout the course of the year. The severity of the consequence might include a verbal warning, an office referral, or a conference involving any combination of the student, director(s), parents and an administrator. Consequences may also include, but are not limited to, change of chair placement, marching drill assignment, leadership position or physical location. The directors and administrators are not limited to these possibilities. Please see the Kingwood High School Student Handbook for other consequences in more severe situations. It is the goal of the Kingwood High School Band to provide a wholesome, healthy, safe, and productive atmosphere that allows all students the opportunity to learn and appreciate music without distractions.

LETTER JACKET POLICY

The measuring for letter jackets will occur on a set date either at the end of May. Traditionally the length of time for the order is ten weeks. As soon as the jackets come in, they will be given to the students.

Students will need 32 points to qualify for their letter jacket. The following point system is set up so that it is possible for any student to receive their jacket before their senior year.

If these points have not been accumulated, students who are in good standing in the program will receive their letter jacket during the Fall semester of their senior year. All patches, inserts or extras that were paid for by the students may be removed and kept by the student.

It is the responsibility of the student to pay for the jacket and any of the patches or extras. They will also be responsible for the cost of the labor required for the sewing of these items on the jacket.

Students who have been awarded and have received a jacket and letter from another organization will not be awarded another jacket and letter. However, the band department will provide an insert for their existing letter.

Criteria	Points Awarded
All-State Band	Automatically Awarded
Drum Major	Automatically Awarded
Wind Ensemble (Fall Semester)	3
Wind Ensemble (Spring Semester)	3
Symphonic Band (Fall Semester)	2
Symphonic Band (Spring Semester)	2
Concert I & Concert II (Fall Semester)	1
Concert I & Concert II (Spring Semester)	1
Band Council	3
Field Leadership Position	2
Other KHS Performance Ensembles/Groups	with approval
Marching Band Participant (per season)	1
Marching Contest Participant (per season)	2
All-District Band	2
All-Region Band	3
Area Tryout Participant	4
First Division UIL Solo	2
First Division UIL Ensemble	2
TSSEC Participant	1
First Division TSSEC Solo	4

BAND BOOSTERS

Kingwood Band Boosters is a parent organization that works in conjunction with the band directors to support and enhance ALL of the band programs in Kingwood. Our membership fee is ONLY \$25.00 per family. We have a very strong booster club that supports our middle and high school bands in many ways. Everyone is well aware that our school district has implemented budget cuts that have had an effect on band and other fine arts programs. Band Booster's has been very instrumental in providing funds that have been vital to the operation of the band program. Some examples of our support include:

- Providing over \$17,000 for clinicians to extend our students' learning experience (this includes middle & high school bands)
- Reimbursing \$60.00 of your student's summer band camp tuition (even if you have more than one student in band, each will receive the reimbursement for attending an approved camp)
- Awarding more than \$8000 annually in college scholarships for senior band members
- Providing almost \$20,000 to accompanists for local and state UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest (this includes middle & high school bands)
- Planning and providing parties and rewards for the students
- Funding for the Charms web based database for band information and communication

As you can see, there are many benefits to YOU and YOUR CHILD by just becoming a Kingwood Band Booster Member!

FUNDRAISING

Yankee Candle catalog sales for High School students and another high quality catalog sale for Middle School students – one time each year on all campuses

Concessions at all football games – throughout football season on all campuses

Employer Volunteer Grants

KM4B Sportswear

Kroger & Randall's Cards

Corporate Donations

It should also be noted that Kingwood Band Boosters sponsors and maintains the KM4B website:

www.km4b.com

If you have any questions, or if you need to contact any of our band boosters, their contact information is on the web-site.

STUDENT AND PARENT AGREEMENT

The success of the band program is dependent upon each individual band student adhering to the policies and procedures set forth in this handbook. Band members are expected to fulfill all band commitments and responsibilities. The intent of this handbook is to serve as a guide to help the band operate more efficiently without any misunderstandings about procedures. The guidelines found in this handbook are in compliance with state and local school policies. Participation as a member of the Kingwood High School Band can only be granted if this agreement page is signed by both student and a parent. This form must then be turned in to the KHS Band Office.

I have read and understand the expectations and responsibilities of being a member of the KHS Band. I also understand that there are consequences for failing to meet these requirements. In signing this agreement, I accept the privileges and responsibilities as a member of the Kingwood High School Band. I pledge to uphold, in my actions and attitude, all the qualities that will honor both the band and school.

Parent Name (please print)

date

Parent Signature

Student Name (please print)

date

Student Signature

Please tear off this page (or download) and turn in. Keep the remainder of the Band Handbook for your reference.