

Kilgore Middle School Bulldog Band

May 26th, 2016

Dates for Beginner Band Testing

June 2nd & June 9th
August 2nd & August 4th

5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Location: KMS Band Hall

Available Sections

- Flute
- Clarinet
- Saxophone
- French Horn
- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Baritone
- Tuba
- Percussion

KMS Beginner Band

Dear Future Band Member,

Congratulations! And Welcome to the KMS Bulldog Band! The Band Directors are extremely excited about this year's upcoming Beginner Band and can't wait for next year to get started, after a much needed Summer Break that is. The Ragin' Red Bulldog Band has a long standing tradition of excellence and we are super excited you and your family have decided to join us!

Part of the process of joining the band is taking part in an Instrument Placement Test. An Instrument Placement test has been scheduled for the evenings of Thursday June 2nd & 9th and August 2nd & 4th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the KMS Band Hall. There will also be testing in August on the 2nd & 4th from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. You and your Parent will only need to attend one of those evenings and only for a few minutes at most. In this test your student will be tested by professional musicians and teachers to determine which instrument your student will be most successful on. It is imperative that all students take part in this test so that we can get started as quickly as possible once the school year begins. Along with this letter was an Instrument Choice Sheet where we would like you to identify your top three instrument choices for next year.

We are very eager to get to know you and your student this year and hope you are just as eager to join our Band Family. If you have any questions about anything to do with this upcoming school year, feel free to email any of the band directors. Email is the best way to reach us during the summer and we will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Have A Great Summer!!!

KISD Band Directors

Walker - KHS Head Band Director
cwalker@kisd.org









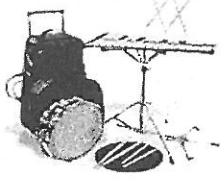

Don Gamble - KHS Assistant Band Director
dgamble@kisd.org

Rance Hawthorne - KMS Head Band Director
rhawthorne@kisd.org

Tiffany McWilliams - KMS Assistant Band Director
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What Would YOU Like to Play?

As a beginning band student, you are entering a new, exciting world! The first step in your new adventure will be choosing the instrument you'd like to play. We can help you with this decision — there are many factors involved, including the shape of your mouth and teeth, the size of your hands, even whether or not you have braces or expect to get braces soon. We want to help you find the instrument that will give you the best band experience possible. Your personal preference is always our first consideration, but your band director may want to give you some input. Your parents may want to give you some input also, since the cost of instruments varies greatly. In any case, we want you to be happy with your chosen instrument, and we wish you the very best in your new endeavor!

Woodwinds	Brass	Percussion
<p>The woodwind family includes flute, clarinet, saxophone, oboe and bassoon. All of these instruments read treble clef, and all involve keys that you press to change the pitch of the notes.</p> <p>Flute The flute is the only woodwind you blow across, instead of through a mouthpiece. If you play flute for several years, you may get to play the <i>piccolo</i>, a smaller version of the flute whose name means "tiny."</p> <p>Clarinet The clarinet is the foundational woodwind instrument, and there's no such thing as "too many" in a band. The clarinet is a single reed instrument; if you play clarinet, you can easily later pick up saxophone, oboe or bassoon!</p> <p>Saxophone The saxophone is a single-reed instrument with a mouthpiece and reed just like the clarinet's, only larger. There are actually 8 saxes in the saxophone family, all with the same fingering, but only the alto & tenor are considered "beginning" instruments.</p> <p>Double reed instruments like the oboe and bassoon, are sometimes not considered beginner instruments, but are usually played by those who have a year or two experience on clarinet or sax.</p>    	<p>The brass family includes trumpet, trombone, French horn, baritone and tuba. All of these instruments have a cup-shaped mouthpiece that you buzz into to make the sound.</p> <p>Trumpet The trumpet is the highest voice in the brass family. Most beginners start with a lacquer (or "brass") trumpet, but by 5th or 6th grade, it's time for a silver-plated one!</p> <p>Trombone The trombone is unique, because it has a slide that you move in & out to change the pitch of the notes. It has a wide range, and can play a wide variety of music! Every band director hopes for a big trombone section!</p> <p>Euphonium The euphonium (baritone) looks like a small tuba, and with the tubas, provides the foundation of the band's sound. While the mouthpiece of a baritone is the same as a trombone's, this instrument has 3 or 4 valves to press instead of a slide.</p> <p>French Horn The French horn is an important part of every band. You will do best on French horn if you have a great ear, and love doing things that are a little more unique!</p>    	<p>The percussion family includes a wide variety of rhythm instruments — it's not "just drums!" Most beginners start with bells, and a practice pad; and will eventually get to play snare, bass drum, cymbals, and much more!</p>  <p>Percussionists have "rudiments," which are like scales — certain rhythmic patterns that are best practiced on a practice pad. Your band director will tell you exactly what percussion equipment you need for class. Some band directors may also require that you have a year or two of piano lessons, or that you audition before choosing to play percussion.</p>  <p>www.musicalinnovations.biz</p>

Student Information

Student Name _____

Parent Name _____

Parent Contact: Phone () - ___ - ___

Email: _____

Number Your Top 3 Choices

Woodwind

___ Flute ___ Clarinet

___ Saxophone

Brass

___ Trumpet ___ French Horn

___ Trombone ___ Baritone ___ Tuba

___ **Percussion**