



Dear 2021 Keller High School Band Members and Parents:

Welcome to all members of the Keller High School Band Program! We hope that you have had a restful and enjoyable summer. It was certainly deserved after everything we have been through this past year! We are very excited to start the 2021-2022 marching season, and have a lot of great information to share with you.

BAND STAFF

We welcome back our outstanding staff of band directors. We are also pleased to welcome Mr. Zac Simons to our staff! Mr. Simons comes to us from Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. He is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma, and will be overseeing the percussion program in the Keller Cluster!

We will have a "Meet and Greet" with the directors during our August Camp, and we would love to see both new and returning parents!

Wednesday, August 4th, 6:30 pm - 8 pm. Keller HS Main Bandhall

Contact information for the directors:

Mark McGahey – mark.mcgahay@kellerisd.net

Ryan Heath – ryan.heath@kellerisd.net

Daniel Bloss – daniel.bloss@kellerisd.net

Zac Simons - zachary.simons@kellerisd.net

Terry Hurley - terry.hurley@kellerisd.net

STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM INFORMATION

Our Student Leadership Team has already been working hard this summer. We will have one training/work day in which we will be going over leadership ideas, teaching strategies and planning for the weeks ahead. All sessions will be held in the KHS Band Hall. Bring \$\$ for lunch. We will all go to lunch together at a local restaurant.

Training/Work Day

Tuesday, July 27th - 8 am-4 pm

KELLER BAND REGISTRATION DAY

Our Keller High School Marching Band Registration Day is on Saturday, August 21st. This day is for parents and students, and we will have a schedule in place for ALL band members (winds, percussion and colorguard) on this day, not just new members.

This is an important day to take care of uniform fittings, portraits in uniform (see below), fall fees, band booster sign-ups, volunteer sign-ups and much, much more! Additionally, there will be a meeting for parents during each time slot. Each student must have at least one parent in attendance at registration.

Registration Groups by Grade and Last Name

8:30am All Brass and Woodwind Seniors
9:30am Sophomore/Junior Brass and Woodwinds A-H
10:30am Sophomore/Junior Brass and Woodwinds J-O
11:30am Sophomore/Junior Brass and Woodwinds P-Z
1:00pm All Percussionists
2:00pm Freshmen Brass and Woodwinds A-L
3:00pm Freshmen Brass and Woodwinds M-Z
4:00pm Colorguard

Please arrive promptly at your scheduled time so that you do not miss any of the announcements.

You will need to allow a couple of hours to complete this process. Your family has two options to pay for fees for Registration Day:

1] Pay online at the KISD Web Store (preferred). (The instructions to use this online service are listed later in this newsletter under the Financial Information section.)

2] Bring your checkbook/debit card, as you will have the opportunity to pay your fees and join band boosters.

If you have more than one child in band, you may bring both of them at the same time. Generally, the earlier time works well in these cases, but either one will work. You do not need to communicate which time that you will be attending. We will take care of you when you arrive.

Uniform Portraits-Registration Day – This will be the only day that portraits will be taken in uniform. Feel free to arrive with hair/makeup already done for this special occasion.

Please direct any registration day questions to:
Mr. McGahey - mark.mcgahay@kellerisd.net

AUGUST CAMP

In order for us to be successful for our first performance, we need to meet before the first day of classes to rehearse. Please go to www.kellerhighband.org, and click the “calendar” on the upper right corner for specifics about each rehearsal day/times.

You will need the following at each rehearsal in addition to your instrument, music, etc.

- ✓ Your own 1-gallon water jug (marked with your name)
- ✓ Bath or beach towel
- ✓ Hat
- ✓ Sunglasses
- ✓ Athletic shorts (no pants or jeans)
- ✓ Light colored t-shirts (no long sleeves)
- ✓ Tennis shoes for running or cross training (no vibrams, 5 finger shoes, boots, sandals or hard-soled shoes are allowed).
- ✓ Sunscreen
- ✓ Pencil
- ✓ 3 ring binder with sheet protectors for all music

Students that are not dressed appropriately or do not have the above supplies may be sent home from rehearsal at the directors’ discretion. Your safety is our number one concern!!!

Please contact Mr. Heath if you have any questions about August Camp at ryan.heath@kellerisd.net.

PHYSICALS

ALL students will need to complete a Physical and Medical History form to participate in Band for the 2021-2022 school year. Please click the link below and follow ALL instructions. You will not be allowed to rehearse unless this is complete.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IDEv6fnZALrkLXk8QhjmjkfgrVhkCn4LOcoDH-sJ8uU/edit?usp=sharing>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

You have two options to pay for the Keller Band Participation Fees:

1] KISD Web Store (preferred). These fees are already listed if you would like to pay early. KISD Web Store link is: <https://intouch.kellerisd.net>

- User name= student's 6 digit Keller ISD student ID number
- Password= student's last name (exactly as they used to enroll in school and it is case sensitive)

Once logged in:

- Under where it says "Who are you shopping for?" click on the student's name
- Under "Shop", click on "Items at Student's School"
- Next to "Categories" click on "Band"
- Select the item(s) you want to purchase and click on "Buy"
- Click on "Checkout" and follow the prompts to complete the checkout process

Once checkout is completed, a receipt will automatically appear on the screen.

****Special Note****

Please purchase as many items in one order. There is a \$3 transaction fee per order.

2] Pay by check. You can use your checkbook to pay for the items. The items that are purchased through the Keller Band are payable to KHS Band. The Band Boosters take check or credit cards.

- Keller High School Band Participation Fee - Please look closely at your family's scenario for pricing:
 - 1st wind/percussion student - \$375
 - 2nd KHS wind/percussion/colorguard student - \$300
- School Instrument Rental Fee - \$100 – This only applies to those students using KISD school instruments. This fee also covers the usage of a marching and concert instrument. You should have already paid this fee in May when you checked out an instrument. If not, please pay this fee as soon as possible.

- Marching Shoes - \$42 for new members or replacement pairs. (khsbandgear.com)
- Gloves – \$8 (for 2 pair) for brass and woodwind members only (KISD webstore)
- Game Day Meals (optional purchase)- \$100 - Planned meals on game day afternoons that are available immediately after school. We strongly urge your family to participate, covering quick turnaround on game days and some contest days. Meal plan for students with special dietary restrictions will be \$120, and are provided by the KHS Band Booster Club.

1-MILE RUN

One of the physical requirements for all marching band members is the completion of one mile (four laps around the track) in 10 minutes. The demands that are asked of today's marching bands are highly rigorous and athletic, and the performers need to be at a certain level of physical fitness to be successful. **Begin training now if you have not started!!!**

Everyone will attempt the one-mile distance as a part of your PE credit for the class. Suggestions for the summer are to start slowly, walking the distance without stopping at first. Next, see if you can make one lap around the track while timing yourself. Continue timing yourself on a regular basis, gradually adding distance and speed. If you are under the care of a physician and are not able to run, please bring a doctor's note on the first day of camp detailing specific modifications that you are to follow as well as the length of time that you require those modifications.

1st attempt to pass this off will be on Friday, July 30th.

DAILY REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Once classes begin on August 18th, we will begin our daily after school rehearsal schedule. It will be crucial that you are very aware of practice start and end times. After school practices begin at 4:30 pm. Ending times vary depending on the availability of the practice field. We work to make our schedule consistent, but with the number of activities and special events that we have to plan around, there may be changes. A detailed schedule will be posted on the calendar at www.kellerhighband.org in the next few weeks.

Attendance is vital to what we do. Please schedule tutorials, doctor/dental appointments outside of all rehearsal times.

DRUM CAMP

All of our percussionists will participate in our KHS Drum Camp, which begins Monday, July 19th. Please refer to the schedule on our website, www.kellerhighband.org for specific schedule information. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Simons at zachary.simons@kellerisd.net.

SAT/ACT TESTING SCHEDULE

Please look at the Keller Indian Band website for the dates of SAT/ACT tests. You will see several that we recommend that do not conflict with band activities. Go to www.indianband.org and scroll down to the Google Calendar at the bottom of the website. If you click through each of the months, the recommended testing dates are listed.

The majority of the band program will be involved in three very important competitions in the fall that coincide with testing dates. Those dates are October 2nd – BOA Dallas Regional (SAT), October 23rd -Duncanville Marching Invitational (ACT) and November 6th – BOA Super Regional in San Antonio (SAT). We have provided opportunities in the schedule for you to take these important exams. Plan and schedule now so you are able to be successful with both important items.

MARCH•A•THON

We will be holding our 19th Annual Marchathon on Saturday, September 11th. All band members perform at this event, which has become a memorable tradition in the Keller community. This is a fundraiser in which the entire band will contribute by collecting donations as we march along the parade route through Keller. We have a great time playing on the parade route and also stopping for scheduled concerts along the way. Stay tuned for more information about the parade route and how you or your neighbors can arrange a personalized concert!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please look at the Keller Indian Band website for the complete list of games, contests and performances that will be required as a member of the KHS band. Go to www.kellerhighband.org , click on the Calendar link and scroll down to the Google Calendar at the bottom of the website for these important dates.

2021 MARCHING SHOW

The Keller High School Marching Band is one of the elite marching ensembles in the nation. Over the past 8 years, the Keller Band has consistently been one of the top 10 marching bands in the State of Texas, and one of the top 20 bands in the nation! The 2021 Keller High School Band will continue to entertain audiences this fall with the Keller "Spirit Show" as well as our 2021 production "Enso It Goes". This performance includes the music of Philip Wibly, Billy Joel, Leonard Cohen, J.S. Bach, Cirque du Soleil, and original music by Carol Brittin Chambers.

This is going to be one of the most exciting fall seasons in our 78-year history! You can see the Keller Band all over the DFW Metroplex on Friday nights at KHS Football Games as well as several local contests. We will once again be competing at the Bands of America San Antonio Super Regional, which is recognized as the most competitive marching band contest in the nation each year. Additionally, this is a UIL State year, which means we will compete at both the region and area levels for a chance to compete at the UIL 6A State Marching Band Championships!

We are excited to see everyone over the next few weeks. Please reach out to a band director if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mr. McGahey

Mr. Heath

Mr. Bloss

Mr. Simons