

KENNEDY MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT
SUMMER BEGINNING BAND PROGRAM
2012

Dear Parents:

This letter is a sure sign of Spring, for the time has arrived to strike up the Beginner's Band. If you would like your child involved in a unique, enjoyable educational experience, this is your opportunity. All students in Grade 5 are invited to become members of the Kennedy Middle School Band Program. Prior music experience is not necessary.

The band program in the Germantown School District is based on a beginning band session run during the summer months. Most of the students have more time during the summer and this time is used to get the Beginners off to an excellent start on a musical instrument. Group lessons will be given to each student twice a week for a period of four weeks. Vacations and other summer interruptions are excused by a note from a parent, and work may be made up with a little extra effort from the student combined with help from the instructor. Since the lessons meet only twice per week, it is possible for students to participate in band as well as other summer activities. Students must participate in summer band lessons in order to be scheduled immediately into the Sixth Grade Band in the Fall.

There is no charge for the lesson instruction. Each student is expected to provide his/her own instrument, with the exception of baritones and tubas, which are supplied by the school district according to availability. Students will also purchase the required lesson materials, cleaning supplies, and a music stand. At the conclusion of the summer program, all band students will be given a KMS Band T-Shirt as part of the required band uniform. To complete the uniform, parents will need to supply a pair of light-colored pants (light khaki, off-white, or white).

Some of you already have an instrument in your possession or have access to one. Please bring these instruments in at your convenience for an inspection and/or recommendation if you have any questions regarding condition. Most parents rent or lease an instrument from a music store on a trial basis for the summer months. This limits your initial investment while also providing a good quality instrument for your student to try. By the end of the summer you will have received an evaluation of your child's progress, which should aid you in making decisions about continued rental or purchase. Remember that a well-cared-for instrument can be resold when your child is through the school music program, recovering a portion of your initial investment. This makes the cost of the instrument relatively low when pro-rated over the years your child is in band.

For your convenience, representatives from White House of Music and Melk Music have been invited to the enrollment conferences to explain their instrument rental program to interested parents. They have been invited because of their past service to our students, parents, school, and district. Both have a reputation for good, reliable, reasonable service, and have been recommended by parents, students, and other school districts. Please note that there is no obligation for you to meet with these store representatives. There are also many other music dealers in the greater Milwaukee area, which can be found in the yellow pages under the listing of "Music Instruments-Dealers".

The investment in the Band Program is not only time and money, it is also an investment in your child. We will work together to see to it that all of these investments pay off. If you would like your son or daughter to become a member of the Germantown Beginning Band, please fill out the attached questionnaire and return it to your child's classroom teacher. The teacher will send it to us, and we will then phone you to set up an individual conference with you and your child. At the conference, we will select an instrument and explain the lesson schedule (the schedule is attached for your information).

The conferences will take about fifteen minutes, and will be held:

Friday, March 16 (4:00 - 8:00 PM)

Thursday, March 29 (4:00-8:00 PM)

Wednesday, April 4 (4:00-8:00 PM)

Thursday, April 12 (4:00-8:00 PM) [Please note this is during Spring Break]

Friday, April 20 (4:00-8:00 PM)

Saturday, April 28 (9:00 AM - 2:00 PM)

Please try to return the application to your child's classroom teacher within a few days so that we may begin to set up conference times. We hope to work with you this summer.

Thank you,

Fred Heim and Kelsey Eisenmann
Band Directors
Kennedy Middle School (262-502-7399)
fheim@germantown.k12.wi.us
keisenmann@germantown.k12.wi.us

2012 SUMMER BEGINNING BAND LESSON SCHEDULE

The program for Summer Beginning Band will run for four weeks, starting the week of **JULY 16**. Each student will receive two, fifty minute group lessons per week. Students should plan to miss no more than two lessons during the lesson program (please contact the director if this presents a problem). In addition to the lessons, one full band rehearsal will also be provided. All band instruction will take place at Kennedy Middle School. Signs will be posted to guide students to the appropriate room location.

The following is the lesson schedule for Summer 2012. Many of the instruments have two or more possible times available (groups A, B, C). In such cases, students may sign up for the most convenient lesson group time.

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS: July 16, 18, 23, 25, 30, August 1, 6, and 8.

8:00-9:00	Trumpet Group A	Ms. Eisenmann
8:00-9:00	Flute Group A	Mr. Heim
9:00-10:00	Trombone Group A	Ms. Eisenmann
9:00-10:00	Clarinet A	Mr. Heim
10:00-11:00	Percussion A	Ms. Eisenmann
10:00-11:00	Flute B	Mr. Heim
11:00-12:00	Tubas	Ms. Eisenmann
11:00-12:00	Tenor Saxophone	Mr. Heim
1:00-2:00	Trumpet Group B	Ms. Eisenmann
1:00-2:00	Clarinet Group B	Mr. Heim
2:00-3:00	Percussion Group B	Ms. Eisenmann
2:00-3:00	Alto Saxophone Group A	Mr. Heim

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS: JULY 17, 19, 24, 26, 31, August 2, 7, and 9.

8:00-9:00	Percussion Group C	Ms. Eisenmann
8:00-9:00	Alto Saxophone Group B	Mr. Heim
9:00-10:00	Baritones	Ms. Eisenmann
9:00-10:00	Clarinet Group C	Mr. Heim
10:00-11:00	Trumpet Group C	Ms. Eisenmann
10:00-11:00	Flute C	Mr. Heim
11:00-12:00	Trombone Group B	Ms. Eisenmann
11:00-12:00	Oboe	Mr. Heim

SPECIAL TEST SESSION FOR ALTO SAXOPHONES & PERCUSSION

Friday, August 3, 8:00-9:00 AM Ms. Eisenmann & Mr. Heim

A NOTE ABOUT FRENCH HORN: French Horn, is not offered this summer, but will be offered as a switch from trumpet in the fourth quarter of the sixth grade year. If you are interested in French Horn, please sign up for trumpet at this time.

FULL BAND PRACTICE FOR ALL GROUPS

Date To Be Announced, 5:30-6:30 PM. The purpose of this rehearsal (*Tentatively Wednesday, August 29*) is to have the students try playing together as a full band and also give them information about the procedures regarding bringing instruments to school and storing them during the school day. The KMS Sixth Grade Orientation will follow the beginning band practice. The actual date will be announced when the Kennedy Middle School calendar has been completed.

Please try to inform us in advance if your son or daughter will miss any particular lessons, but if a last-minute problem occurs, a call to our office (262-502-7399) will ensure that you can keep track of new assignments and group activities.

Assessment will occur in the sixth lesson (August 1 and 2), except for alto saxophones and percussion, who will have an additional scheduled testing period on Friday, August 3.

Please make every attempt to be in attendance for those dates. After assessment is complete, a final evaluation will be sent home, providing you with information about your son or daughter's progress during the lesson program, and describing his/her expectations for success in the sixth grade band at Kennedy Middle School.

During the fourth week of the session you will need to decide whether to formally enroll your son or daughter in the Sixth Grade Band for 2012-2013. This decision should be based on both our recommendations and your child's level of interest.

At any time, as you enter the program or during the summer session, feel free to call or email us if any questions or concerns arise.

We hope you enjoy this "musical" summer!

Fred Heim & Kelsey Eisenmann
KMS Band Instructors
262-502-7399
fheim@germantown.k12.wi.us
keisenmann@germantown.k12.wi.us

KMS BEGINNING BAND CONFERENCE APPLICATION

STUDENT NAME: _____

PARENT NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: WI ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____

HOME PHONE: (____) _____ DAYTIME PHONE: (____) _____

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: _____

5th GRADE TEACHER: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

Please indicate your first, second, and third choice of conference date and any time request.

Date	Time Request
_____ Friday, March 16 (4:00-8:00 PM)	_____
_____ Thursday, March 29 (4:00-8:00 PM)	_____
_____ Wednesday, April 4 (4:00 - 8:00 PM)	_____
_____ Thursday, April 12 (4:00-8:00 PM)	_____ [Please note this is during Spring Break]
_____ Friday, April 20 (4:00-8:00 PM)	_____
_____ Saturday, April 28 (9:00 AM - 2:00 PM)	_____

Please check the instrument(s) that your child shows interest in at this point, and label first choice (1) and second choice (2) if possible. Many students do not make a decision until the conference time, when they can actually hold and try out the instruments. Also, since alto saxophone and percussion are extremely popular, they will have limited enrollments and should not be selected together as first and second choices. Students are strongly encouraged to try a variety of instruments before making the final decision.

Trumpet____ Trombone____ Baritone____ Tuba____
 Flute____ Oboe____ Clarinet____ Alto Saxophone____ Tenor
 Saxophone____
 Percussion____

Please indicate here if you already have a band instrument available that will be used by your child, or if your child is already taking band lessons:

Upon receipt of this form, you will be contacted by phone to set up the conference date and time. If it's difficult to reach you, feel free to call (262-502-7399) or email fheim@germantown.k12.wi.us

THIS SPACE FOR BAND DEPARTMENT USE ONLY:

DATE: 16th 29th 4th 12th 20th 28th

TIME: _____

DIRECTOR: Ms. Eisenmann Mr. Heim