

Bloomington Kennedy



Rhythm in Gold (RIG)

**Parent Handbook
2025-2026**

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Directors



**Rhythm in Gold
Director**
Nikki Goulet Jordan
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**Rhythm in Gold
Assistant Director**
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**Rhythm in Gold
Assistant Director**
Josh Fremder
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**Rhythm in Gold
Band Director**
Jack Elbert
jelbert@isd271.org



RIG Choreographer
Kevin Chase



Assistant Choreographer
Alex Schultz



Vocal Coach
Tanner Larson



Kennedy Booster Club Contacts



President

Karla LeDoux

kennedychoirs@gmail.com



Vice-President

Gennia Provencher



Treasurer

Sharon Oliver

sharon.oliver@fairview.org



Secretary

Christine Laaksonen

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Fundraising Coordinators

Ann Fugleberg

ann.fugleberg@gmail.com



Sarah Van Peursem

sarahvp.rn@gmail.com



Band Rep.

Tom Bennett



Special Events

Julie Bothern



Retreat Meal Leads

Nicole Gerber & Tara Overmoen



Fireman's Leads

Holly & Mark Larson



Concessions Coordinators

Jennifer Helseth & Danelle Cheney



Bingo Lead

Tracy Zeimet

What is the Kennedy Choir Booster Club?

The Kennedy Choir Booster Club (KCBI) is a parent-run organization serving two major functions:

1. Provide communication between choir families and the Directors.
2. Fundraise to supplement essential costs of the show choir program.

Each year, KCBI raises approximately \$50,000 through our fundraisers. This money helps cover the cost of the following:

- Assistant Directors,
- Choreographer,
- Choreographer Cleaner,
- Out-of-town competition travel, and
- Scholarship aid, as needed.

KCBI also provides:

- meals for students during rehearsal workshops and other events,
- supplies for events (Preview Show, competitions, etc.), and
- an opportunity to meet other parents and families.

Booster Club Meetings

- Take place the 2nd Thursday of the month starting in September and last about 1 hour.
- Attendance is not required but strongly encouraged.
- We need help throughout the year with events and fundraising opportunities.

Your support helps build and sustain this valuable opportunity for your student. Come and share your talents with us!

Thank you very much!

Show Choir Schedule & Important Event Dates

High-Level Overview

Event	RIG	Band	Crew
August Retreat	August 25-28		
Official Start Date	November 3	November 6	January 8 (tentative)
In-season Retreats	November 15-18 December 8-10 January 9-11	December 8-10 January 9-11	January 9-11
Holiday Show	December 4-6	December 4-6	
Preview Show	January 11	January 11	January 11
Competition Season	January 17-March 28	January 17-March 28	January 17-March 28
Bloomington Gold	January 31	January 31	January 31
Bloomington Bash	February 5	February 5	February 5
RIG Annual	March 27-28	March 27-28	March 27-28

Monthly Calendar View

NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween	1
2 Daylight Saving	3 RIG SEASON BEGINS RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	4 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	5	6 BAND SEASON BEGINS RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6	7	8
9	10 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	11 Veterans Day RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	12	13 RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6	14	15 RIG Retreat
16 RIG Retreat	17 RIG Retreat	18 RIG Retreat	19	20 RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6	21	22
23	24 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	25 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	26	27 Thanksgiving NO SCHOOL	28 NO SCHOOL	29
30	1					

DECEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5 Band Rehearsal 3-6	2 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5 Band Rehearsal 3-6	3 Dress Rehearsal RIG + Band 3-6	4 HOLIDAY SHOW	5 HOLIDAY SHOW	6 HOLIDAY SHOW
7	8 RIG RETREAT BAND RETREAT	9 RIG RETREAT BAND RETREAT	10 RIG RETREAT BAND RETREAT	11 RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6	12	13
14 Hanukkah begins	15 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	16 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	17	18 RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6	19	20
21	22 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	23 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	24 Christmas Eve NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	25 Christmas Day NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	26 Kwanzaa begins NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	27
28	29 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	30 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	31 New Year's Eve NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	1 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	2 NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK	3

JANUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	6 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	7	8 CREW SEASON BEGINS RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6 Crew Rehearsal 3-6	9 RIG + BAND + CREW RETREAT	10 RIG + BAND + CREW RETREAT
11 RIG + BAND + CREW RETREAT PREVIEW SHOW 6pm	12 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	13	14	15 RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6 Crew Rehearsal 3-6	16 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5 Band Rehearsal 3-5 Crew Rehearsal 3-5	17 COMPETITION
18	19 ML King Day NO SCHOOL	20	21	22 RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6 Crew Rehearsal 3-6	23 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5 Band Rehearsal 3-5 Crew Rehearsal 3-5	24 COMPETITION
25	26 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	27	28	29 RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6 Crew Rehearsal 3-6	30 RIG + BAND + CREW BK Gold Setup	31 RIG + BAND + CREW BK Gold

FEBRUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Groundhog Day RIG Rehearsal: 3-5 Band Rehearsal 3-6 Crew Rehearsal 3-6	3	4	5 BLOOMINGTON SHOW CHOIR BASH	6 NO SCHOOL	7
8	9 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	10	11	12 RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6 Crew Rehearsal 3-6	13 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5 Band Rehearsal 3-5 Crew Rehearsal 3-5	14 Valentine's Day COMPETITION
15	16 Presidents' Day NO SCHOOL	17 NO SCHOOL	18	19 RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6 Crew Rehearsal 3-6	20 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5 Band Rehearsal 3-5 Crew Rehearsal 3-5	21 COMPETITION
22	23 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	24	25	26 RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6 Crew Rehearsal 3-6	27 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5 Band Rehearsal 3-5 Crew Rehearsal 3-5	28 COMPETITION

MARCH 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5	3	4	5 RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6 Crew Rehearsal 3-6	6 RIG Rehearsal: 3-5 Band Rehearsal 3-5 Crew Rehearsal 3-5	7
8	9 RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6 Crew Rehearsal 3-6	10	11	12 NO SCHOOL	13 NO SCHOOL	14 COMPETITION
15	16 NO SCHOOL Spring Break	17 St. Patrick's Day NO SCHOOL Spring Break	18 NO SCHOOL Spring Break	19 NO SCHOOL Spring Break	20 March equinox (GMT) NO SCHOOL Spring Break	21
22	23 RIG Rehearsal: 3-6 Band Rehearsal 3-6 Crew Rehearsal 3-6	24	25	26 Dress Rehearsal RIG + Band + Crew	27 RIG ANNUAL	28 RIG ANNUAL
29	30	31	1 April Fool's Day	2 Passover	3 Good Friday	4

2025-2026 Show Choir Fees

RIG COST		BAND COST		CREW COST	
District Fees \$975 (checks to ISD 271) Infinite Campus	Booster Fees \$189 (checks to KCBI) <i>Presto Assistant</i> Car Wash \$49 Pancake B'fast \$70 Preview Show \$70	District Fees \$500 (checks to ISD 271) Infinite Campus	Booster Fees \$189 (checks to KCBI) <i>Presto Assistant</i> Car Wash \$49 Pancake B'fast \$70 Preview Show \$70	District Fees \$500 (checks to ISD 271) Infinite Campus	Booster Fees \$140 (checks to KCBI) <i>Presto Assistant</i> Pancake B'fast \$70 Preview Show \$70

Infinite Campus (Show Choir Fees for the District)

Kennedy Choir fees are billed and paid through Infinite Campus. During the first half of July, a charge of \$975.00 will be placed in your student's account. Please pay this fee in full by February 1st, 2026. You may pay online in Infinite Campus or by delivering cash or check to Lori Esser in the Kennedy Activities Office.

Student Account

Every student has a *Presto Assistant* account set up by the choir's administrative assistant, Jenny Taffe, to help record payments that are made. The only charges that will be made in *Presto Assistant* will be the required fundraisers for the booster club. After a fundraiser occurs (Car Wash, Pancake Breakfast, Preview Show Tickets, etc.), your student's account will reflect the money raised based on their participation.

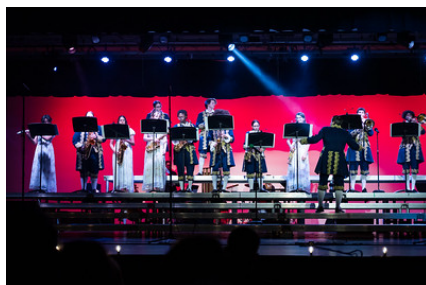
If a student *does not* turn in ticket money by the deadline, a charge for the full amount will be put into the student's *Presto Assistant* account.

OPTIONAL FUNDRAISER MONEY stored in *Presto Assistant*

Your student's *Presto Assistant* account will also hold all optional fundraising money. When the Boosters receive proceeds from an optional fundraiser (concessions, Droolin' Moose, etc.), you or your student can request to move those funds to Infinite Campus to pay toward the \$975 Show Choir Fee by emailing Gayle Erickson to facilitate the transfer. Gayle's email is gerickson1@isd271.org.

Why two systems for payment?

We need to keep the show choir fee separate from the booster fundraisers, as the money is used for different purposes in the program.



2025-2026 Show Choir Fees & Payment Schedule

If making payments by CHECK, please **write “Show Choir Fee” on the memo line AND put your student’s name on the memo of any check.** Payments are NON-REFUNDABLE.

Payments can be dropped off in the Main Office or sent to:

Kennedy Choirs
Attn. Nikki Jordan
Kennedy High School
9701 Nicollet Avenue South
Bloomington, MN 55420

Costs include: costumes, jackets, musical arrangements, competition fees, hotel, transportation, Directors’ fees, choreography, etc.

Costs DON’T include: personal undergarments, make-up, and hair products. Also, participants must purchase their own food at competitions and outside food is often not allowed (unless there are dietary restrictions). Host schools make money through concessions.

Scholarship Requests: Questions regarding scholarships or setting up alternative payment schedules should be sent to the choir director. Scholarship requests require the completion of an application that is available from the choir director. Scholarships are need-based and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Bloomington Kennedy Activities Foundation (BKAF) Scholarships: Families who are experiencing current or anticipated financial difficulties in covering the cost of an activity or sport are encouraged to apply for a BKAF scholarship. Information can be found at bkafmn.org.



Fundraising

We have 2 different kinds of fundraising opportunities: Group and Individual.

- Group fundraising opportunities benefit all members of the Show Choir.
- Individual fundraising benefits the individual show choir student.

We offer these fundraisers to help lower the out-of-pocket cost for participating in Show Choir. Look for emails/communications with important dates and opportunities.

There are 5 REQUIRED Fundraiser events:

Car Wash Ticket Sales (Aug. 23, 2025)—only RIG and Band

Impact Card Sales (early fall)

Pancake Breakfast Ticket Sales (Oct. 12, 2025)

Preview Show Ticket Sales (Jan. 11, 2026)

Bloomington Gold (*volunteer shifts—students and parents*) (Jan. 31, 2026)



Fireman's Tournament	July 17-21	Parents, family, and students set-up, work concessions, clean up.	Individual	\$15-20/hour
BINGO at Green Mill	Sundays, all year 5 pm-7:30 pm	Parents and students help support the Lions Club by selling BINGO cards.	Individual	\$50/shift (shift is about 3 hours)
Car Wash (Required for RIG + Band)	Sat., Aug. 23 10 am-1 pm	Parents and students needed. Students sell 7 tickets @ \$7 each (\$49).	Group and Individual	Students earn 100% of every ticket sold after the first 7
Impact Cards (Required for ALL)	Early fall	Students sell discount cards in the community.	Group	
Pancake Breakfast (Required for ALL)	Sun., Oct. 12	Parents and students work at the breakfast. Students sell 7 tickets @ \$10 each (\$70).	Group and Individual	Students earn 50% of every ticket sold after the first 7
Preview Show (Required for ALL)	Sun., Jan. 11	Students sell 7 tickets @ \$10 each (\$70).	Group and Individual	Students earn 50% of every ticket sold after the first 7
Bloomington Gold (Required for ALL)	Sat., Jan. 31	Each family is responsible for working 2 shifts (parents) + students are assigned shifts.	Group	\$15,000-20,000
Cookie Dough Sales	September	Students are responsible for sales and delivery.	Individual	50% of sales goes to student account
Gerten's Plant Sales	November & March	Students are responsible for sales and delivery.	Individual	30% of sales goes to student account
Eagle's Nest Concessions	Oct.-March	Families can work concessions for sporting events at KHS (volleyball, basketball).	Individual	TBD
Droolin' Moose	April	Students sell chocolates and are responsible for delivery.	Individual	30% of sales goes to student account

Parents' Guide to Show Choir

What is Show Choir?

Show choir is a competitive form of entertainment combining song, dance, bands and creativity. Kennedy will have one auditioned show choir for the 2025-2026 season: *Rhythm in Gold is a Varsity choir of mixed voices from grades 9-12. Auditions take place in May.*

The Band

The show choir is backed by its own student band. The band rehearses, travels, and performs along with the choir. Each show choir competition has a separate award for Best Band and Kennedy bands have consistently been top-rated and will compete, when eligible.

The Crew

The show choir also has a crew that assists with the costumes and ensures that props are ready. Crew members travel to all competitions. Awards are also given to the Best Crew for working behind the scenes, which Kennedy has won. The Crew is an integral part of the performance.

The Season

The show choir competition season runs from January through late March or early April but the work for a show choir occurs all year.

Choreography Retreats: Our choreographer, Kevin Chase, lives in Iowa so rehearsals with him usually involve 3-5 days of intense and demanding work. Attendance at these rehearsals is *mandatory* and students are expected to make EVERY EFFORT to attend. Any conflict must be discussed with a director in advance. Students must bring a water bottle to retreats along with a healthy snack. The Booster Club usually provides a meal for the kids during retreat weekends.
What to wear during retreats: Students should wear comfortable workout clothes and sneakers.

Rehearsals: Rehearsals involve vocal singing, dancing and breathing practices. They are intense, invigorating, and fun.

Preseason: Mondays 5:30-7:30 pm

In-Season: Mondays 3-5:00 pm, Tuesdays 3-5:00 pm, Thursdays 3-6:00 pm **Mandatory**

Concerts:

Holiday Show: RIG and Band will perform a fun holiday set with choreography.

RIG Annual: Soloists, small-group numbers, and full choirs will perform. RIG will also do their competition set for the final time. It's an emotional performance for our seniors.

Costumes

The cost of your student's costumes is included in the show choir fees. Costume measurements are taken in early June to allow for custom costume ordering. Costumes are selected by the directors, the costume designers, and the choreographer. Students are responsible for maintaining their costumes. Students must make sure they have all required pieces before and after a competition. **All costume items will be returned and checked-in after RIG Annual.**

Notify Mrs. Jordan and Mama Bryan immediately if any sewing or repairs are needed. This is not uncommon. DO NOT cut loose threads on sequined or beaded dresses without asking Mama Bryan.

Parents' Guide to Show Choir, Continued

Hair and Make-up

Stage presence is very important in show choir and that includes makeup and hair. In coordination with Kevin Chase, Ms. Jordan will determine what make-up pallet will be worn. This may include lipstick, blush, eye shadow, lip liner and eyeliner. These items will be purchased prior to the first competition. The hairstyle is selected as the group attempts to achieve an overall look and how to curl (or straighten) their hair.

Competition Etiquette

Competitions generally start between 8-9 am, with choirs performing every 30 minutes. Doors open to spectators only between the choir sets. Competition times CAN change so come early! RIG, band, and crew travel together. The days are long but oh so much fun!

Smaller schools and unisex/prep/junior varsity groups will perform earlier and larger schools and mixed/varsity groups perform later. The results from the preliminary performances will be announced before the dinner break. The top choirs will then perform THE SAME SET in the evening Finals competition. The top 6 performers in the evening finals competition are generally varsity groups, but some competitions allow the highest ranking JV group to compete in the finals.

The first 3 rows of seats in the auditorium are reserved for parents and fans of the choir on stage. Clapping and cheering are strongly encouraged during the performance, except during ballads when appreciation is demonstrated by "jazz hands." At the end of your school's set, you are expected to vacate these rows for the next school's fans.

ALWAYS be polite and respectful to the other choirs while in the audience, while walking around, or wherever you are. Kennedy students and families have good rapport with other groups, and we want to continue that tradition.

Food and snacks are available at all competitions. Students should plan to purchase food there since outside food is typically not allowed (unless someone has dietary restrictions).

