

Kingwood Park High School Color Guard



Student/Parent Handbook 2024-25

This handbook has been prepared as a general guide to the operation of the Kingwood Park High School Color Guard. Each student and parent should familiarize themselves with the handbook and be aware of the desired behaviors.

- *With the approval of the principal and superintendent, sponsors and coaches of extracurricular activities may develop and enforce standards of behavior that are higher than the district-developed Student Code of Conduct and may condition membership or participation in the activity on adherence to those standards. Extracurricular standards of behavior may take into consideration conduct that occurs at any time, on or off school property. Extracurricular behavioral standards shall not have the effect of discriminating on the basis of gender, race, color, disability, religion, ethnicity, or national origin.*
- *Students shall be informed of any extracurricular behavior standards at the beginning of each school year or when the students first begin participation in the activity.*

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Welcome to the 2024-25 KPHS Color Guard!!

On behalf of the Kingwood Park Band and Color Guard Program, we extend a warm welcome to all KPHS Color Guard Members!

We are excited about your participation in the KPHS Color Guard Program! This document is to provide you with the rules, procedures, and expectations of the KPHS Color Guard. The directors reserve the right to edit, enhance, or change items in this handbook as required for the benefit of the entire organization.

What is Color Guard? Color Guard brings ‘visual life and emotion’ to music. The Color Guard uses dance, flags, sabres, rifles, and props to bring the music of the marching band program to life.

WELCOME FROM THE DIRECTORS

The Kingwood Park High School Band and Color Guard Family are blessed with an amazing group of students and parents. As we grow our program, the successes we will achieve over the years are directly attributed to the complete effort by everyone.

Our purpose is to provide our students with the most positive and supportive environment for which they can develop their musical, visual, and performance skills and to provide many educational opportunities for them to witness and experience. We want our students to develop a passion for the activity so that they may know what it feels like to push themselves and teammates to reach their goals. This will provide each student with the tools to be a life-long learner and connoisseur of the musical and visual arts.

We believe that as members of the Panther Band and Color Guard, unity will make us stronger and enable us to achieve heights beyond our own expectations. We truly know that T.E.A.M. means Together Everyone Achieves More! As a team we will learn together, improve together, and grow together.

Our students will develop the ability to focus on a goal or task so they can complete it with excellence. We believe that our students will develop pride in our program and themselves through the structure of focused attention and the reward of completing a task at the highest level.

With these attributes, we know that our students will be successful in marching season, Winter Guard season, and solo and ensemble as well as the numerous other activities in which the students will participate. But more importantly, we know the students will continue their success into the rest of their lives and whatever endeavors they choose to pursue.

We wish for all the success possible for your child in the KPHS Panther Band and Color Guard. We are KPARK!

During the fall semester the Kingwood Park Band and Color Guard will be representing the school by performing across the state of Texas at several competitions including UIL. During the spring semester the Color Guard competes in a “Color Guard only” indoor performance ensemble. They will be performing and competing across the state of Texas at numerous Texas Color Guard Circuit/Winter Guard International competitions. The items within this handbook are designed to provide our performers with the best opportunity to succeed both in performance and in academics.

As the journey of this season begins, this document will be your guide to being a part of the Color Guard family.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please contact the directors listed below:

Esber Ramos - Color Guard Director

Esber.ramos@humbleisd.net

Bre Osbourn- Head Band Director (KPark)

Breanna.osbourn@humbleisd.net

Tyler Morris - Head Band Director (KHS)

tmorris@humbleisd.net

Samantha Long - Head Band Director (KMS)

Slong@humbleisd.net

FAQ's

- Why should I join?
 - Support your school. Since the band program is the largest extracurricular activity, it is an important organization at Kingwood Park High School.
 - Make new friends. Build relationships for a lifetime.
 - Have fun! Not only do you get to go to all football games for free, but you will also get to travel to competitions across the state.
 - It fits in your schedule! All high school students are required to take fine arts and physical education. By participating in Color Guard, you are earning both requirements in the same class.
 - Become well-rounded! Color guard requires higher level thinking that translates into many other areas.
 - Colleges LOVE guard students. The leadership opportunities in band and color guard are extensive. Counselors are looking for extracurricular activities on college applications. Many colleges offer strong scholarships for color guard students.

- What is the Color Guard's year like?

Color Guard is a year-long class, but a full four-year organization. During the first semester we perform with the marching band during football season. We perform at every football game and at marching contests during the fall. During the spring we are an independent competitive unit in an activity called Winter Guard in the Texas Color Guard Circuit and Winter Guard International. Each show is themed to support the selected music.

- When does Color Guard Practice?

All Color Guard members are required to participate in summer camp, summer band and all scheduled rehearsals, performances, and competitions. We have weekly rehearsals for most of the year. Color Guard performs as part of the band during the summer and the fall. There will be a few rehearsals in May to prepare for our summer camp. There are daily practices during August through November or the end of football season. There are some Saturday rehearsals scheduled during football season. During Winter Guard Season, Color Guard practices every week, but not necessarily every day. There are some Saturday camps during this time of year. All competitions are on the weekends. We

require that all members be flexible as from time to time, there will be changes in the rehearsal schedule. A change in the schedule does not excuse any student from rehearsal.

- What is a typical practice for Color Guard?
Color Guard will do daily body and equipment warmups. There will be both indoor and outdoor rehearsals during football season. Winter season rehearsals and performances take place in the gyms or commons/cafeteria. Rehearsals are physically and mentally demanding, which requires full focus and effort from every member.
- Are grades and conduct important?
Yes! HumbleISD's policy on UIL (University Interscholastic League) rules apply to Color Guard as well as athletes. No pass no play. If a member fails, there is no guarantee that they will have a performance spot in the specific show the guard is working on. They will be eligible for the next program if there is no spot available. All members must come to rehearsal even if they are not eligible to perform. Because Color Guard represents our school, it is important that each member displays responsibility, cooperation and respect for authority at all times. Any member or prospective member who has been suspended or received an ISS assignment will not be allowed to tryout or to continue membership with K- Park Color Guard. Directors enforce these student responsibilities.
(EXCEPTION: a member may serve ONE, one-day assignment for minor infractions only.)
- Can members earn a letter jacket? Yes! Each student will have the opportunity to earn a letter jacket. Details on the band website.
- Are there expenses associated with Color Guard?
Yes. The entire year's expenses are covered in the expense section of this handbook
- Is attendance important?
ABSOLUTELY. Color Guard is a visual activity and therefore relies on all members to create that visual effect. Attendance is required for the success of the entire organization. There will be specific days available for appointments. Please refer to the calendar for more details. The color guard class is like every other class. It is not to be missed for appointments. We request that they be scheduled around the rehearsal and performance schedules. If a member is going to be late or miss a rehearsal / performance, it is their responsibility to contact the director and the officer in advance of being late. A parent

running late to drop their child off does NOT excuse that student. Missing a rehearsal or performance can result in loss of the performance position.

- Is there a Booster Club?

Yes. It is recommended that all families of K-Park Color Guard members join and participate in our KPHS Band Booster Club. This is an organization that raises money for the band and color guard. Contact Patricia Ruple at Kparkbbpresident@gmail.com

HANDBOOK PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to set uniform guidelines and policies that focus on the proper implementation of membership requirements, tryouts, performance expectations, attendance, fundraisers and general rules. The Color Guard Member must abide by all guidelines and policies outlined in the Color Guard and Band Handbooks and Kingwood Park High School Student Handbook.

Philosophy / Purpose

Being a Color Guard member is an honor and special privilege. The Color Guard exists first and foremost to represent Kingwood Park High School. The Guard also exists to promote good sportsmanship, good citizenship, represent our school as an athletic and competitive fine arts unit, and wholesome and enthusiastic school spirit. Members should exemplify both individual and group behavior suitable to their position and accordance with the rules stated in the Color Guard Handbook and the Kingwood Park High School and HumbleISD Codes of Conduct. Members of this group have a fundamental responsibility to play a leadership role in building teamwork and helping the school achieve its goals and objectives. Because of these responsibilities, members are expected to maintain a higher standard of behavior both on and off campus and academic achievement than that of their peers.

OBJECTIVES

Color Guard members are expected to be physically and mentally skilled in learning and remembering routines with accuracy and technique at the standards set by the directors. They are also expected to be able to publicly demonstrate a skill level suitable for the team position and the timing necessary for group performance. Off the field, they are to enthusiastically support all KPHS organizations through support, personal attitude and attendance at required events.

MEMBERSHIP

- Prospective members must attend a mandatory tryout clinic and participate in the scheduled auditions before qualified judges.
- All tattoos must be completely covered.
- Members are expected to give their time to participate in required activities throughout the year. These activities may range from performances to fundraising activities.
- Members should use discretion in their commitments to multiple extracurricular activities. Members must attend all Color Guard summer camps.
- Members and their parents shall be aware of the responsibilities and the expenses of the organization.
- Parents are expected to support the member in complying with all guidelines and policies of the school and the organization.
- Membership for Color Guard begins immediately upon notification of acceptance.
- Members understand that until proven otherwise, the officers will be considered 'right' in all instances. When a director is not in the room, officers have authority.
- Members must adhere to all guidelines and policies in this handbook. Exception: For membership purposes, academic eligibility does not apply until the semester following the members' acceptance begins.
- Members understand that our appearance is important in both rehearsal and on the performance floor, as well as on a daily basis. Please see daily dress requirements for details.

Color Guard Officers

Officers

Kingwood Park Color Guard has two types of officers: Performance and Social. To be considered for either type, you must complete the entire audition process. Which type of office you hold is based upon your total officer audition score. The highest overall score is the captain and then goes down the list from there. Each office has a very important role for the team. Below are the order and some of the responsibilities for each. Officers are not limited to just the roles listed. Any other duty assigned by the directors will become part of the role for that year.

Tenure: Performance Officers – At least 3 full seasons of Color Guard.

Social Officers - At least 2 full seasons of Color Guard.

****Please note:** Officers are required to arrive for all rehearsals, performances and events at least fifteen (15) minutes early and can expect to be finished about fifteen (15) minutes after rehearsals end to direct the team in all set ups and tear downs.

Officers and the Roles of Office

Performance Officers will have direct, daily authority over the team as required by the director. They will have responsibility over the technical aspects of the organization and performance work as required. The Social Officers will not have daily authority over any team member. The social officers will have authority in planning and executing the responsibilities that they have been assigned. (Social, party, locker decorations, motivation, etc.) Possible Officer Rankings – (remember, this is not a promise of the roles or number of officers but outlines multiple opportunities.

Captain, Co – Captain (Captain is highest ranking officer, but co-captain is the second in command. Their achievement excels and is more than what a 1st Lt. requires).

Lieutenants – these can be ‘over all’ roles or sectional roles as needed.

Social Officers- Social Leader, Co – Social Leader, Historian, Co- Historian

Loss of Office – If an officer becomes ineligible during their term, they will forfeit that position for the remainder of the school year. The position may be reassigned to another student at the director’s discretion. If an officer does not display the proper work ethic geared towards the overall improvement of the guard, the band, or if an officer does not attend a rehearsal (unexcused), performance, or major event, they will forfeit their position for the remainder of the school year. If an officer violates the contract or has unexcused absences, they will forfeit their office for the remainder of the year. All eligibility rules apply before they may audition for officer a second time. *Note: there may be special circumstances that may excuse an officer from forfeiting their position. This is up to the discretion of the directors.

Kingwood Park Color Guard Conduct Guidelines

GOALS AND EXPECTATIONS

The goal of Kingwood Park Color Guard is to achieve excellence in performance while maintaining the highest level of integrity. To reach this goal, students are expected to show strong character and disciplined habits during class, rehearsals, performances, all trips off campus, during free time in the Band Hall, and any time while representing the Panther Band and KPHS. Pride, self-discipline, teamwork, and respect are the foundation of every great organization. This includes daily appearance.

Student Code of Conduct

All KPHS Color Guard members will represent the program, school, and community in a positive and professional manner. Students will abide by all KPHS and Humble ISD rules and regulations

CONDUCT GUIDELINES FOR COLOR GUARD

Note: Parents are expected to be aware of these guidelines and always help reinforce them.

1. Students will follow all rules and policies stated in the HumbleISD Student Handbook and Code of Conduct, as well as in the Kingwood Park High School Student Handbook.
2. Students will show respect for:
 - All fellow students, directors, and volunteers.

-All property of Kingwood Park Color Guard and the Panther Band, as well as that of fellow band students.

-Property or items not owned by our students or HumbleISD

3. Students will be on time (which means early!) for all rehearsals, performances, and activities.
4. Students will have appropriate equipment, attire and supplies at all times.
5. Students will be prepared to contribute to rehearsals and performances by fulfilling individual practice obligations and working to improve their skills.
6. Students will have a positive attitude.
7. Students will always use appropriate language.
8. Students will refrain from inappropriate public displays of affection as defined in HumbleISD's Student Handbook and Code of Conduct.
9. Students will not eat or drink in the Band Hall.
10. Students will follow all bus riding rules and travel policies set forth by Humble ISD, as well as the Panther Band and Color Guard.
11. Students will follow all rules and policies stated in the Humble ISD Student Handbook and Code of Conduct, as well as in the Kingwood Park High School Student Handbook. Remember that students represent the KPHS Band program, our school, our school district, community, and their parents while on any trip.
12. All students are expected to always conduct themselves properly. Display of profanity, temper, flagrant violation of rules, etc. will not be tolerated. Individual behavior during a band function is a reflection of the group.
13. Students will follow instructions from directors, student leaders, and designated adult chaperones (Remember that our wonderful chaperones are an extension of the band staff). Instructions should be followed the first time they are given. Although a student may not agree with instructions given to them or given to the entire group, they will still follow the procedures that have been set forth by the directors and/or adult chaperones. Students will not "over-think" the instructions that are given. Students will not disrupt instruction at any time.
14. Students will quietly enter and exit the band hall and fine arts hallway.
15. Students will be in their assigned rehearsal area ready to work at the set rehearsal time.
16. Students will wear appropriate, school approved clothing at all times.
17. Students will not lie, cheat, steal, vandalize (including writing on music stands, walls, etc.), or tolerate anyone who does.
18. Students will not play on equipment they do not own or have permission from a director to use. Students will not touch, handle, borrow, or use anyone else's instrument, uniform, equipment or personal belongings without permission.

19. Students should ask for permission to speak by raising their hand and waiting to be acknowledged. All rehearsals are expected to be silent so everyone's time will be utilized wisely.
20. When allowed in the band hall, either before or after school, students will not disturb any rehearsal in progress.
21. Students should keep their equipment in the designated storage area and keep said storage area clean and neat in appearance. Students who demonstrate great difficulty with this may lose the privilege of having a storage area in the band hall.
22. Students will utilize their assigned storage slot / locker for personal items/guard bags during rehearsals.
23. Since all Humble ISD campuses are drug and alcohol free, all our KPHS Band functions and trips will be as well. No student shall possess, use, transmit, or attempt to possess, use or transmit, or be under the influence of drugs, tobacco, and/or alcohol on school premises or off school premises at a school related or band related activity, function, or event. The KPHS Band Staff will contact school authorities and will contact local law enforcement immediately if any of the above items are found on any student for any reason.
24. Any behavior, which is not representative of good citizenship, as perceived by the band staff, may result in the student's dismissal from the band activity as well as permanent removal from the band program. This will be at the discretion of the band directors. This applies to the actions of all students and student leaders in both public and private events.
25. A student that consistently receives school detention or receives any form of severe punishment including ISS, school suspension, etc. may be permanently removed from the band program, at the discretion of the band directors.
26. Students will have a positive and willing attitude!
27. Students will have a safe way of transportation to rehearsal, clinic, contests sites.
28. Will not share eye makeup as it may cause eye infections.

SEVERE INFRACTIONS

Students who demonstrate severe violations of the guidelines as stated above will be subject to discipline by the administration of Kingwood Park High School. Punishment may include permanent removal from the Panther Band and Color Guard program.

Physical Conditioning

Physical conditioning will consist of (but not limited to) any of the following assignments:

- Push-ups or burpees
- 2-3 laps around football field or 6-10 laps around gym floor
- 2-4 passes of lunges
- Wall sit

Physical conditioning will be given for minor offenses to include, but not be limited to:

- Tardy to roll call with an email/message to a director
- Missing items at inspection
- Missing clothing at practice
- Wearing unexcused Jewelry to rehearsal or performances
- Minor conduct problems at director's discretion
- There may be conditioning assigned that does not fall under the categories above.

Members that fail to take care of their conditioning after practice work off double the amount the following day. Officers that fail to have a member work off their conditioning will condition with that member.

Dismissal from Color Guard

These offenses may result in forfeiture of membership in KPHS Color Guard. All decisions are made by the directors. Kingwood Park Color Guard members are leaders and role models and must choose to behave accordingly.

- Color Guard members who have been suspended will forfeit membership. (Exception: a student may serve a one-day assignment for dress code or tardies...only one opportunity given each year).
- Member who becomes ineligible twice during a school year.
- Student found possessing, using, transmitting or to be under the influence of drugs, alcohol, etc. while at school, in costume or KPHS wardrobe, while representing the organization.
- Smoking tobacco in any KPHS clothing or while representing KPHS Color Guard or KPHS.
- Any member that receives an MIP, DUI, DWI, or other drug or alcohol related offense will automatically forfeit their membership.
- Theft of team or individual property.

- Hazing or initiation of any student by another student.
- Any student unable to meet the physical demands of the activity.
- Members who assault or harass directors or team members automatically forfeit their position on the team.
- Any offense not covered in this handbook, but which is clearly and logically an offense, shall be declared appropriate for dismissal by the directors. ***From time-to-time issues may arise that are not covered in this handbook. When such issues are behavioral and conduct based, the principal and directors may exercise disciplinary action in accordance with school district policies. Such behavioral and conduct offenses may lead to dismissal from the organization.

Rehearsals

During the rest of the year, the color guard will have a separate rehearsal schedule. That schedule will be dependent upon gym availability, contest schedule and other various activities.

Rehearsals begin when the last person arrives and is ready to rehearse. The full time allotted will be used starting when all are ready to begin. A parent or ride with another student does not excuse tardiness at any time. Again, your ability to be flexible is required.

Since after school practice is co-curricular, all students are required to attend and participate in all after school rehearsals to receive credit. Failure to attend rehearsals will result in a zero. Please do not schedule doctor's/dentist's appointments during after school rehearsals. There are days set aside for appointments, etc. Please refer to the calendar for specific days.

If an absence is pre-approved and excused, the student will be allowed to make up the time missed at rehearsal to earn credit for that assignment. An appropriate amount of time will be allowed to make up missed rehearsals predetermined by the directors. Any un-excused absence or non-pre-approved excused absence, (including appointments), is not eligible to make up missed rehearsal time to earn credit for the assignment, except in the case of extreme emergency. (Such as: death in the immediate family, hospitalization, etc.)

Each day there is assigned clothing to be worn during practice. Dressing out appropriately is part of each member's daily participation grade, this includes wearing proper undergarments in rehearsal to prevent anything from slipping out. Additionally, no jewelry may be worn. Individual rehearsal is required for each member to learn the skills required for any given show. Do not assume that any member will get enough 'practice' in rehearsal. Skill / Task Practices as

well as the private lessons are done on your own...rehearsal takes place as a group. REHEARSALS ARE NOT THE TIME FOR PRIVATE LESSONS OR INDIVIDUAL REHEARSAL. PRACTICE TAKES PLACE ON YOUR OWN...REHEARSAL TAKES PLACE IN THE GROUP SETTING. Students who miss a rehearsal during a performance week may not be allowed to perform that week and may forfeit their performance spot for that season.

Electronics – Cell phones are a wonderful asset for each student and family. It allows strong communication opportunities between parents and students. However, during rehearsals (especially Color guard rehearsals), there will be no electronics in the rehearsal space or on the rehearsal field. Each student will be required to place their cell phones in their locker. They will not be allowed to check their phones during rehearsal. Students should not be checking their phones for messages at every break as there is a lot of time lost/wasted during our limited rehearsal time. The student will pick up their electronic device after rehearsal and all items are picked up and put away. If a parent must get ahold of their student, they may do so through the school or the directors.

All Color Guard rehearsals are closed to parents, family, friends and guests unless specific permission is given by the directors. Please be on time to pick up your child at the end of each rehearsal. Please allow your child fifteen minutes (15) after the posted ending time of rehearsal to pick up your child. Rehearsal starts when the last member arrives and ends after the time commitment has been realized. They will pick up and pack equipment after rehearsals. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Tutoring should take place during non-rehearsal time. Mornings are recommended for days with after-school rehearsal. It is recommended that students prepare their teachers for their arrival at all tutorials.

Performances and Performance Rules

Performances are an important part of the program. Note that there are no unimportant rehearsals or performances. There is always the possibility of play-off games during football season that will require Color Guard to rehearse both football routines and Winter season's competitive programs.

Performance Rules are not limited to but will include the following: (directors reserve the right to create rules as needed for the safety, consistency and presentation of the organization.

- A member must be present at ALL REHEARSALS to perform.
- Loss of a performance position may include but not be limited to attendance, daily and performance appearances, lack of memory of routine, technique of skills required, projection, flexibility, coordination, strength and endurance. No member is guaranteed to perform.
- The director makes the final decision on who will perform for any given performance. The director's decision is final.
- If a member is absent or tardy to a rehearsal, performance or work session, the member is held responsible for all announcements and information given during the missed activity. The directors will not be responsible for getting information to each individual member that is not in class or at rehearsal on time.
- Unless otherwise noted in the schedule, it is to be understood that each member will come to show/rehearsal or meeting place with their hair completed prior to loading the bus and departing for the event.
- Before each performance, the guard will go through an inspection of all costumes, packing and equipment prior to departure. Failure to be prepared may result in loss of performance opportunities at the decision of the directors.
- If your absence is pre-approved and excused, the student will be allowed to make up the time missed at rehearsal to earn credit for that assignment. An appropriate amount of time will be allowed to make up missed rehearsals predetermined by the directors. Any un-excused absence or non-pre-approved excused absence is not eligible to make up missed rehearsal time to earn credit for the assignment, except in the case of extreme emergency. (Such as death in the immediate family, hospitalization, etc.)
- Students and parents should not ask to miss any type of rehearsal or performance. Missing a performance will not be allowed and a skipped performance may set your student up for dismissal from the organization.
- Wearing the appropriate undergarments to maintain modesty in uniform.

PARENT NOTE: While with the guard at games, performances and competitions, your child is there to be part of the team. Visits from parents in the stands, on the buses, etc. are prohibited. If an emergency message needs to get to your student, then do this through the directors. There will be appropriate times for parent visits at many of our events, but not all of them. You and your student will be advised in advance of these opportunities. Please do not put your student in an uncomfortable situation by approaching them when they know you should not. Furthermore, public events and competitions are NOT the time to have a private discussion with any director.

Self-Practice

For each student to fully maximize their performance, I will require individual practice of skills in all areas of color guard. It is understood by the member that self-practice is required for success. The directors reserve the right to require homework of self-practice if individuals or the team are not fulfilling their responsibilities. This homework will be performed for a grade.

FOOTBALL GAMES, COLOR GUARD EVENTS

Color Guard performs at ALL Kingwood Park High School varsity football games (except scrimmages). The color guard not only performs its halftime show with pride and spirit, but also carries on the tradition of that pride and spirit in the stands.

PARENTS, PLEASE BE ON TIME TO PICK UP YOUR CHILDREN. WE ARE SELDOM MORE THAN 20 MINUTES LATER THAN THE APPROXIMATE TIME OF ARRIVAL AS STATED ON THE ITINERARY. MANY TIMES, WE ARE EVEN EARLY. We do not have control over the number of timeouts or penalties incurred during the football game. The directors feel very uncomfortable and cannot leave any student unattended at the band hall after everyone else has gone home. PLEASE help us out by being there to get your son/daughter as soon as possible.

Color Guard Events

There will be specific schedules for each event given to the students and sent via email to all parents on the email list. More info TBA.

Public Etiquette

In public, each member is to remember that they represent K-Park Color Guard, The Panther Band Program, Kingwood Park High School and Humble ISD. Below is a guideline of expected behavior while in public and/or in costume. We are an ensemble; a team; a group; a performing unit. We are public figures...and our community is going to be watching everything we do. These guidelines are in place for the benefit of the entire color guard. When we are a unit, we are not individuals. We must remember perception is everything. It is imperative that we are dressed appropriately and look as "one team". Your hair must be correct before we leave for a performance and may not be taken down until you are instructed to do so by the director. You need to make all arrangements on your own to make sure that you are dressed accordingly. Your

directors or officers will let you know what to wear for school on spirit days, for travel, for shows and any other event that requires us to be seen as an ensemble. There are no excuses...do not let your team down. You should have extra rehearsal shirts, extra socks, etc. so you will not find yourself in a situation where you are not appropriately dressed for any color guard rehearsal, function, or event. Additionally, on show days, no colored fingernail or toenail polish...clear is fine. No colored items of any kind will be permitted. Earrings may be worn (or provided) for these days. No other jewelry will be permitted while in spirit clothing. Additionally, only neutral-colored bras with clear straps may be worn with costumes. Spanx and appropriate bra should be worn with costumes. Underwear should not be seen under costumes. Underwear creates lines in the body's form and interrupts view of the costumes. There are no exceptions. When we are in public, please do not forget to use your best manners. You never know who it is you may be speaking too...or who is watching you.

Stands Etiquette – We want every one of you to have FUN at the football games. However, we cannot forget that we are there to support our school and football. We will assign you seating for the games. The color guard will sit in an area/seating pattern that will look nice and organized from all areas of the stadium. We want to always look awesome. Being in the stands is a form of performance in itself. You are to stay in your assigned seat in the rows that are required for us to look our best.

While in the stands, there are a few things that we must all do. When the band plays the fight song, we will all stand and support our school...every time the song is played. When cheering our team on, we need to do it with dignity and pride. We want to make sure our cheers are heard, but not interrupted as unruly. When an officer or director asks you to sit and be quiet, please do so immediately. If an injury occurs to one of our players, the color guard will sit with their hands on their laps until the player is removed from the field. This shows respect. We will stand for the Star-Spangled Banner and face the flag. We do not talk, look around or play around during the Star-Spangled Banner. Please just pay attention to your officers and directors if things change during a game. We will not be going in and out of the stands. Once in the stands, we will be there to stay for the duration of the game. We will have designated restroom break before the game begins. No guard member is to go to the restroom alone. You will have a chaperone with you and travel as a group. Hands will be behind your back as you go from place to place.

Half Time Preparation, Performance, and Review – We will go down to warm up at the beginning of second quarter at every game where we perform. You will be given instructions prior to this time on the 'order' of warm up. (It will be different every week as our show grows).

Preparation - When we go down, your hands will be behind your back. You will be instructed by a director or officer on what equipment to pull out. You will NOT spin, toss, or rehearse on your own. You will wait for the group as our time is VERY limited. You will get equipment and fall into the expanded block. We will face away from the field so we can prepare. Please block out ALL things going on around you as we have a show to do.

Performance – We will line up on the ready line when our time dictates that we do. We will fall in line with our feet at attention and our equipment in our hands. Head is up and we do NOT SPEAK A WORD to anyone.... we do not look around...we focus in and do a mental review of our upcoming performance. Standing still is a skill that sets us apart from others. This is why we work so hard....so represent yourself and KPHS Color Guard professionally!

Review – After every show, you will gather your equipment and fall in line behind your officers. You will then ‘follow the leader’ to the designated location and follow into a circle and close feet at attention. You will wait for your director or officer to give review and instructions. After we return equipment to the designated area, we will line up, (hands behind back) and go to our seating area.

Officers – officers are an extension of the director’s arm and authority. Please respect these people as they do many things to make your life easier in color guard. They will give you directions in rehearsals, when traveling, at shows, in the stands, etc. Your help is appreciated.

Equipment Responsibilities Color guard equipment (flags, sabers, rifles, props, floor, etc.) as well as our other equipment (costumes, carts, electronics, etc.) is Humble ISD property and is to be well-taken care of. Color Guard members agree to:

- Roll flags when not using them and place them in flag bag or flag cart
- Not allow anyone not in color guard to use or handle our equipment
- Be responsible for each item that is used by that member – take care of it
- If some piece of equipment needs repair, take care of it or report to officer or directors.
- All equipment repairs should be done before or after rehearsal. Do not put it off.
- Be responsible for any equipment taken off campus – making sure you have it for all classes, rehearsals, performances, and competitions.

Attendance Policy

Attendance and participation are **REQUIRED** at all rehearsals, clinics, and performances. All other activities must be scheduled at times other than class and rehearsals. The success of the unit is dependent upon all individuals committing to the policies below.

Along with attendance, members must be on-time to all required rehearsals and performances. Excessive tardiness will result in a plan of improvement and loss of performance privileges.

The following chart lists what is defined as an excused or unexcused absence.

Excused Absence	Unexcused Absence
Family-related emergency	Routine medical appointments if possible
Medical emergency	Homework, projects, other schoolwork
Required Class Commitments if previously communicated with the directors.	Employment commitments
Once in a lifetime event (wedding, Quinceanera, etc.) Concerts are NOT excused.	Other school activities, meetings, events unless previously communicated with the directors.

Rehearsal Absence Policy

1st Unexcused Rehearsal Absence -

Member is given a verbal warning and will be issued a make-up assignment.

2nd Unexcused Rehearsal Absence - Member will lose their competitive performance position and will be reassigned as an alternate.

3rd Unexcused Absence- Member may be removed from the program.

Performance Absence Policy

All Color Guard performances are mandatory. Each performer has a unique role in the show, and a single missing member detracts from the quality and competitive success of the unit. **Any unexcused absence** from a performance will result in immediate loss of a performance spot. If the absence is excused or is due to an emergency, the student must contact the directors as soon as possible in order to modify performance plans.

School Conflicts

The Band and Color Guard programs encourage our members to be involved in a variety of school programs and activities. Due to the limited rehearsals of the Color Guard, some programs are a direct conflict to the rehearsal schedule. If a student must miss a rehearsal due to a required meeting of another activity, the student must communicate with the directors as soon as they are aware of the conflict. The directors will try to be as flexible as possible as not to limit the member's ability to be involved in other programs they are interested in. Excessive conflicts may result in a meeting with the member to re-evaluate their status in the Color Guard.

Eligibility

The KPHS Color Guard program will abide by all UIL and Humble ISD academic eligibility rules and policies. Frequent academic problems will result in a parent-director conference to discuss a plan for success.

Slack

The Color Guard program at KPHS utilize the Slack for instant communication via message to our students and parents. To sign up email me to receive an updated link to the channel. It is the ***main form of communication*** used between the students and Mr Ramos. Curfew for the members will be 10 pm unless an officer is instructed by the directors to send a message.

Grading Policy

The Color Guard has a corresponding class period during the school day. They meet during 7th period and is taught by Mr. Ramos. Each color guard student is **required** to be enrolled in this class. This course will advance the abilities and skills of the members to a high level and will

enhance the skill of the group. Enrollment and participation in this course are a must. When the member elects to take the course, the following grading procedures will be followed.

Color Guard members will be graded in three basic areas - daily grades, quiz grades, and test grades. Daily grades are weighted 25%, quiz grades are weighted 35%, and test grades are weighted 40%. The director may add additional grading opportunities as the show/schedule permits. Here are some possible grading areas.

Participation Grade (daily grade)

Students grades come from their rehearsal attendance as well as video homework that is assigned weekly. It is crucial that students turn in their video homework as it shows them being accountable in growing their skills. Parents if you can assist me by asking to see what they've been working on so they may keep growing in this activity.

Performance Grades (test grade)

Each student can earn a test grade for participating in performances, rehearsal run-throughs, and assigned performance tests.

Inspection Grade (test grade)

Prior to each performance, the guard will have inspection. Each student must have all items assigned for that event's packing list.

Skills Assessment (quiz grade)

Skills tests will be given once performances begin.

Fundraising

Multiple fundraising opportunities will be available to help offset the cost of the required items. More information for these opportunities TBA.

Physicals

All students who participate in Band or Color guard must have an up-to-date physical on file. The student's physician MUST complete the a Physical form in order to participate in Color Guard rehearsals and performances. Physicals can be submitted to RankOne.

Transportation

Due to having a combination of 3 schools in one program it is crucial that the member has a safe way or transportation to and from the school. It is required that each student communicates in which way they will be transported to anywhere that the guard is meeting, whether that be rehearsals at Kpark High, Kingwood High, and Kingwood Middle.

- Students must all have their seatbelt on while they are in a moving vehicle.
- Directors/ parents must be made aware if they are transporting their own household.
- Students must abide by the rules of the road as they are always representing their program.

If a member fails to have a reliable/ safe way of transportation, they will be subject to removal of the program at the discretion of the directors.