



601 Pate On Road Keller, Texas 76248

www.indianband.org

ENSEMBLES AND PERFORMING GROUPS

Our year is broken up into two main “seasons”, marching season and concert season. Marching season runs basically from the first of August through the first week of November and encompasses the high school football season and the competitive marching band season in their entirety. Concert season officially begins when marching season ends, but there is substantial overlap as we begin to prepare for concert season activities during the second half of marching season. *All members of the Keller High School Band program will participate in both the marching and concert band portions of the year and will be enrolled in a band class year round.* The only exception to this is the students who are in color guard who do not play an instrument and therefore take only the color guard class which is year-round as well.

MARCHING BAND ORIENTATION & FIRST AUDITION CAMP

These sessions are held the last few days of school. Incoming freshman improve on their skills learned in the May Help Sessions. All band members are expected to attend. Let the directors know if your student has any conflicts.

COLOR GUARD

This is a visual ensemble that adds to the pageantry and dynamic of the on-field performance of the marching band. These students earn membership by going through an audition process in the spring semester. They then receive special training to develop the skills that they use to enhance the marching program.

REGISTRATION DAY – Saturday, July 30

Students will complete band registration, complete medical information sheets, register Charms account, measure for marching uniforms and pay fees.

SUMMER BAND CAMP – August 1 through August 19 – 1st Day of School is Monday, August 22

August is the beginning of our busy marching season. Attendance at this camp is mandatory so plan vacations accordingly. Speak to the directors with any concerns.

UIL rules dictate that a high school program cannot begin their marching drill until August 1. This puts important emphasis on this camp. The dates and times vary, but get ready for 8+ hour days. Comfortable tennis shoes, light colored clothes, and a cap are the best type of attire. Water jugs are required. Sunscreen and sunglasses are also recommended. Have your band member check with their section leaders for other good advice.

Shortly, following Summer Camp, a preview night and social will be held. This includes a show by the band. You will see what your student has learned through the summer. Parents will have the opportunity to register for Booster Club Membership and sign up at the volunteer tables to support the band throughout the year.

WEEKLY MARCHING PRACTICES

After school starts the practice schedule during marching season will be busy. These practices will be held at the high school. A detailed schedule will be provided during summer band camp. The directors make every effort to not deviate from the published schedule. When changes to the schedule are necessary, notification is usually sent via Charms e-mail distribution. The calendar schedule on the web site is kept current at www.indianband.org.

UIL rules dictate that Texas bands can practice only 8 additional hours per week beyond class time and performances, so attendance is crucial. Should it rain during practice, the students will be brought indoors. Your student’s safety is a priority to the directors.

PEP RALLIES

Pep rallies are held on game days in the new gym at the high school. The whole band usually participates.

MARCH-A-THON – September 10, 2011 – Possible date

The March-A-Thon is one of the most important fundraisers for the band. This is a Band student fundraiser that is supported by volunteer help from the Band Boosters. Each fall the band—and the parents—take to the streets in a “parade.” The route varies each year. During the march we stop at designated areas and perform. The band is given rest stops.

Each band member is required to solicit a minimum of \$100 in pledges for the band. Many parents/volunteers are needed to make this fundraiser successful. Some of the jobs include distributing water and refreshments at each rest stop and walking with the band with our donation buckets.

FOOTBALL GAMES

Home games will be on Thursday, Friday or Saturday due to the sharing of the stadium by the four KISD high schools.

Call times are posted weekly in the band hall early in the week of each event. The call time is when your student is expected to be in the band hall and/or prepared for departure for away games. Make sure your student has their water jug on game days and that they eat before arriving.

CONTEST SEASON – September, October, November

In addition to halftime performances at football games, the varsity marching band participates at area competitions usually held on Saturdays. The season culminates with UIL region, area and state competitions in even numbered calendar years.

UIL—THE ROAD TO THE STATE MARCHING CONTEST

The University Interscholastic League--UIL--governs the state marching contests. The UIL has strict rules concerning the conduct and procedures to advance to the state competitions. Keller High School is “class 5A,” the class for the largest schools. In order to make the state competition more manageable, class 3A and 5A schools have their marching competitions in even numbered years, i.e., 2010, 2012 and 2014. The 2A and 4A schools hold their state marching competitions in odd numbered years.

The road to the state contest begins with the regional marching competition. This is usually held on a weekday at a local stadium. The bands are given a rating of Division I, II, III, or IV. All bands receiving a Division I then proceed to the Area competition. Keller High School participates in UIL Region 2. The 2010 Region Contest was held in Denton.

Division I bands from 2 –3 regions will gather at the area competition which has also been held at a local stadium in the past. The location of the area contest can vary based on the geographical makeup of the bands. It is during this competition that the bands advancing to state will be decided. All bands perform one time and then anxiously wait for their ranking. A predetermined number of bands (based on the number of bands receiving Division I ratings) will get to make the coveted trip to State. The area competition location for Keller High School in 2010 was Odessa, TX in late October.

The State competition was at the Alamodome in San Antonio, TX on November 2, 2010.

BUS TRIPS

School buses are used for football games. These bus trips are great fun for the band. There are volunteer adult chaperones on every bus. Chartered buses are used on longer trips.

CONCERT SEASON

Concert season is the time when more musical training takes place. Band members will be placed in one of five bands based on the students playing abilities.

The concert season begins with a winter concert in December and concludes with a spring concert held in late May. Wind Ensemble, Symphonic, Concert Band I and Concert Band II attend the UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest each year. All are wonderful, well-attended concerts and you will hear challenging music.

DISTRICT, REGION, AREA & STATE CONCERT BANDS

Keller High School enjoys a high level of participation and success in this area. Preselected tryout music is available starting in July. The region band tryouts are held in early December in two phases.

Band members who become All-State musicians are highly praised and honored. These students assemble in a specified location in February to perform at the Texas Music Educators Association convention. The bands and orchestras made up of these wonderful musicians represent the top 1% of the high school band members in the state of Texas. Advancing to All-State is the highest individual honor a high school musician can achieve.

SOLO CONTEST

This contest is sponsored by the KISD school district. The contest is usually held in May. Your student will be given plenty of time to prepare a solo performance. The music is usually assigned by the private lesson instructor or the band director.

WINTER GUARD

Keller High School color guard/winter guard has become a very competitive group in the DFW area. Those in color guard for the marching season who want to perform in a different environment enjoy this winter activity.

Winter guard performs a routine to recorded music. Not only is there an effort to perform well for winter guard, but this activity helps strengthen the color guard for the upcoming marching season.

JAZZ BAND

The jazz band is gaining popularity and performs at various events during the spring semester. The highlight of their short season is a Jazz Café concert in May.

PERCUSSION BASH

After a February 24 Hour Drum-A-Thon fundraiser, the percussion students present a spring concert/show at the high school. Middle School percussionists are provided the opportunity to participate in these events.

SPRING TRIP

The KHS band takes an annual trip. It is optional but highly recommended as an outstanding educational and social venture for the students. The trip alternates each year between in-state and out-of-state locations. Fundraising opportunities are provided to help students offset the cost of the trip.

BENEFIT DINNER AND CONCERT

This event is a major fundraiser for the Band Boosters in the middle to latter part May. The Boosters coordinate a catered dinner with up to three dinner serving times while the bands play two patriotic themed concerts. The students serve meals to patrons. Tickets are sold and the funds raised directly affect the start-up budget for the upcoming year.

BAND BANQUET

A band banquet is held annually in May near the end of the school year. This special evening brings the band together one last time to review the year and wish the seniors a fond farewell. The location varies from year to year but it is usually held at a nearby hotel banquet room and is considered a semi-formal evening. Tickets are sold prior to the event. Parents are welcome to attend.

GRADUATION

Non Senior Wind Ensemble band members are expected to perform for this ceremony. It is not necessary for parents to attend unless they desire.

SPRING TRYOUTS

Late April and early May are very busy times for all band members. Tryouts for drum majors, section leaders and color guard are held during this time. Your band student will be able to get information from the directors if they choose to tryout for any of these.

BAND HANDBOOK

More detail information is available in the KHS Band Handbook which can be accessed and downloaded on the web site at www.indianband.org

MENTORING PARENTS

There are always questions. The Band Boosters have experienced parents who have volunteered their time to help answer questions and guide you. The mentoring parents are usually set up by instrument section which will help you make acquaintance with parents of other students that your own student will be getting to know in the band program. You can contact these parents by e-mail using the links on the Band Boosters page of the website at www.indianband.org.

April 22, 2011 bulletin from KISD Media Services

Successful Week for the KHS Band Program*

Congratulations to the Keller High School Band program on an award winning week. Their four concert bands attended UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest and each band received straight first division ratings. This is an accomplishment that less than 10 out of 225 5A schools have earned this year.

This marks the 15th year that the Keller Indian Band has earned the coveted UIL Sweepstakes Award.

This completes a successful year including:

- 1st Place - UIL Area A Marching Contest in Odessa
- 19th Place - UIL State Marching Contest
- 5th Place - Bands of America Arlington Regional Finalist
- 12th Place - Bands of America San Antonio Super Regional Finalist

Honors by the Drumline and Winterguard programs include:

- 4th Place - Lone Star Drumline Contest
- 7th Place WGI Houston Regional
- 1st Place WGI Austin Regional
- 1st Place WGI Dallas Regional
- Undeafated season in NTCA competition

Congratulations to all Indian Band students on a great year!!!