Kuna Band Handbook 2026-27 copied from Google Form:
https://www.kunabands.com/band-handbook.html

Please read this document together as student and parent/guardian and then fill out the information at the end, including the signature page and medical information.

This handbook is meant to include MORE information than needed. Some info pertains only to specific classes.
Please feel free to contact Mr. Krall with questions anytime via email: skrall@kunaschools.org

This handbook can also be found here: www.kunabands.com/band-handbook

MISSION STATEMENT
---The goal of the Kuna High School Band Program is to provide students with a well-balanced music education centered around band performance.
---Students will learn about responsibility, time-management, relationships, musical expression, discipline, dedication, music theory and gain skills relative to their instrument.
---Students will be able to experience a variety of music and music ensembles.
---This education will help prepare students for postsecondary education opportunities and vocations related to music or otherwise.

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM

Over the years, the structure of the band classes at Kuna High School has been adapted to better fit the needs of all band students, especially as the program has grown from 50 students to 150 students.

Currently, beginning in July and August, all students who are interested in being in any band classes are asked to participate in a few events: a student/parent meeting, preparation for the Kuna Days Parade and the Kuna Days Parade. THIS YEAR'S PARENT MEETING WILL BE IN MAY BEFORE SCHOOL CONCLUDES.

After the Kuna Days Parade students get ready to build a halftime/competitive marching band show by spending time at Band Camp. Camp is normally for about 8 days following the Kuna Days Parade and leads into the beginning of the school year. This time is very important as the first football game of the year is often very close to the beginning of school. THIS YEAR, BAND CAMP WILL BEGIN SLIGHTLY AHEAD OF THE KUNA DAYS PARADE.

Students who will be participating in the Kuna Gold Band and Guard (marching band), will be enrolled in one of four classes: Wind Ensemble (an advanced band class), Concert Band, Percussion, or Color Guard. During the fall semester, members of the Kuna Gold Band and Guard will be preparing a competitive show for about 4 football games and 4 competitions that concludes with a final competition at BSU near the end of October.

Once school begins, other jazz band classes will start. Jazz Band students are required to take another band class concurrently. Jazz students prepare for concerts and a performance at D3 Jazz Festival in December.

Every year, students are encouraged to audition to be in the top performing ensembles at KHS. This includes our Wind Ensemble and Jazz I classes. All of these classes are designed and put into place to provide students with the differentiated instruction that they need. Overall, it provides a great benefit for all band students to find a place to excel!

NOTE: Band rehearsals, concerts, festivals, and music performances which take place outside of scheduled class time are defined as extensions of the formal classroom instructional program and, as such, require student participation and attendance. All courses may be taken for multiple credits.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

BAND - CONCERT BAND

Year (9-12)

Prerequisite: None

This is the standard band ensemble at Kuna High School. This year-long course includes marching band in the fall (first quarter) and concert band in the winter and spring (quarters 2, 3, and 4). This class requires rehearsal time and performances outside of school hours. Band camp is mandatory and is scheduled for August. Previous experience is not required. This band travels for some performances.

BAND - WIND ENSEMBLE

Year (10-12)

Prerequisite: Audition (in April) and Director Approval

This is the upper level band ensemble at Kuna High School This year-long course includes marching band in the fall (first quarter) and concert band in the winter and spring (quarters 2, 3, and 4). This class requires rehearsal time and performances outside of school hours. Students must be in good academic standing to continue in this class. Band camp is mandatory and is scheduled for August. Wind Ensemble is open to students of any grade, though students must audition in order to be placed in this advanced ensemble. This band travels for some performances.

BAND - PERCUSSION

Year (9-12)

Prerequisite: None

Students who play, or are interested in playing, percussion instruments and want to participate in either the Concert Band or Wind Ensemble should take this class. This year-long course includes marching band in the fall (first quarter) and concert band in the winter and spring (quarters 2, 3, and 4). This class requires rehearsal time and performances outside of school hours. Band camp is mandatory and is scheduled for August. Previous experience is not required. This group travels for some performances.

BAND - COLOR GUARD

Fall Semester ONLY (9-12)

Prerequisite: None

Students who are interested in color guard (which includes elements of dance and flag work) should sign up for this class. This exciting group performs along with the music of the marching band. This semester course includes marching band in the fall and other content in the winter. This class requires rehearsal time and performances outside of school hours. Band camp is mandatory and is scheduled for August. Previous experience is not required. This group travels for some performances.

BAND - JAZZ II

Year (9-12)

Co-requisite: Brass, Woodwind and Percussion students must also be a part of Concert Band, Wind Ensemble or Percussion Class in order to participate in this class.

This is the standard jazz band ensemble at Kuna High School. This year-long class requires minimal rehearsal time and performances outside of school hours. Previous experience is not required. Playing opportunities are open for guitar, piano, bass and drums.

BAND - JAZZ I

Year (10-12)

Prerequisite: Audition and Director Approval

Co-requisite: Brass, Woodwind and Percussion students must also be a part of Concert Band, Wind Ensemble or Percussion Class in order to participate in this class.

This is the upper level jazz band ensemble at Kuna High School. This year-long class requires minimal rehearsal time and performances outside of school hours. Students must be in good academic standing to continue in this class. It is open to students of any grade, though students must audition in order to be placed in this advanced ensemble.

MUSIC THEORY

Spring Semester ONLY (10-12)

Prerequisite: Students should have a basic level of proficiency in reading music.

This course is designed for students with some music background. Students are encouraged to have 1 year of high school experience in a music performance ensemble (ex: choir, band or orchestra). The purpose of this class is to provide an opportunity for students to expand their musical knowledge and prepare for college music classes. Topics covered include: music notation, chord analysis, 4-part writing, rhythmic notation, basic piano skills, ear training, music history, and music composition.

JAZZ BAND SPECIFIC INFO
Kuna Jazz I and Jazz II will have several performances and events throughout the year (which will be updated on www.kunabands.com). This includes performances at D3 Jazz Festival and approximately 4-5 concerts over the year. Kuna Jazz I will generally have 1 or 2 community performances each year as well.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Below is a preliminary list of SOME events for this year. Due to the nature of scheduling events there may be some shifting in the schedule. A full calendar with times and locations is available online (and will be updated as things continue to develop) at: www.kunabands.com/calendar

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May 5: Band Parent/Student Meeting at KHS Band Room 6 PM
May 14: Color Guard Experience at KHS Band Room 3 PM
May 20: Percussion Experience at KHS Band Room 4 PM
July 27: New Band Student Rehearsal, Color Guard and Percussion Rehearsals
July 27: Section Leader Meeting
July 28-31: Kuna Gold Band Camp
Aug 1: Kuna Days Parade
Aug 3-6: Kuna Gold Band Camp
Aug 11: Tues/Thurs Evening Rehearsals begin for Kuna Gold 5-8 PM
Football Games: Aug 28, Sept 4, Sept 25, Oct 1, Oct 16, Oct 23
Band Competitions: Oct 3, Oct 10, Oct 17, Oct 24
Nov 2: Jazz Band Concert
Dec 3-4: D3 Jazz Band Festival
Dec 15 and 17: Winter Band Rehearsal and Concert
Jan and Feb: Students will play at 4 Basketball Games
Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr: Kuna Indoor Percussion (KIP) rehearsals and performances
March: Kuna School District Band Concert
Mar 29 and Apr 1: Spring Band Rehearsal and Concert
Apr 7-8: D3 Band Festival

May 10 and 11: Final Band Rehearsal and Concert
May: Graduation Performance

STUDENT CONDUCT

The Kuna High School Band Program has a tradition and reputation of being respectful, classy and professional. The more that members of the Kuna High School Band Program act professionally, the more this program will continue to develop and grow.

As members of the Band Program, students are required to maintain appropriate conduct during class, rehearsals and at other events. Students constantly represent Kuna High School, their peers and staff members. This provides a great opportunity to show others the outstanding nature of the Kuna High School Band Program.

Student conduct that is detrimental to the program will be addressed by the director and school administration. This can include, but is not limited to: breaking/bending school rules, inappropriate use of mobile devices (no phones during rehearsal!), bullying, harassment, horseplay, language and excessive displays of affection. While traveling, students are financially and legally responsible for their actions. Students engaged in activities detrimental to the program may be removed from the Kuna High School Band Program.

Members and representatives of the Kuna High School Band Program are asked to remember that their conduct at all times reflects upon the organization. This includes online interactions and social media. Please do not request "friendship" or "follow" staff members. They will not accept your request.

It is natural that students and families will want to document their experiences through photos, videos and recordings. This is encouraged and is a wonderful way to look back on past experiences. However, we encourage these documentations to be kept private due to copyright considerations.

ACADEMICS

The Kuna High School Band Program follows IHSAA guidelines for academics. As per IHSAA rules and regulations, students participating in IHSAA-sanctioned events (DIII Band Festival, DIII Jazz Festival, DIII Marching Band Competition, DIII Solo and Ensemble Festival, State Solo and Ensemble Festival and others), must maintain a 2.0 GPA and have no more than one 'F'.

Grade checks will be initiated up to 2 weeks before a competition or event during which time a student may increase their grades until 2 days before the event, when final grade checks will occur. Students who are not eligible will not be allowed to perform and their band grade will be affected accordingly. These students may still be required to attend the performance for a lower grade under the director's discretion.

ATTENDANCE

Students involved in the Kuna High School Band Program must maintain strong attendance to enjoy all the benefits of the band program. Outside of class time, students are expected to participate in different events, such as concerts, fundraisers, rehearsals and activities. Due to the educational purpose of each event, attendance will be taken.

The premise behind these rules is to hold students accountable for their attendance and punctuality. If students are regularly at rehearsal in a timely manner and stay updated on the current schedule then there should be no grading issues. Emergencies do happen, but following the guidelines in this section will lead to more effective communication, understanding and higher achievement.

Musicians in the real world find that punctuality and consistent attendance is absolutely critical to success. Accordingly, being absent and tardy is unacceptable as a member of Kuna Bands. The following expectations are provided for attendance and punctuality:

---Students who are tardy to a rehearsal/event are asked to check-in with the proper individuals. If a student fails to do so, their tardy will be counted as an absence.

---Students who are tardy more than four times will be suspended from the next performance. These students may still be required to attend the performance for a lower grade at the director's discretion.

---The only accepted absence or tardiness for a rehearsal/event is for a medical emergency (with doctor's note) or a parent note for the death of a family member. Some examples of unexcused absences include attending concerts, hunting, birthday celebrations, vacations, and working on other homework.

---Students who fail to attend a rehearsal immediately preceding a performance or have 2 or more unexcused absences will be suspended from the performance. These students may still be required to attend the performance for a lower grade at the director's discretion.

---Please contact Mr. Krall via email with further questions or concerns.

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GRADING

Grades for each class within the Kuna High School Band Program are based on achievement, homework, participation, attendance and classwork. Grades are based around a points system where more crucial aspects of the course receive more points. Late work is subject to lose half the value of the original assignment. “Making up” a missed performance or rehearsal is certainly not encouraged. Students with special needs will be assisted in every way possible.

CLASS TIME TARDY POLICY

A student is marked tardy if they are not physically in the classroom when the tardy bell rings. A student is marked tardy for the first twenty minutes of the class period. After twenty minutes students are marked absent. Tardy consequences are as follows:

---Students are to come in quietly without disruption and get to work.

---When a student reaches their sixth tardy they will be assigned mandatory intervention to make up lost seat time. Failure to attend results is an automatic referral to the office where the student will receive consequences from their Dean of Students

---Extra time will NOT be given for bell-ringers, tests, quizzes or classwork missed due to unexcused tardies.

FAIR SHARE PAYMENT

Our school district and school continue to do a good job of supporting the band, but the costs to run a high-quality band program are significant. The Fair Share Payment is created by the band booster organization to help offset some of the costs associated with band, but students and parents are kept in mind as this payment is determined.

The Fair Share Payment for this year for students involved in the Kuna Gold Band and Guard is 225 dollars. A breakdown of what the payment is used for is included in this handbook. Students with extenuating circumstances will not be withheld from band. Students' grades are not predicated upon this payment.

Payments are to be made to the KGPCO (Kuna Gold Parent and Community Organization) via check or through Venmo @KunaGold . If necessary a credit card payment can be made by emailing Teri Woods. This payment is encouraged to be made all at once or in three payments of 75 dollars (due dates are on the band calendar). Questions may be directed to Teri Woods, the KGPCO Booster President, at kunagoldparentpresident@hotmail.com

INSTRUMENT USAGE

Kuna High School is fortunate to have instruments for students to use. Students are encouraged to purchase their own instruments. Percussionists are encouraged to provide their own sticks and mallets. Students interested in using school instruments for the duration of the school year are encouraged to contribute to the upkeep of the instrument by way of a yearly fee of 50 dollars paid to the high school office or by taking the instrument to a music store for cleaning and repair themselves. These funds will offset SOME of the costs associated with the upkeep and cleaning of instruments. Please take care of our instruments.

EMERGENCY FORM

Attached to this handbook is an emergency medical information form supplied by the school district. Please fill out the Google Form at the end of this handbook.

KUNA HIGH SCHOOL

The Kuna High School Band Program fully supports all Kuna High School policies as per the Student Handbook.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Student leadership is a valuable part of a successful band program. Student leaders are selected by staff members based on eligibility, character, action and attitude. These student leaders are to lead and inspire other students to maximize their own potential. Specific roles and responsibilities will be assigned personally from the director. Applications for student leadership positions are generally available in April.

CONCERT ATTIRE

Please prepare now to have appropriate concert attire for your student. All attire must follow school dress codes. At concerts and festivals students are expected to wear "concert black". This includes the following possibilities (keep in mind, everything should be SOLID BLACK): --black, long sleeve dress shirt with black slacks, black socks with black formal, close-toed shoes (black tie optional) --black mid calf-length (or longer) skirt with nice black shirt or blouse and black formal, close-toed shoes --black suit or tuxedo with black dress shirt, black socks with black formal, close-toed shoes (black tie optional) --black mid calf-length (or longer) dress with black formal, close-toed shoes.

If your student may need some help finding appropriate concert attire, please feel free to reach out to Mr. Krall well in advance of the first performance that the attire is needed. Students need to wear appropriate concert attire to perform at concerts or festivals.

BAND LETTER

The Band Letter is an academic/extra-curricular award for students who meet specific requirements to be recognized as outstanding band students (similar to top achieving athletes). Letter winners will receive a certificate, a fabric 'K' (some like to place this on a letterman jacket), and a band pin to recognize their achievement at the end of the school year. Filling out the form for a Band Letter is optional and can be earned on an annual basis. The form to determine your eligibility for earning a Band Letter is distributed in April.

WINTER SEASON

In order to encourage students' growth on a yearly basis, the Kuna High School Band Program looks to maintain a winter percussion group and a winter color guard group as circumstances allow. Staff members will head these programs, not the KHS band director. A reasonable rehearsal schedule will be created for these groups and attendance and punctuality are required for full participation. Due to the costs associated with such programs, additional costs may be required for participation in these programs. More information on these programs will be available in December.

UNIFORMS

Marching band uniforms are the property of Kuna High School. Proper care of these uniforms is very important for their appearance and longevity. A full set of uniforms for our band costs close to $90,000 and replacing them frequently is difficult. Improper care, or damage of, uniforms will incur a fee. Students are to adhere to the following guidelines:

---Uniforms are not to be taken home. They should be returned to a uniform rack after use.
---Personal cleanliness is critical- please shower, keep your hair clean and use deodorant!
---Clothing is to be worn under the uniform at all times (no sleeveless shirts).
---Uniforms are to be treated with care. Store uniforms properly. Avoid sitting down in uniform.
---Do not store anything except clean socks in your garment bag. Take care of your hanger.
---If your uniform gets wet, please allow for it to dry by keeping the bag open.
---Other than water, there is NO eating or drinking in uniform.
---Plumes are to be handled by adults only. Do not store plumes in your shako box.
---You are to provide long black socks to be worn with the uniform.
---You are responsible for taking care of your marching shoes.
---Please take care of your gloves- they will wear quickly otherwise.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Individual private music lessons are not required in order to participate in the Kuna High School Band Program, though they are STRONGLY encouraged. Private lessons will help students gain skills and knowledge in order to be even more successful in the program. Consult www.kunabands.com for a list and more information on private lessons or talk with Mr. Krall.

STAFF MEMBERS

It is one of the goals of the Kuna High School Band Program to employ a high-quality staff. Their purpose is to provide quality instruction in their realms of expertise. Students are to give all staff members their full respect and attention. Staff members are an extension of the director of Kuna High School and are funded through KHS stipends, Fair Share Payment and fundraised money.

WHAT'S THE NEXT STEP?

---Fill out the Google Form signature page/medical information form which is at the end of this document.

---Get a warm up packet and parade music (Fight Song and Shut Up and Dance 2026) from Mr. Krall.

---Get ready for the meeting on May 5th at 6 PM in the KHS Band Room for Parents and Students. It will be a great time to get more information on next year and ask questions!

---Account for the Fair Share Payment beginning Aug 4th.

---Put the Kuna Days Parade on your calendar. Sat. Aug 1st.

---Put Band Camp for Kuna Gold on your calendar for July 28-31 and Aug 3-6!

A NOTE FROM THE BAND BOOSTER ORGANIZATION
(KGPCO-Kuna Gold Parent & Community Organization):

Is your family new to marching band? Feeling a little confused? Not sure what is going on?

Marching band can seem really overwhelming at first but it is truly one of the greatest activities for any kid! We have it all broken down for you to try to make things a bit easier to understand:

Who are the band boosters?
The band boosters are parent and community members, including you! The Kuna Gold Parent and Community Organization (KGPCO) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) registered organization that supports the KHS music programs. We are band parents and community members with the passion to help a great group of kids succeed. We assist Mr. Krall and work under his direction.

Seriously...band camp?
Band camp is a necessary and very important part of the year. This is where the students come together and learn marching basics and drill formations. They learn to work together as a team and have a lot of fun doing it. Keep your eyes on the calendar for the dates and times.

You compete?
Competitions are where the band really gets to show their best on the field. Most competitions are held here in the valley but occasionally we will travel out of the area or out of state. Competitions tend to take up the majority of the day. Watch the calendar for exact dates, times and locations.

Can I order a shirt too?
YES! We love to support our kids! Watch your email for ordering information at the beginning of the season!

Can I volunteer?
Parent help is not only welcome- it's greatly needed! There are many ways to help. We always need help with uniforms, building props, moving equipment, feeding the kids… the list is truly endless! Look to help for specific events as items arrive in your email.

Rehearsal is how long?!
Rehearsals are necessary for the band to polish and perfect music and marching and is generally a very enjoyable experience. Rehearsals are usually communicated well beforehand, though there may be additional requirements on

occasion. Seeing the students at a rehearsal will give you a great appreciation for how much effort (and fun) goes into a successful program!

What about trips?
Generally the marching band will travel throughout the valley for competition. Also, generally every other year, the Kuna Wind Ensemble will travel to gain fun experiences through clinics, performances and observations.

What if I still have a question?
If you have a question or issue please feel free to email Mr. Krall at skrall@kunaschools.org

KGPCO FAIR SHARE PAYMENT

The KHS music program receives core funding from the Kuna School District general budget but funding for items that students can keep, food and refreshments, additional staff, props, additional music purchases, additional instruments, trips, uniforms and repairs are supplemented by fundraising and a Fair Share Payment. The Fair Share Payment provides Kuna Bands with the financial support needed to offset costs and continue successfully. We have made every effort to keep the amount at a reasonable and affordable level. Below you can see an approximation on how funds are used to support students.

Students involved in Kuna Gold Band and Guard:

Marching Band Show Shirt and Kuna Band Polo ($30)
---Students receive two shirts to keep. These shirts are needed throughout the year.
Marching (or guard) Shoes ($40)
---Most band shoes are replaced yearly with few exceptions. Students keep these shoes.
Performance Gloves, 2 pairs ($15)
---Used for performance for both color guard and band members
Supplies ($80)
---This covers prop materials, flags, tape, hardware, lumber, paint, etc.
Staff ($60)
---This supplements the stipend for band staff members. These are musicians/guard staff that will work with your student and their section to help them be more successful!

Total ($225)

The Fair Share Payment can be paid to the Kuna Gold Parent and Community Organization (KGPCO) in three different ways: 1) Writing a check to KGPCO and turning it in at the high school (specify for Fair Share Payment) 2) Pay through Venmo @KunaGold or 3) Arrange online payment (card) by emailing Teri Woods or Mr. Krall. You may make the $225 payment in full or pay incrementally.

Please consider the following payment schedule:
$75 due Aug 4th $75 due Sept 8th $75 due Oct 6th

No student will be turned away from participation due to inability to pay. If you need assistance or need to create a customized payment plan, please email:
Teri Woods kunagoldparentpresident@hotmail.com or Mr. Krall: skrall@kunaschools.org

Signature Page and Emergency Medical Form to fill out in Google Form