

The Keene Elementary Band

A Mentor Band for Young Musicians

Dear Band Parents,

All band lesson students are encouraged to sign up for KEB (Keene Elementary Band). This is where students experience playing with the full band and perform a concert. It is open to all band students in 4th or 5th grades who attend a Keene Elementary School. We rehearse in the evenings and have high school and middle school band students as mentors for the younger students. Students who participate learn more and progress faster, making this a highly recommended activity. Details and sign ups follow.

Purpose

The purpose of this ensemble is to provide the “large group” component of the instrumental music curriculum. In this group, your child will:

- Play in a group with band students from all over Keene!
- Learn the skills and behaviors involved with playing in a large group setting
- Rehearse in like-instrument groups with high school band students as mentor teachers
- Play a concert showcasing the talent and progress of the students in the ensemble

Schedule

KEB is at the NEW Keene Middle School!

Registration and an informational meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 3rd in the Keene Middle School cafeteria from 6:30-7:30pm. Parents and students should attend this meeting together. *Attendance at this meeting is very important; please make every effort to attend with your child.* If an emergency prevents you from attending, you can still sign up. Please contact me by email in advance so that your child can be registered. You do not need to bring instruments to this first meeting.

Regular rehearsals begin on Tuesday, January 10th and every Tuesday thereafter according to the complete schedule included in this packet. Rehearsal time is from 6:30-8:00pm in the Keene Middle School band room. Beginning January 10th, parents may drop off children at 6:30pm and pick them up at 8:00pm.

The concert will be held on **Wednesday, April 11th at 7:00pm at Keene Middle School.** Students need to report to the KMS band room at 6:30pm, and the concert will begin at 7:00pm.

In the event of a weather-related school cancellation or early dismissal on a Tuesday, the KEB **will not** have rehearsal.

Finally, while schedules may be busy, regular attendance at KEB rehearsals is expected. Absences negatively affect not only you, but also the whole group, since we work as a team. Please make every effort to attend every rehearsal and arrange transportation accordingly.

Directions

Rehearsals will be held in the Keene Middle School Band Room. Enter the building through the front doors and turn right to get to the band room. Signs will be posted for Registration to direct you to the cafeteria.

Cost

There is a small \$15.00 fee (cash only, please!) to participate in this group. The fee covers the cost of a band T-shirt, postage, and mentor materials. Scholarships are readily available, and no student will be turned away should the cost provide a financial hardship. This is an honor system and no questions will be asked. Simply check the box for "Requesting Scholarship Assistance" on the registration form.

Transportation

Unfortunately, we are not able to provide transportation to and from KEB rehearsals. If you would like to participate but do not have a ride, my suggestion is to talk with other band members in your neighborhood to arrange a car pool.

Expectations and Commitment

The following are the expectations of participation in the Keene Elementary Band:

1. I will be at every rehearsal unless it is cleared with Mrs. Clark ahead of time as an excused absence.
2. I will let Mrs. Clark know by email if an emergency prevents me from attending rehearsal.
3. I will show respect for the mentors and directors by following directions and instructions the first time.
4. I will make the Dress Rehearsal and Concert a priority in my schedule.

What constitutes an excused absence? Circumstances such as student illness, death in the family, a family vacation, conflict with another school activity (i.e. strings or chorus concerts), or dangerous driving conditions constitute an excused absence. Whenever possible, these absences should be cleared with Mrs. Clark (kclark@sau29.org) ahead of time by email. If advance notice is not possible, please email Mrs. Clark at your earliest convenience.

*More than 2 **unexcused** absences from rehearsals may result in dismissal from the KEB program. It is my goal that all students have a successful concert, and students who miss a lot of rehearsal will miss the instruction they need to achieve this goal.*

Registration

In order to register for the Keene Elementary Band, please bring the following to the Registration and Meeting on Tuesday, January 3rd from 6:30-7:30pm in the KMS Cafeteria.

- Your completed registration form
- \$15 cash only (no checks, please!)
- Parent and student
- This packet with schedule, for reference

****It is very important that you and your child attend the registration meeting. If an emergency prevents you from attending, you may register the following week, but please call or email me with your child's name and instrument.

****Please note: Mrs. Clark **will not** collect registration forms or money prior to Registration night. Please do not bring these to band lessons or put them in my mailbox. Please bring them to Registration. Thanks!

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions! We will also have time for questions at the Registration meeting. See you there!

Kimberly Clark
Jonathan Daniels School
School Phone: 352-8012
kclark@sau29.org

2012 Keene Elementary Band Rehearsal Schedule

**All rehearsals are from 6:30-8:00 PM in the KMS Band Room
except where noted**

This schedule is subject to change. You will be notified of any changes at rehearsal or via email.

Jan. 3rd – 6:30-7:30 PM – Registration and parent meeting, Keene Middle School Cafeteria. Parents and students should attend this meeting; attendance is important! You do NOT need to bring your instrument.

Jan. 10th – First rehearsal, KMS band room. Bring your instrument and lesson Book 1

Jan. 17th – KMS band room

Jan. 24th – KMS band room

Jan. 31st – KMS band room

Feb. 7th – KMS band room

Feb. 14th – KMS band room

Feb. 21st – NO REHEARSAL – February Vacation

Feb. 28th – KMS band room

Mar. 6th – KMS band room (*Choral Invitational Concert*)

Mar. 13th – KMS band room

Mar. 20th – KMS band room

Mar. 27th – KMS band room

Apr. 3rd – KMS band room (*KHS Band Concert – no HS mentors*)

Tuesday, April 10th – Dress rehearsal, KMS Band Room.
Attendance is mandatory!

Wednesday, April 11th – CONCERT, *Keene Middle School*
Students arrive at 6:30, concert at 7:00 PM

(Concert Snow Date April 12th)

Keene Elementary Band 2012 Registration Form

Please return this form at Registration on January 3rd

Student Name _____ Instrument _____

Parent Name _____ School _____

Contact Phone Number _____ Grade _____

Mailing
Address _____

Email Address _____

T-shirt Size (please circle): Youth S M L XL Adult S M L XL

Payment (check the appropriate line):

_____ I am submitting the total \$15.00 cash fee

_____ I am submitting a partial payment of \$_____. I am requesting scholarship assistance for the balance

_____ I am requesting scholarship assistance for the total amount

Parent and Student Contract

Signing up for KEB is a commitment with the following expectations:

1. I will be at every rehearsal unless it is cleared with Mrs. Clark ahead of time as an excused absence.
2. I will let Mrs. Clark know by email if an emergency prevents me from attending rehearsal.
3. I will show respect for the mentors and directors by following directions and instructions the first time.
4. I will make the Dress Rehearsal and Concert a priority in my schedule.

I understand the above expectations and agree to follow them in order to maintain my/my child's participation in KEB.

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____