

Kingwood Middle School

2025-2026 Band Handbook



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Link to [CALENDAR](#)

Welcome to the Kingwood Middle School Band!

Your child has chosen to be in the KMS band. Each student has responsibilities and duties that are included in this handbook.

We encourage all students and parents to read through this handbook so they are familiar with the responsibilities of the KMS Band. Together we can make this a rewarding experience, a building block in your child's education and a source of pride and fond memories for many years to come.

Band Directors
Samantha Long
Bryan Hess

I. KMS Band Expectations

Classroom Rules

- No talking during rehearsal unless instructed to do so
- Keep hands/feet/objects to self
- Be respectful of all
- No gum, candy, food or drinks in the band hall

Classroom Procedures

- Instrument/Backpack
 - in cubbies or neatly along the walls
- Restroom
 - use it before/after class
- Tissues/Pencils
 - located on the back table
- Questions
 - raise your hand and wait to be called on
- Entering and Exiting the room
 - enter silently - exit calmly - keep your hands to yourself and do not play your instrument in the hallways
- Phones
 - phones are not allowed in class - please keep them off and out of sight

II. Band Placement

The KMS Band consists of two (2) advanced band ensembles, Symphonic Band and Honor Band, and a Beginner Band. Band students are assigned to an ensemble through an audition process. In addition to the audition, directors will take the following items into consideration:

- Instrumentation needs of each ensemble
- Work ethic
- The student's eligibility history
- Playing ability and progress
- Attendance at band rehearsals and performances
- Behavior

Occasional reassignment may take place during the year.

III. Grades

60%	Test (playing tests, pass-offs, and concerts)
40%	Instrument / Music checks/ Sectionals/ Homework (written or playing)

Pass-Offs and chair tests will be the primary format for assessments. Students will receive their pass off assignments at the beginning of every 9 weeks grading period.

Students will have up to 2 attempts per day to pass off their skills and music. Chair tests will occasionally be utilized for auditions in ensembles and part assignments.

Pass Off Standards:

Students must perform each exercise with characteristic tone quality, correct notes, rhythms, articulation, dynamics, phrasing, intonation and vibrato instruments should use vibrato after that skill has been introduced. Minor flaws, if any, did not detract from the overall performance. Preparation is clearly evident. A rubric will be provided to the students to aid them in their preparation.

IV. Sectionals

Sectionals are an important step to having a successful band. Here at KMS we want to have as much small group instruction as possible, to help encourage each student's musical success.

ADVANCED BAND (symphonic and wind ensemble) sections will meet before or after school for 45 minutes, one day a week. **Sectionals are 40% of your grade.** If you know you are going to miss a sectional, please bring a note from your parents before the sectional to allow you to make it up for full credit. You have one week to attend another sectional.

Athletes and KMS club members are still expected to attend Sectionals. We will work closely with all coaches and sponsors to eliminate any conflicts. We want everyone to be able to participate in everything.

V. Performances

Band members must attend all performances. Performances are a test grade. Your attendance, behavior, performance, and dress code are graded. It is vital for everyone to be present for the success of the group. Students must be present for the entire length of the performance. **Missed performances will be a 0 test grade.**

[CALENDAR](#)

VI. Uniforms

The KMS band's appearance should represent pride in the band and yourself. If you have any questions regarding uniforms, please do not hesitate to ask.

Formal Uniform

Boys:

- Black Dress Pants/Slacks
- Black Dress Shoes (no tennis shoes)
- Black Socks (long socks - no ankle socks)
- Black Belt
- Solid Black Buttoned down shirt with a collar and black tie (provided through KMS Band Fees)

If you are not in the correct dress code you will lose 25 points off your concert test grade. If it happens a second time, you will NOT be allowed to perform on stage.

Girls:

- Black Dress Pants/Slacks (no skirts or dresses)
- Black Dress Shoes (no tennis shoes)
- Black Socks (long socks - no ankle socks) or black hose (not sheer)
- Solid Black top with sleeves, no low necklines - we can order the same black button down for girls that the boys receive if you wish to have one

If you are not in the correct dress code you will lose 25 points off your concert test grade. If it happens a second time, you will NOT be allowed to perform on stage.

Informal Uniform

Informal uniforms will be worn on pep rally days, at football games, and on field trips. This uniform will consist of the 2025-2026 Band T-Shirt and jeans with minimal holes OR khaki pants or shorts (appropriate length).

VII. KMS Band Fee

[BAND FEE INFO](#)

VIII. Field Trips

Our two end-of-year trips are **BIG RIVERS** for beginner band and **SIX FLAGS** for advanced bands. All fine arts students must earn attendance to the end of year trip by following these guidelines:

1. Must attend all rehearsals and concerts.

2. Must have an S or above in fine arts courses.
3. Must have no ISS, OSS, DAEP, etc. assignments.
4. Must pay your field trip fee on time.
5. Must be passing all classes with a 70 or higher.
6. No refunds will be made.

Students represent KMS during all field trips. Any inappropriate behavior may result in removal from future field trip opportunities and could impact band placement.

IX. Band Hall Drop-Off Procedures

If you are dropping your child off at the band hall (Door 17) for morning rehearsals, sectionals, or other events, please follow the traffic flow map below. Drive past Door 17 to the back parking lot and proceed to the furthest parking spot to turn around. From there, you can circle back and drop your student off at Door 17. Please note, students may only be dropped off at the band hall if they have a morning rehearsal or band event before regular school hours. Otherwise, drop-offs should take place at Door 22. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe drop-off zone by following the traffic flow and driving at an appropriate speed.



Required Instrument and Supply List for ALL KMS Band Students

The following supplies will be **provided** by KMS Band once the student pays their yearly band fee.

This fee is not due until the new school year starts. More info will be provided.

All instrument supplies are **REQUIRED**

1 inch black binder
Pencils for the year
Pencil Pouch
5 Tab Dividers
Sheet Protector
Band Uniform Shirt

IF ABLE, WE ARE ASKING FOR DONATIONS OF...

8th Grade: Box of Pencils
7th grade: Box of Tissue
6th Grade: Hand Sanitizer

H&H Music will be at the KMS Band hall (door 17) on August 7th to assist you with supply purchases and instrument rental agreements. Attendance is not required but highly encouraged. You may also choose to rent and purchase online using this link:

[INSTRUMENT AND SUPPLY RENTALS](#)

Flute

Yamaha YFL 262 Open-Hole Flute
Silk Swab
Korg Tuner and Pick-Up
Tradition of Excellence Book 1
Folding Music Stand

Clarinet

Buffet E11 Clarinet
Vandoren 5RV lyre mouthpiece
(*included w/ rental from H&H)
Bonade inverted ligature
Silk Swab
Cork Grease
1 box Vandoren 2.5 Clarinet Reeds
Korg Tuner and Pick-Up
Tradition of Excellence Book 1
Folding Music Stand

Saxophone

Selmer AS-400 Saxophone
Vandoren AL3 mouthpiece
(*included w/ rental from H&H)
Rovner ligature
Silk Swab
Cork Grease
1 box Vandoren 2.5 Saxophone Reeds
Korg Tuner and Pick-Up
Tradition of Excellence Book 1
Folding Music Stand

Trumpet

Bach BTR-202 Trumpet
Bach 5C mouthpiece
Mouthpiece Brush
Valve Oil
Slide Grease
Korg Tuner and Pick-Up
Tradition of Excellence Book 1
Folding Music Stand

Trombone

Bach TB302 Trombone
Bach 6 ½ AL mouthpiece
Mouthpiece Brush
Valve Oil
Slide Grease
Korg Tuner and Pick-Up
Tradition of Excellence Book 1
Folding Music Stand

Percussion

Musser LMXILO Kit
Vic Firth SD1 Snare Sticks
Malletech Medium Brown Rubber Rattan Handle
Mike Balter Vibe Mallets
Cadence Stick and Mallet Bag
Mark Wessels Fresh Approach to Mallet Percussion Volume 1
Mark Wessels Fresh Approach to Snare Drum Volume 1

SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS

These instruments are provided by KMS for a yearly maintenance fee of \$75. Supplies still need to be purchased from the music store.

Horn

Holton Farkas MC Mouthpiece
Mouthpiece Brush
Rotary Oil
Slide Grease
Korg Tuner and Pick-Up
Tradition of Excellence Book 1
Folding Music Stand

Euphonium (Baritone)

Bach 6 ½ AL mouthpiece
Mouthpiece Brush
Valve Oil
Slide Grease
Korg Tuner and Pick-Up
Tradition of Excellence Book 1
Folding Music Stand

Tuba

Conn Helleburg Mouthpiece
Mouthpiece Brush
Valve Oil
Slide Grease
Korg Tuner and Pick-Up
Tradition of Excellence Book 1
Folding Music Stand

Handbook Acknowledgement Form

Please do not hesitate to communicate with us about anything. If for any reason you must miss a sectional, concert, or any other function your parents must contact us by email. We are more understanding when you take the time before the incident to let us know about the absence. We know there are always unexpected situations that arise, so please email.

We want your child to have a rewarding experience in the Kingwood Middle School Band.

As a member of this organization I understand that I am required to follow the rules and expectations of the Kingwood Middle School Band program. I have read the Kingwood Band policies and will follow them appropriately.

Print Student Name

Print Parent Name

Student Signature

Parent Signature

RETURN SIGNATURE PAGE ONLY

OR

[Access Electronic Signature Page](#)