



The Kingwood High School  
**Band Handbook**

Revised 2021

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## Our Vision

Our vision is to develop independent musicians, effective leaders, and mature individuals through musical excellence and community.

## Our Culture & Values

Grit. Comradery. Respect. Responsibility. Leadership. Musicianship.

## Our Leadership Standards

Communication, Authenticity, Empowerment, Forgiveness, Trust, Excellence, Generosity, Feedback, Celebration, Honor, and Unity

## Welcome!

Welcome to the Kingwood High School Band Program! You and your student are about to begin a very exciting journey as a member of this prestigious organization. It is difficult to explain the depth of logistics, traditions and excellence within 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, developing both 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 students. 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. 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 district. Please feel free to call the band hall or send an email with any questions that you might have.

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## Course Syllabus

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. Band is a full-year course that cannot be dropped after the first semester unless given permission by a director.

The grading template that has been established by the band programs in Humble ISD includes:

### 60% SUMMATIVE

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, SmartMusic, memorized or with music) that will usually occur on a weekly basis.

During the concert season, students will still have instrumental proficiency tests assigned by the directors. These assigned tests may occur during class, after school, during lunch, or as SmartMusic assignments.

**SmartMusic** is a software paid for by Humble ISD for students to submit recordings of themselves playing assigned music excerpts. These assignments are listened to, adjudicated, and graded.

### 40% FORMATIVE GRADES

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

### Failing a Playing Test:

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.

## **Music Auditions / Band Placement**

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. 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.

### **AUDITION MATERIAL**

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

### **CHANGE OF INSTRUMENTS**

Due to the instrumental requirements of the music that is being studied, students cannot change instruments without director consultation and approval.

### **NO SENIOR PRIVILEGE IN AUDITIONS**

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

### **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.

### **ADVANCEMENT OF BANDS WITHIN THE YEAR**

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.

## Rehearsal Responsibilities

### ALL 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.

### OUTSIDE MARCHING REHEARSAL

Required Attire:

- Tennis Shoes, Shorts, Water Jug

Recommended Attire:

- Light Colored Clothes, Sunscreen, Sunglasses, Hat/Visor

\* Students will have an opportunity to change from their school clothes to their marching clothes at the conclusion of school before marching rehearsal begins.

General Fall Rehearsal Schedule: \*Current Information Will ALWAYS Be on Charms\*

- When Game Day is on Friday: Monday, Tuesday from 3:30 - 6:00 PM; Thursday from 3:15 - 6:00 PM
- When Game Day is on Thursday: Monday, Tuesday from 3:30 - 6:00 PM, Wednesday from 3:15 - 5:00 PM, Friday from 3:30 - 5:00 PM.
- When Game Day / Competition Day is on Saturday: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - 3:30 - 6:00 PM, Friday 3:30 - 5:00 PM
- When there is NO football game: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday from 3:30 - 6:00 PM, Friday 3:30 - 5:00 PM

See "Attendance Expectations" for more information.

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

On occasion there are extra rehearsals for some sections during marching season. 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.

### INSIDE BAND REHEARSAL

Students are expected to be ready and eager to daily improve through quickly getting their instruments out, bringing all materials to class (pencil, instrument, music, supplies, etc.), and adhering to both the Band Class Expectations / Band Culture document.

**Late in the Marching Season through Spring UIL Competition:**

- Each ensemble will be required to attend one sectional / ensemble rehearsal after school a week.
- See "Attendance Expectations" and the Charms Calendar for more information.

# Solo and Ensemble

## PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS

Every student is required to participate in a SMALL ENSEMBLE for the Spring UIL Solo and Ensemble Competition. Students may also participate in a SOLO if they desire.

- \* Humble ISD pays each student's entry fee for this competition.
- \* Kingwood Band Boosters provides piano accompanists + two rehearsals prior to the competition. See "Solo Accompanist" below for more information.
- \* 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).

## 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. Students have two options in acquiring this music:

- 1) Borrow the music available from the Kingwood HS Band Program and then return after the competition.
- 2) Acquire their own music from one of the vendors that will set up a display at the KHS Band Hall on a designated date. The music can be ordered from this company and payment made to them.

## 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.

## Performance Opportunities / Requirements

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: Winter Concert, Spring Concert, Pre-UIL Concert, and Concert and Sight-reading Contest. Check the Charms calendar for dates and specific information.

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.

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

## Eligibility / In Band Tutoring

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 on-campus performances (including the winter and spring concert) during the time that they are academically ineligible.**

### REINSTATEMENT

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.

### IN BAND TUTORING

Kingwood HS Band offers "In Band Tutoring" to anyone who is interested. This program is designed for band students to help other band students through free after school / lunch tutoring sessions. Students may also become tutors for NHS service hours / volunteer hours (pending on the other organization's requirements for hours). Students may sign up for this service in both the fall and spring semester.



## Annual Fees

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.

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 \$120.00 per student.

### **REQUIRED ITEMS / SUPPLIES :** \*In addition to the Annual Fee - all available through online Charms store\*

- Annual Band Fee: \$120.00
- Water Jug
- Uniform 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. For most students this is a one time purchase.
- Marching Shoes
  - As a part of the marching uniform(hot weather or formal), each student will purchase **black** marching shoes. If the student has shoes from a previous year that still fit, there will be no cost.
- Marching Polo
- Khaki Shorts
- Dri Wick T-Shirt (1 required, 2 highly recommended)
- Athletic Shorts (to wear under marching uniform)
- Flip Folder / Lyre
- Black three-ring binder for music and pencil
- Percussion Students: Provide own sticks, mallets as needed year round.

### **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED ITEMS**

- Band Booster Membership (one membership per family - covers KHS, RMS & CMS)
- Game Day Meal Plan (dinner or breakfast for game days / competition days provided to students before leaving for the game / competition)
- Baseball Cap / Sun Visor (Allowed in the stands during football games and all band practices)
- KM4B Directory/Yearbook (photos and contact information of our KM4B students)
- Spirit Gear (purchased through our online Charms store)

### **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, etc.

### **FUNDRAISING**

Each year the band has one major fundraising event. Each student is asked to sell a minimum amount or make a specified "buyout" 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 UIL Solo & Ensemble. (For the list of items that these funds help pay for please see the section on 'Band Boosters'.)

## Attendance Expectations

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 jobs 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.** Students should also not donate blood during football season due to the physical demands on marching band. Band members are required to attend all rehearsals and performances.

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.

### MISSING REHEARSALS

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. It will be the responsibility of the student to talk to the director for make up instructions and curriculum missed.

**If you must miss a rehearsal, you must turn in an “Absence Request Form” no later than two (2) days before the anticipated absence.** Unexcused absences or absences that occur without an “Absence Request Form” may result in being sidelined for a marching band performance as an alternate, being ineligible for a Varsity Band Letter, and in the case of multiple, removal from the Band Program.

We understand that extreme emergencies happen. In all cases, we expect clear and timely communication via email to the directors.

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. See below for info on students splitting time between sports and band.

### 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 activities 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.

## Kingwood HS Band Absence Request Form

Students - please use this form to request an absence from a required band activity. Requests must be received two days prior to the event in question in order to be considered excused. Emergency absences may be reported via email to [tmorris@humbleisd.net](mailto:tmorris@humbleisd.net), and [klandes@humbleisd.net](mailto:klandes@humbleisd.net).

Excused absences include but are not limited to:

1. Sickness
2. Death in the family
3. Unavoidable doctor's appointments
4. Any other absence that would be considered excused by the Kingwood Attendance Office

Unexcused absences will result in the student being sidelined for the following performance. A student with three or more unexcused absences may be removed from the production entirely.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade Level:**      9      10      11      12      **Instrument:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Event to be Missed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Event Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Event Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Detailed Description of Absence Required:**

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# Uniforms

## 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.

### Hot Weather Uniform

The warm weather uniform consists of band khaki shorts and band polo, no-see-em socks, and black marching 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.

### Formal Marching Uniform

The full band uniform consists of black marching shoes, long black socks that cover the ankle, band dry-wick T-shirt, band athletic shorts, 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 garment 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 band director and returned as soon as possible. Each uniform should be hung up properly and placed on an **assigned spot** on rack after each football game and performance.

Only Uniform Crew and/or parent volunteers that serve with Uniform Crew are allowed to make alterations as needed. 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.**

## FORMAL CONCERT PERFORMANCE ATTIRE (Winter and Spring Events)

**Male students** - Only the tuxedo shirt with studs and black bow tie can be purchased through the online Charms store. All other items must be provided by the student.

Concert Band I / II: black dress shoes & long black socks; black pants; black bowtie; tuxedo shirt with studs.

Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble: black dress shoes and long black socks, bowtie; tuxedo shirt, pants, and **black suit jacket.**

**Female students** - Black concert dress purchased through the online Charms store. Students will be measured for their dress in class through booster volunteers. If the student's attire from the previous year still fits, there will be no purchase cost.

## Travel Guidelines

### 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.
- Students must remain quiet and attentive while attendance is being taken on the bus.
- Students must adhere to all rules of their busdriver.
- We aim to leave each bus cleaner than its original condition before our band's use. Students must be intentional to pick up all trash, even if it is not theirs.

### INDEPENDENT TRAVEL

#### Performances off KHS Campus:

Generally, there will be transportation provided for all events that occur off KHS campus.

- 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](http://www.km4b.com)), or under "documents" when logged into Charms.

The form must first be 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.

# KINGWOOD HIGH SCHOOL BAND INDEPENDENT TRAVEL REQUEST FORM

PLEASE PRINT

Scheduled Band Activity \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Assigned Bus # (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_

(Student's first and last name)

\_\_\_\_\_ will not be traveling with the band on the bus to the band activity

\_\_\_\_\_ will not be traveling home with the band on the bus from the band activity

\_\_\_\_\_ will not be traveling with the band on the bus to and from the band activity

I will be traveling in a private vehicle with \_\_\_\_\_

(Parent or designated Adult)

The reason for this request:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**I understand that I must "check out" with a director and the adult chaperone assigned to me for this activity.**

I also understand that I am releasing Humble Independent School District from all responsibility as a result of my independent travel for the band activity noted above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Contact phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Director's Approval) (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Principal's Approval) (Date)

## School Owned / Individually Owned Instruments

### SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS

Students who play the following will have their instrument provided for them by the school district due to high cost: 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.

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 is also the student's responsibility to pay for a replacement in situations where the instrument is stolen or lost.

### 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. For more information on "step up" instruments we encourage you to talk to your private lesson instructors or one of the directors.

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

## Special Topics

### PRIVATE LESSONS / INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE ENHANCEMENT

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. **For a list of our recommended private lesson instructors, please see the updated list in the document section of Charms.**

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.

### JAZZ BAND

The Kingwood High School Jazz band is an before / after school elective ensemble. This ensemble generally competes in multiple jazz competitions as well as entering as a large ensemble for UIL Solo and Ensemble.

### MARCHING AUDITIONS

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 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 groups 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.

**(THIS SECTION CONTINUED ON PG 16)**



#### 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.

#### **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 Audition' section above in this handbook.

If after-school rehearsals or August/Summer Band Camp are 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 separate drill 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.

**Alternate Marchers will perform at some football half time performances.**

**Alternate marchers will not perform at competitions unless they have been added into the main performance block.**

#### **FACILITIES**

Students are expected to treat the Band Hall (practice rooms, ensemble rooms, music library, percussion room, etc.) 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.**

Students are expected to maintain their instrument locker / percussion room in a clean and organized fashion at all times. Having access to an instrument locker / percussion room in the band hall is a privilege, not a right. Instrument lockers are not to be switched with other students unless given director permission (Many times, student lockers are used as "mailboxes" to communicate with students.) Students are expected to pay for any damage done to their assigned instrument locker / percussion equipment / percussion room. Unless directed, only percussionist are allowed to enter the percussion room and handle percussion equipment.

## 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, a conference involving any combination of the student, director(s), parents and an administrator, or complete removal from the band program. 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.

## 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!

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

[www.km4b.com](http://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.

## 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. The band department will provide an insert for their existing letter.

Criteria	Points Awarded
All-State Band	Automatically Awarded
Drum Major	Automatically Awarded
KM4B Senior	Automatically Awarded
Wind Ensemble	3 Per Semester
Symphonic Band	2 Per Semester
Concert Band	1 Per Semester
Leadership Team	3
Uniform Crew / Lode Croo / Clean Crew	1 Per Crew
Symphony Orchestra	3
Jazz Band	2
Marching Band Participant (Per Season)	1
All-District Band	2
All-Region Band	3
Area Tryout Participant	4
First Division UIL Ensemble	2
First Division UIL Solo	2
TSSEC Participant	1
First Division TSSEC Solo	4
First Division TSSEC Ensemble	2
Other KHS Performance Groups / Volunteers	With Approval

## KINGWOOD HIGH SCHOOL BAND

## BAND CULTURE

OUR VISION | OUR VALUES | OUR FAMILY

## GRIT

IT'S A CHOICE!                      HUSTLE!                      COURAGE  
 GOOD IS THE ENEMY OF GREAT      DETERMINATION      BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE!

## COMRADERY

BAND IS FAMILY                      ALL OF US, ALL THE TIME!                      BAND IS FUN  
 WINNING VS SUCCESS                      SELFLESS SERVICE

## RESPECT

LEADERSHIP & UPPERCLASSMEN      TEACHABILITY      OUR YOUNGEST & NEWEST  
 RESPECT THE BAND      IT MATTERS HOW WE TREAT OTHERS

## RESPONSIBILITY

TO BE EARLY IS TO BE ON TIME.      PLAN AHEAD      COMMUNICATION IS KEY  
 YOU ALWAYS REPRESENT THE ENTIRE BAND.  
 "I AM A MEMBER OF A TEAM."      TAKE OWNERSHIP      ALL THINGS WITH EXCELLENCE

## LEADERSHIP

SERVANT LEADERSHIP      BE THE EXAMPLE!      ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE      WORK HARD. PLAY HARD.

"IF THE ENTIRE BAND DID EXACTLY WHAT YOU DID, WHAT WOULD THE BAND LOOK LIKE?"

## MUSICIANSHIP

TONE QUALITY: IAATA                      FOCUSED LISTENING                      MUSICAL MOMENTS  
 TAKE CARE OF YOUR INSTRUMENT                      ALWAYS BE READY TO GIVE AN EXAMPLE  
 "MAKING MUSIC WITH YOUR FRIENDS."

## 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 during KM4B Connect or to the KHS Band Office.

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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.

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Parent Name (please print)

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date

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Parent Signature

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Student Name (please print)

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date

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Student Signature

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