

Kingwood Middle School

2024-2025 Band Handbook



Table of Contents

Pg. 1.....	Table of Contents
Pg. 2.....	Welcome Letter
Pg. 3.....	Band Expectations
Pg. 4.....	Band Placement
Pg. 4.....	Grades
Pg. 4.....	Sectionals
Pg. 5.....	Performances
Pg. 5.....	Uniforms
Pg. 6.....	Handbook Acknowledgement Form

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

KMS Band Students are:

- Respectful
- On time and Prepared
- Always Safe
- Responsible

Respectful means...

1. Be kind and courteous
2. Listen to all directors as they speak
3. Always make positive statements
4. Respect your teacher, your peers, and yourself

On time and prepared means...

1. Be in your seat with your instrument put together at the designated time
2. Have all required materials in class daily (instrument, accessories, binder, music, pencil, etc.)
3. Please be present and on time for all concerts and rehearsals
4. Always have your instrument cleaning supplies

Always Safe means...

1. No running or horseplay in the band hall as there is a lot of equipment that you can easily fall or hurt yourself on if you run into it
2. Do not play on each other's instruments.
3. Do not ever play your instrument outside or on the bus
4. Do not bring "non" band students into the band hall or instrument room

Responsible means..

1. Keep instrument in working condition
2. No gum or food in the band hall
3. Share all communication with parents
4. Communicate with teachers and band directors about conflicts that you may have with rehearsals, concerts, tutorials etc
5. Practice room behavior must be at your best at all times (no food, not for social time, clean the area before you leave)

Classroom Rules

- No talking unless instructed to do so
- Keep hands/feet/objects to self
- Be respectful of all

Classroom Procedures

- Instrument/Backpack - instrument room in cubbies or neatly along the walls
- Restroom - use it before/after class
- Tissues/Pencils - you do not have to ask, please get one quickly without being a distraction
- Questions - raise your hand and wait to be called on
- Needs - paper in the bin
- Entering and Exiting the room - enter silently - exit calmly - keep your hands to yourself
- Phones - may be used for tuner only (advanced bands only); please do not abuse your privilege; no texting, calling or social media during class

II. Band Placement:

The KMS Band consists of two (2) ensembles, Symphonic Band and Honor 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.

Sectionals 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.

[SECTIONAL SCHEDULE](#)

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. Uniform

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.

Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band Boys:

- Black Dress Pants
- 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.

Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band Girls:

- Black Dress Pants or long black skirt/dress
- 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

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.

Beginner Band:

- Black pants
- Black Shoes (no tennis shoes, no crocs, no sandals)
- Long Black socks (no ankle socks)
- Black belt
- Band Shirt

VII. KMS Band Fee

[BAND FEE INFO](#)

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](#)

