

Kennedale High School Wildcat Band

Summer 2025 Information Packet

Dear Wildcat Band Members and Parents:

We, the directors of the KHS Band, are all excited about the upcoming marching band season and the 2025-26 school year. This is an exciting time for us all to be a part of the Wildcat Band program. We are fortunate to have strong leadership and support that exists in our community, student body, Band Booster Club, and school administration. We will continue to provide an atmosphere within the band program where our students will feel that they have the opportunity to succeed. We will continue to make the Kennedale Wildcat Band Program the best it can be.

This packet of information is for both our students and parents to inform you of the initial plan and overview of schedules and rehearsal attendance expectations of the Fall 2025 Semester. If you have any questions, you will be able to reach Mrs. Wilson this summer at the **Kennedale High School Band Hall at 817-563-8109** (no calls after 7 pm please), or via e-mail at: wilsonk@kisdtx.net.

Marching Band “Summer Band” Schedules

All band students are required to attend summer band. Lack of attendance/tardiness to rehearsals is grounds for disciplinary action, such as (but not limited to): loss of privileges, reduction of grade/chair, loss of spot in marching show, dismissal from the program. Missing band rehearsals and performances because of work (a job) is not an excuse. Students must arrange work schedules ahead of time so that you will not have a conflict. Again, work is not an excuse for missing band rehearsals. This includes working at home babysitting siblings (please make other arrangements). Plan ahead of time! I will try to work with students on schedule conflicts such as church camps and family vacations (on a case by case basis), but I must have advance notice. Understand that a prolonged absence from summer band due to these types of conflicts will affect a student's placement in the program and marching show. Absence from the entirety of Summer Band and appearing for the first time on the first day of school is grounds for dismissal from the band program. Please notify Mrs. Wilson in advance of any conflicts before they arise.

HEADSTART (PRE-SUMMER) MARCHING CLINIC **FOR INCOMING FRESHMEN**

KHS will offer a week-long session for all KHS students, grades 9-11, and all 8th graders **from Tuesday April 22nd through Friday April 25th 2025, from 5:00pm-7:00pm at the KHS Performing Arts Center.** Tuesday and Wednesday will be Freshmen only and Thursday - Friday will be the FULL BAND. This clinic will be a chance for these “new marchers” to have fun and learn some of the marching techniques that they will use in the fall. All of our current 8-11th grade band members are ***REQUIRED*** to attend these days regardless of their intention in the 2025 Fall competition marching show. We will have a public exhibition with these kids and a meeting with all grade band parents on Friday April 25th at 7:30pm at the PAC to show our families our progress after the week and premiere the music for the opener. Following the exhibition, the Band Directors and Booster Club will have a short meeting with the all band parents in attendance to discuss information about next year's marching band season.

Band Registration

April 26th (Saturday) – All Day - KHS BAND REGISTRATION DAY at the PAC

All band students are required to register for KHS band with a parent on this date. Exact times for registration will be posted on the KHS Band Website. Students will be fitted with uniform parts and parents can sign up online with CutTime, order shirts, pay fees, and sign up for other booster club - Wildcat Band Corporation (WBC) events.

Drumline and Color Guard Members are required to attend additional summer workshop dates that are separate from the full band summer band dates

Percussion

Drumline “PART ONE” (3 days)

May 27th, 28th, 29th, (Tue, Wed, Thu) - 8:00am to 4:00pm (1 Hour Lunch Break) ALL battery members must be in attendance for these 3 days of rehearsals.

FRONT ENSEMBLE ONLY “PART ONE” (3 days)

July 14th, 15th, 16th (Mon, Tue, Wed) – 8:00 am to 4:00 pm (1 Hour Lunch Break)
ALL Front Ensemble members must be in attendance for these three days of rehearsals.

FULL Percussion Workshop (3 days)

July 21st 22nd, 23rd (Mon, Tue, Wed) – 7:00am-4:00pm (1 Hour Lunch Break)
Front ensemble - 7:00 am - 11:00 am
Battery - 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

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COLOR GUARD

KHS Color Guard Workshop “PART ONE” (3 days)

May 27th, 28th, 29th, (Tue, Wed, Thu) - 8:00am to 12:00pm
ALL members of the Color Guard must attend these THREE days of rehearsals.

KHS Color Guard Workshop “PART TWO” (3 days)

July 21st 22nd, 23rd (Mon, Tue, Wed) – 7:00am-2:00pm (1 Hour Lunch Break)
ALL members of the Color Guard must attend these THREE days of rehearsals. These days are in conjunction with 9th grade/rookie camp.

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KHS Leadership Workdays

July 14th -18th (Mon-Fri) – 8am-3pm (lunch break 11:30)

All drum majors and squad leaders required to attend

The first part of these workshops will be spent learning other instrument positions. The afternoons will be spent on preparing for the season.

KHS Band Freshman/New to District Required Mini-Camp July 2025

ALL INCOMING 9TH GRADE/ NEW MARCHING BAND MEMBERS

July 21st 22nd, 23rd (Mon, Tue, Wed) –7:00am-2:00pm (60 min break at 10:30)

!! All NEW students to Kennedale High School will attend these THREE days!!

Morning Rehearsals All incoming Freshmen and any new students to KHS who have not marched with our band before (not Color Guard) are **required** to come for these three days. Students will be instructed in basic marching fundamentals, terminology and music performance for the Wildcat Marching Band. All drum majors and squad leaders will also attend. **Absences (excused or unexcused) from summer band will affect a student's placement in the program and marching show. Any conflicts must be cleared in advance with Mrs. Wilson.** Please email: wilsonk@kisdtx.net.

FULL MARCHING BAND - SUMMER BAND 2025

****ALL BAND MEMBERS REPORT****

WEEK #1 of FULL BAND *Morning Rehearsals*

July 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, Aug 1st(Mon-Fri) - 7:00am to 4:00pm (60 min break at 10:30)

START of Marching Band Rehearsals for the FULL Marching Band. ALL band students are required to be in attendance. If you are not here, you may forfeit your spot in the marching show OR be removed from band program, unless cleared in advance with parent contact. **Drill starts Aug 1.**

August 1st (Fri) - Band Performance at “Meet the Wildcats”

Tentative date-Subject to change

Rehearsal 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Wildcat Stadium (Full Marching Performance) approx 7pm.

WEEK #2 of Full Band *Morning/Evening Rehearsals*

August 4th- 8th (Mon-Fri)– 6:30 am - 8:00 am 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Full Marching Band. Second week of Full Marching Band Rehearsals will be in the early morning and evenings due to KISD Teacher Inservice and UIL Heat Policies. Arrange work schedules accordingly. These are important rehearsals as we will be learning drill for the marching show. Unexcused absences will result in disciplinary action and/or a loss of marching spot in the show.

Final Day of SUMMER BAND

August 11th (Mon) - 6:30am to 8:00 am *Morning Rehearsal* for Full Marching Band.

5:00 pm Performance at Wildcat Stadium followed by End of Summer Band Bash 6:00-8:00 pm - Sonora Park

August 12th (Tue) – First Day of School - No Rehearsal

Other August Dates to Know...

- **August 8th(TBA) - TENTATIVE** Band Performance at KISD Teacher Convocation morning in KHS PAC
- **TBA - (Fri) - Band Performance** at the first Varsity Football Game

KHS Band Website

Please visit the KHS Band's school website for information, calendars, and announcements...

<https://khs.kennedaleisd.net/extracurricular/the-wildcat-band-homepage>

We update the KHS Band Calendar weekly with the latest band calendar dates/schedules for rehearsal and performances/ and all information pertaining to the KHS Bands. Please utilize this website and the information found there.

Dress Code For All 2025 Band Rehearsals

ALL students **MUST** wear **TENNIS SHOES** and **SOCKS** for all outside marching rehearsals.

The following shoes are unacceptable:

- Crocs
- Shoes without a back
- High-top tennis shoes
- Converse/Vans.
- Sandals
- Shoes without laces
- Boots (cowboy, combat, UGG, etc.)
- Other shoes not listed but are not athletic shoes.
- No one may march barefoot.

All students are requested to have a hat and sunglasses for outside, BUT these items shall be removed when inside the building. **All members must wear a shirt of appropriate length and coverage.** Tuesday and Thursday Rehearsals are WHITE T-SHIRT Days. All members must wear a white T-Shirt to these rehearsals. Any students found to be in violation of this dress code will be subject to disciplinary action. Students will have a designated Water Jug that they must bring to every rehearsal. This is the same water jug as last year for returning members and new members will be provided a water jug.

Dress Code For 2025-26 Band Performances

The KHS Band members will have TWO T-SHIRTS for our Uniform Shirts for 2025-26. One will be our Green Dry-Fit T-Shirt with the KHS Band Logo known as our "Pep Shirt", the Second will be a "Black SHOW T-Shirt" that is specific to our Marching Band Show for this year. **Every student must secure their own pair of solid black dress code approved style and length shorts for the school year as all band members are required to wear them as our Uniform Shorts throughout the year.** The KHS Band will wear our KHS Band "Pep Shirt" and solid black dress code approved style and length shorts for Meet the Wildcats and Teacher Convocation performances during summer band. Our band T-shirts (*this is a different t-shirt than the junior high t-shirt*) may be purchased for \$20 each (\$40 Total for both) from the KHS Band Booster Club. Incoming/New high school students may order these shirts before or during the summer break, or the first day of summer band. The KHS Band T-Shirts are worn throughout the year as our standard band uniform when we are not in our full marching band uniform. Every band student must own these TWO shirts (One of each of the two HS Shirts).

There will be other fees and items that each student must purchase as a member of the KHS Band such as the Uniform Fee, Gloves Fee, Shoe Fee, Cleaning Fee, Performance Top, Drink and Meal Fee, and Instrument Use Fee. These fees will be explained in the Band Handbook available by April 2025 based on our expected vendor prices for the 2025-26 school year. Initial expectation for the total of band fees for NEW members of the KHS Wildcat Band will be approximately \$300 per student (this does not include KISD Instrument Use fees, and Color Guard or Drumline jacket/instructor fees where applicable)

Wildcat Band Parent Booster Club

We have a great group of parent volunteers that support our band program. This group is an independent private corporation on file with the state of Texas known as the WILDCAT BAND CORPORATION. This 501(3)(c) booster club has a group of officers that are excited to prepare for the 2025 season and looking forward to getting to know you. These parent volunteers are always in search of new parents who want to get involved. The Band Boosters do so much for the band throughout the year (especially in marching season). They are a valuable and integral part of our success in the band program. Let me personally invite each of our parents to become a band booster club member and to help make a difference in our students' lives. If you would like more information on the KHS Band Booster organization, please contact the boosters at wildcatbandcorp@gmail.com or Mrs. Wilson at the **KHS Band Hall at 817-563-8109** or via e-mail at: wilsonk@kisdtx.net.

E-MAIL

We need your email. The best way to be informed about upcoming events is to be on the Wildcat Band Boosters email list. Send us your email address and we'll try to keep you up to date the best we can. wildcatbandcorp@gmail.com

SMART DEVICE USE IN BAND

This year the Kennedale High School Wildcat Band will again utilize smartphone technology in learning our show drill for our 2025 show. Students will be using an app on a smart device to learn and access their virtual drill.

The Ultimate Drill Book app can be downloaded for free from any smart device that has access to the internet and the App Store. We are encouraging all students to have access to a device that is compatible with the Ultimate Drill Book program. Students that have a personal smartphone or iPad will be using their personal device in our rehearsals daily as we learn drill. Students that do not have access to a personal smart device will be provided with a paper copy of their drill by the directors. But we, and the students, do prefer the smartphone app!

Students will be responsible for having their smart device charged and ready to use each day. Students will be required to have their device with them on the field during rehearsal. **Those students that do not currently have a personal smart device with the capability to download the Ultimate Drill Book app are encouraged to do so before August 1st in order to utilize the program.** The App Fee for use of this program has been paid by the WBC and KISD. Passwords and Logins will be provided to the students in July during summer band. Once a student has their personal smart device, they will be able to access the app and the virtual drill.

KISD Chromebooks do not currently accept the app. The Ultimate Drill Book app will take up very little space on your smartphone/device and will not prohibit any other smartphone/device needs. Once summer band has started, students will be shown how to download the app, create an account, download their drill, and use the Ultimate Drill Book app. The app requires each student to enter their name, an email address, instrument, and a profile photo that will be used for their drill assignment. No personal information is used outside of the app and is only accessible to the Directors in charge of the Wildcat Band.

We are excited to utilize this technology for another successful year! Please let us know if you have any questions about the smart device expectations or uses. We will be walking through the Ultimate Drill Book set up process with the students once band camp starts.

KISD Instruments For Summer

Students who play school owned brass instruments will be issued a marching instrument by May. Other students have the opportunity to check them out for the summer. I will be in the process of inventorying all of KISD's instruments over the first few weeks of the summer. When I am prepared to start checking out equipment for the summer, I will notify the students. Make sure I have your correct phone number and address before you leave school for the summer. If you haven't heard from me by July 1st, or if you have any questions, please call me at: **817-563-8109** or send an email to wilsonk@kisdtx.net

Music/Practice Over the Summer

We will provide a copy of much of our “stand tunes” music and some of our 2025 “Show Music” for you before you leave for the summer break. We will also provide each student with the ATSSB All Region Etudes that they will use to audition for the ATSSB All-Region Band in December. I would recommend that you practice your instrument daily over the summer to keep your “chops” in shape. We will be working extensively from the ***Foundations for Superior Performance*** book throughout the year. If you do not own your own copy of this technique book, I would encourage you to buy one now and work on it over the summer. There are countless other technique and etude books at the local music stores.

Band Members Required Physicals for 2025

As of August 1st, 2019, all High School Band Members are required by UIL and the State of Texas to take and pass a physical examination signed by a physician.

The KISD Rule is that EVERY Band member must pass this physical EVERY YEAR and must have documentation updated EVERY YEAR. *Any band member that has not completed this requirement and turned in documentation to the KHS Band Directors and KHS Athletic Trainers will not be allowed to participate in ANY marching band activities in the fall of 2025 after August 1st until documentation has been provided.* The KHS Athletic Department will be providing an opportunity in the spring of 2025 for students to fulfill this requirement and be examined by a licensed physician at KHS facilities on May 5 from 5-7:00 pm at the KHS Media Center. Students are welcome to have their own physician perform the physical evaluation and complete the required UIL forms. These physicals are good for ONE CALENDAR YEAR from the time of the physical. So students should wait to begin this process in May of 2025.

In Closing

The upcoming season promises to be one filled with excitement, growth, and unforgettable experiences. Throughout the summer, we will embark on a journey of musical excellence, discipline, and teamwork. Together, we will push the boundaries of our potential, striving for perfection in every step, note, and formation. Through our time together, we will forge bonds that transcend mere acquaintanceship, evolving into a tight-knit family bound by our shared passion for music and performance. As we march forward into the season ahead, let us remember the values that define us as a band: perseverance, unity, and pride. Let us approach each challenge with determination, knowing that with every obstacle overcome, we emerge stronger and more resilient than before. I am confident that with your dedication and hard work, we will achieve greatness together. So let us embrace the journey ahead with open hearts and minds, ready to embrace the music, the friendships, and the memories that await us. Thank you for your continued support, and here's to a summer filled with music, laughter, and unforgettable moments.

Enjoy your summer break and we'll see you at Summer Band Activities!

If you have any questions at all about the KHS Band Program, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

KHS Band Staff

Kelli Wilson
Director of Bands
Kennedale High School
(Sch) 817-563-8109
wilsonk@kisdtx.net

Riley Irwin
Assistant Band Director
Kennedale High School
(Sch) 817-563-8127
irwinr@kistx.net

Connor Bordelon-Ross
Assistant Director of Bands
Kennedale High School
(Sch) 817-563-8127
bordelonrossc@kisdtx.net