

# Kennedy Junior High Band Department

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## Course Syllabus

### Objectives

The objectives of band are to provide a large instrumental ensemble for students to experience all aspects relative to the performance of varying levels of band music. The ensembles will perform traditional and modern musical repertoire of an artistic and educational nature. In addition, students' development will be supported in a weekly technique lesson designed to develop musical proficiency on their instruments.

### Rehearsal Music

Students will be assigned a rehearsal music folder which is the property of Kennedy Junior High and District 203. Students will be assigned a place for their folder in a folio cabinet. All music will be distributed and collected via the folio cabinet. All music may be checked out for home practice, but must be returned to its assigned folio slot the next morning before 8:00 am. Music folders will not be stored in the instrument storage cabinets. Students will be assessed a replacement fee for any and all music that is lost or damaged through negligence.

### Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes and performances. Grades will be calculated based upon lesson attendance and participation, rehearsal attendance and participation, and any related performances. All **unexcused absences** are considered absences and credit will not be given for any work missed as a result of an unexcused absence.

**Grading** - 92%-100%=A      90%-91%=A-  
88%-89%=B+      82%-87%=B      80%-81%=B-  
78%-79%=C+      72%-77%=C      70%-71%=C-  
68%-69%=D+      62%-67%=D      60%-61%=D-      0%-59%=F

### Large group rehearsal – 3 points

3 points      Attend and participate in rehearsal  
1 point      Unprepared for rehearsal  
0 points      Student does not attend rehearsal or refuses to participate in rehearsal

Students will be notified immediately if points are lost for any reason.

### Small group lessons – 10 points

All students will be given a practice journal for each trimester of the school year. This journal will help communicate to students and parents the weekly assignments. It will also serve as a way for students to monitor their progress and serve as one way to help students identify areas of strength or areas requiring assistance. Each week, students will be given the opportunity to demonstrate the amount of progress they have made in accordance with the minimum achievement standards outlined in their practice journal. All journals will be checked weekly and must be signed by a parent or guardian. Points for the journal are awarded for being completed by the students and signed by a parent or guardian. Points are **not** awarded based upon the amount of practice minutes logged.

**Practice Journal – 3 points**

- 3 points Journal filled out at home *and* signed by parent or guardian
- 2 points Journal filled out at home, but *not* signed by parent or guardian
- 0 points Incomplete journal

**Lesson Preparation – 7 points**

- 6 points Student has completed the weekly minimum assignment
- 0 points Weekly minimums are incomplete (points will be awarded to the student upon completion of the work if the students has discussed areas of concern with the directors and sought assistance for a reasonable solution).

**Practice Journal** 3 points – 2pts completely filled out + 1pt parent signature

**Lesson Preparation** 7 points- weekly method exercises are ready for assessment

**Small Group Lesson Total** 

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 10 points

**Make-up Work** (Small Group Lesson)

It is the **responsibility of the student** to make *reasonable* arrangements for the completion of work missed due to an excused absence.

**Concerts**

- 30 points Attend and participate in the performance with all materials, appropriate attire, and displays appropriate behavior
- 20 points Inappropriate attire, inappropriate behavior, missing materials
- 0 points Does not attend

Any concerns related to performance attire should be addressed **no later than 3 weeks** prior to a performance. We will attempt to assist you if we are aware of your concerns.

# **Performance Calendar of Events**

PLEASE RECORD THESE DATES ON YOUR HOME CALENDAR

## **November**

**Fall Band Concert:** Wednesday, Nov. 5th @KJHS 7:30 PM - 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades only

**North Side Band Festival:** Thursday Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> @ Naperville North High School 7 PM - 8<sup>th</sup> grade only

## **February**

**Winter Band Concert:** Wednesday, Feb. 25th @ KJHS 7:30 PM start – 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> grade bands

**Solo/Ensemble Festival:** Saturday, Feb. 21st, @ Lincoln Junior High- 8:00 AM-12:00 PM **all students.** Students will be assigned a specific time within the 8am-noon time frame for performance

## **March**

**Jazz Ensemble, Chorus, Orchestra Feeder School Tour:** Thursday, March 26th (During school- morning field trip)

## **April/May**

**Spring Elementary Feeder Band Concert** - Wednesday, April 29th @ KJHS 7:30 PM – 8<sup>th</sup> grade band and combined 5th grade bands from Ranchview, Steeple Run, Meadow Glens and Highlands

**Spring Band Concert** – Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> @ KJHS 7:30 PM start- 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades only

**Memorial Day Parade-** Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> Centennial Beach starts @ 10:30 am. details TBA

# KENNEDY JUNIOR HIGH BAND

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## THINGS THAT YOU WILL NEED FOR BAND

**District 203 Music Text and Binder:** All band students need their own copy of the appropriate level (contact directors if unsure which text) of **Essential Elements** or **Essential Technique**, and a **hardcover 3-ring binder with two inside pockets**. All band students will need this binder to be separate from other school binders/folders and use it only for band materials. The binder needs to be no more than ½” thick for everyone except percussionists (1” thick because their method book is bigger).



### Instrument

Band students need a **working instrument** for rehearsals and lessons. Reed players should have a supply (minimum of 3) of **working reeds**. A working reed is one free of chips or cracks and has been tested to ensure it works. Brass players should have rotor oil, slide oil, and tuning slide lubricants in their case for regular maintenance. Percussionists should have a **snare drum or pad** and a **beginning bell set** at home for practice. Percussionists will build skills on mallets and drums. **Percussionists will not need to bring their instruments to school**, only their stick bags and appropriate contents. Their personal instruments will be used at home for weekly assignment practice.



### Pencils

Students need a **pencil** (*not pen, erasable pen, or marker*) at all lessons and rehearsals. Much of our practice and rehearsing involves trial and error, which requires us to make notations on the music as reminders. Permanent marks from pens/markers damage the music, which will require replacement. In order to make the best use of our resources, we require all students to use pencils when making notations to music. Any damage to music caused by the use of permanent writing tools will be assessed and charged to the students and parents.



### Accompaniment Recordings

The most important elements of developing musicianship are **listening and practicing**. Having an auditory model of practice assignments will reduce frustration and make practice more efficient. All band students will need the Essential Elements (EE) accompaniment recordings for the appropriate Essential Elements book. Most of the books come with some of the accompaniment recordings, and the Hal Leonard website (publisher of EE) has downloadable mp3 accompaniment recordings for EE Books 1 and 2 at the following links:

Book 1 all exercises:

<http://www.halleonard.com/ee2000Band.jsp>

Book 2 exercises #56-the end of the book

<http://www.halleonard.com/EE2000Bk2Accomp.jsp?subsiteid=6>

Students in EE Book 1 may receive a cd and a cd-rom/dvd with the purchase of their book. The cd is for exercises #1-58. The rest of the exercises can be found by using the dvd/cd-rom. All 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will begin the year in EE Book 1. If your book comes with an accompaniment cd-rom or dvd, the accompaniment exercises can be accessed by doing the following:

- Inserting the disc into your dvd player or computer
- Selecting “**Play Video**” and then selecting “**Play-Along Tracks**”

- Select the range of exercises that corresponds with the number(s) you intend to practice

Students in EE book 2 will need accompaniment recordings after the completion of exercises #1- 55. Exercises #1- 55 are included on the cd with the book. This same cd will be used for exercises #187 through the end of the book. Exercises #56-186 can either be purchased as 2-disc set from your local music vendor or downloaded in mp3 format from the Hal Leonard website.

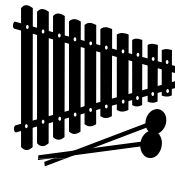
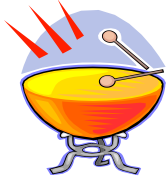
Book 2 exercises #56-the end of the book

<http://www.halleonard.com/EE2000Bk2Accomp.jsp?subsiteid=6>

### **Tuner/Metronome**

All students will need a tuner/metronome. An example would be the **Korg (TM-50)**, however, new materials appear every day and you may find a comparable brand to perform the same functions at a better price. Shop around because prices may vary.

### **Percussion Stick Bag**



Percussionists must have a **Personal Stick Bag at every rehearsal or lesson** and it should be **clearly** labeled with the student's name, address, etc. Each percussionist should have a bag with the following items:

#### **Item**

Concert Snare Sticks (wood tip)

Timpani Sticks (Vic Firth #T1 "General" or equivalent)

Yarn Marimba Mallets (Vic Firth #MB12B or equivalent)

Bell Mallets (hard plastic mallets for bells)

Xylophone Mallets (Vic Firth #MB4B or #MB5B birch handle or equivalent)

**\*Many local vendors should offer a package that includes these items (or comparable substitutes) in a bag as listed above. The cost of the items as a package is usually cheaper than buying these items separately.**

### **INSTRUMENT SECURITY**



The KJHS staff and administration make every effort to provide safety and security for musical instruments. Each student is assigned an instrument storage space to use throughout the school year. However, the school is not responsible for lost or stolen instruments. You should have the make or brand, the model number, and the serial number registered at home, and check to determine if your instrument is covered by your homeowners insurance policy.

### **Concert Uniform (order form is attached)**

- Kennedy music shirt (order form attached) **TUCKED IN PLEASE**
- Black trousers/slacks (no skirts, no jeans)
- Black shoes

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact either Mr. Dethrow [mdethrow@naperville203.org](mailto:mdethrow@naperville203.org) 630-848-5494 or Mr. McManis [mmcmanis@naperville203.org](mailto:mmcmanis@naperville203.org) 630-848-5606. We will assist you in any way possible. Thank you.

# KENNEDY JUNIOR HIGH MUSIC SHIRT

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- ✓ Our maroon Music Department polo shirts standard ensemble attire for most instrumental and choral performances.
- ✓ Each shirt has the Kennedy Music Department logo printed in gold.
- ✓ To determine the size needed we will have shirts at school for students to try on. Most students will fall into the small or medium category. Please keep in mind that these are adult sizes, but most shirts will shrink.
- ✓ Please indicate by number the size(s) needed and attach a check payable to Kennedy Junior High in the amount given below.
- ✓ It is VERY helpful if checks and order forms are placed in an envelope with the student's name on the front. Do not staple them.
- ✓ Orders should be given to the music director involved. (not turned into the main office)
- ✓ Cost is \$11.00

Student name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Circle: Band    Orchestra    Choir

Grade:        6        7        8

\_\_\_ Small        \_\_\_ Medium    \_\_\_ Large    \_\_\_ X-Large

**FINAL DAY FOR ORDERS Friday, August 29, 2014**

**PLEASE CONTACT YOUR INSTRUCTOR IMMEDIATELY AT THE CONTACTS LISTED ABOVE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS.**

**Music Shirt Order Form**