

# Ardrey Kell High School Mighty Knight Band Handbook



## 2016-2017

**Patrick W. Butler, Director**

[patrickw.butler@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:patrickw.butler@cms.k12.nc.us)

10220 Ardrey Kell Road

Charlotte, NC 28277

Ph# (980)343-1378

Fax# (980)980-0862

Web Page: [www.ardreykellband.org](http://www.ardreykellband.org)

# Table of Contents

Welcome.....	3
Commitment.....	3
Summer Band Rehearsals.....	5
K.S.T.....	5
Personal Responsibility.....	5
School Owned Instruments.....	6
General Policies.....	7
Bus Rules.....	7
Classroom Rules & Consequences.....	8
Concert Attire.....	9
Band Dress Code.....	9
Performance Ensembles.....	11
Wind Ensemble.....	12
Symphonic Band.....	12
Concert Band.....	12
Jazz Ensemble.....	13
Percussion Ensemble.....	13
Marching Band.....	14
Attendance Policy.....	14
Student Leadership.....	14
Band Camp Information.....	15
Procedures for Ballgames.....	16
Uniform Inspection.....	17
Band Boosters.....	18
Band Fees.....	19
What Others Say About the Band Experience.....	20
CHARMS.....	21
Acknowledgment Form.....	22

To all Mighty Knight Band Members.....

## Welcome!!!

To those of you who are new to the high school band program, we look forward to having you participate in one of the most active and exciting activities at Ardrey Kell High School! You need to realize, as we do, that **YOU** are the future of the band program at AKHS. We encourage you and your family to become involved. It is an activity that takes some extra effort, but is extremely rewarding.

To our returning members, you know what it takes to achieve success as a member of the Mighty Knight Band. We expect you to continue our high achievement and improvement through **PRIDE** and **COMMITMENT**.

The band program at AKHS forms a vital and important part of the total high school life. The band represents a large, colorful, visible, and highly disciplined segment of the school. The performance of the band at sporting events, concerts, parades, and contests, as well as many community events, adds a great deal of color and life to the community. It is possible by setting your schedule in a reasonable manner, to be in the band and still maintain a high scholastic standing, work a part time job and participate in the vast number of activities AKHS has to offer, as is evident by a large number of current and former band members.

The main emphasis of the Mighty Knight Band program is on **musicianship**. Achieved through hard work and a great attitude, it is the pride of a job well done that makes our efforts worthwhile. The success of our organization will lead to the success of the individual.

## COMMITMENT

It is very important for band students to realize that they **must attend ALL rehearsals and public performances**. In any high school band, success is based not solely a student's individual skills, but rather on the entire group's collective ability to work together as a **BAND**. Working as a unit to reach extremely high goals is what makes the high school band experience special. Whenever one member of the unit is missing for even a moment, with even a valid excuse, the total group fails to be its very best. For this very obvious reason, parents and students wishing to see the AKHS Mighty Knight Band reach its highest possible goals must constantly strive to eliminate all absences, for **ANY** reason.

### After School Activities

All students of the AKHS Mighty Knight Band program must attend all after school rehearsals and performances of the group in which the student is a member. All curricular (pertaining to a band class) rehearsals and performances are part of the North

Carolina Music Essential Standards. Failure to attend after school curricular activities will result in removal from the band program. Co-curricular rehearsals and performances (marching band, winter percussion & color guard) are important for the success of each group. Failure to attend after school activities will result in removal from the group and possible removal from the band program.

### Absences

The only valid excuse for missing a rehearsal or performance is a **death in the family, a school activity approved by the sponsor and band director prior to the activity, or serious personal illness**. Unexcused absences could result in a loss of credit. Occasionally we will be asked to give other performances within the community and when possible, students will be given a two week notice, and a chance to check their calendar before we schedule any extra performances. Once we have committed, students are expected to be there. Calling/emailing the night before and saying you cannot be there is UNACCEPTABLE. An unexcused absence is unacceptable and the student will be removed from the group.

The following are examples of **unexcused** absences: part time jobs, no transportation, family outings, family reunions, family vacations, babysitting siblings, dance class, lessons, regularly scheduled doctor & dentist appointments, or “behind the wheel.” A written parent note or email explaining an absence for an unexcused reason is appreciated, however, the director’s acceptance of the written note does not turn the unexcused absence into an excused absence.

If a student misses an after school band rehearsal or performance for any reason a parent or guardian must call the band room (980-343-1378) or email Mr. Butler ([patrickw.butler@cms.k12.nc.uc](mailto:patrickw.butler@cms.k12.nc.uc)) within 24 hours of the student’s return to school.

**EVERYONE IN THE ORGANIZATION IS DEPENDING ON YOU TO BE THERE IN REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES, TO DO YOUR PART.**

Remember that musicians are judged by the quality of each performance. Student musicians will be judged by the quality of their results and not by the quality of their excuses.

## **Summer Band Rehearsals**

The purpose of summer band rehearsals is to allow the band to adequately prepare for the upcoming marching season (every year we have a football game right before or right as school begins). It is also an important time for the students to meet and greet one another. In a group as large as the high school marching band, students need time to establish bonds of friendship and a strong work ethic. The relationships with each other within the band make summer band rehearsals the most important time of the year. No grades are assigned during the summer but attendance is checked. Students who miss any of the summer band rehearsals are immediately behind the rest of the band, and may battle the rest of the season just to “catch up” instead of striving to excel. Band camp is **MANDATORY** for all marching band students.

## **K.S.T. (Knight Standard Time)**

When a time is given for a band function (rehearsal, roll call, performance, etc.), that is the time the event will **begin**. Since various preparations must be made beforehand, you should arrive 10-15 minutes before the event is scheduled to begin. For example: if a rehearsal is to begin at 6:30, you need time to park, get your equipment, put cases back in storage areas, get a chair and stand, socialize, etc. When 6:30 arrives all activities will cease and the rehearsal will begin. This procedure not only helps us to take full advantage of our limited time together, but also will prepare you to be a better college student, employee, citizen, etc. **EARLY IS ON TIME, ON TIME IS LATE!**

## **PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Because you are now a member of such a visible organization, you are constantly in the “limelight” whether you want to be or not. At all times you are representatives of the Mighty Knight Band – even outside of school hours. Our expectations are that you will always be a positive example and good representative of our band family. Not only do you have responsibilities outside of the organization, but to the organization as well. Even though the band is made of different elements, we are **one** group. A group of individual players, no matter how talented, will never perform as well as a solid **team!** You have several responsibilities to our team:

- **Be at all rehearsals and performances on time.**
- **Write your name on all music and drill/coordinate sheets handed out to you.**
- **Learn your part (music, equipment, work, drill, etc.).**
- **Keep a positive attitude and always give your best effort.**
- **Exercise patience when giving and receiving instruction/correction.**
- **Be respectful to directors, all staff, and chaperones.**
- **Be respectful to others and refrain from any unnecessary conversation.**
- **Always be supportive of each element of the band. We are all in this together!**

## **School Owned Instruments**

The Mighty Knight Band makes available to all students certain instruments and equipment. If a piece of equipment is available and the student receives permission, they make check out or be issued a school owned instrument for the school year. There is no fee for the instrument rental but care of the instrument falls on the student/parent.

### **Check Out**

Each student is expected to provide his/her own mouthpiece, reeds, ligature, sticks, accessories, etc. for the school owned instrument. Percussionist wanting to take an instrument home or students wanting to check out an additional instrument to keep at home to practice must check the instrument out through the director. Percussion instruments, due to the fact there are few and used frequently, are only allowed to be checked out over night or for the weekend.

### **Care and Maintenance**

Many Mighty Knight Band instruments are old and may not be pleasing to the eye but are in adequate playing condition and some sound better than sound of the newer instruments. New or old, beautiful or frightful-looking, all instruments must be returned in at least as good condition as they were checked out. Any damage that occurs or repairs that need to be made will be the financial responsibility of the student and parents. A student will need to pay the repair cost of the instrument before another one will be issued. Repairs of school owned instruments will be sent out to the school's instrument repair dealer.

## GENERAL POLICIES

All School rules and policies apply to band members when those students are with the band. Violations of those policies will be handled as outlined in the AKHS Handbook.

### BUS RULES

1. Check in will be conducted before you get on a bus.
2. There should be at least two adult chaperones per bus.
3. Only our students, school personnel, and chaperones are allowed to ride the bus.
4. Students will return on the same bus they go on.
5. Students must ride the bus to events unless there is an extreme emergency (ex: SATs). In that case the students' parents must be responsible for providing transportation. Students may return home with a parent if they have arranged to do so. A note from the parent is required and needs to be **initialed by the band director and given by the student to his/her chaperone**. This is for your protection.
6. CMS school bus policies are in effect while we are on a trip.
7. Upon arrival, students are to remain seated until given permission to get off the bus by the director or head chaperone.
8. **No audio devices without headphones!** This protects your right to listen to your choice of music and protects others' rights not to listen to your type of music.
9. **No instruments are to be played on the bus unless otherwise specified by the band directors.**
10. Bus radios will not be turned on at any time.
11. Males and Females will not be allowed to sit together from sunset to sunrise.
12. The Mighty Knight Band and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools are not responsible for personal belongings left unattended or left behind on the bus.
13. If you are not on the bus at the appointed departure time you will be left.
14. Only the band director or persons designated by band directors are responsible for any stops by the buses.
15. Stay in your seat. **Do not stand or switch seats while the bus is in motion.**
16. Always be courteous!!!
17. Band Director, staff, bus drivers, and adult chaperones are authorized to enforce bus rules.

**Remember!! The chaperones volunteer their time to the band program. The chaperones are acting on instructions from the director. You need to be kind and courteous to the chaperones. If you have a disagreement, you should see the director, and explain the situation, so it may be handled properly.**

## CLASSROOM RULES AND CONSEQUENCES

### Classroom Rules

1. Everyone must be ready to begin rehearsal 2 minutes after the bell rings.
2. Be responsible; practice and know your music.
3. Silly and irrelevant questions or comments are not appropriate
4. Only percussionists play percussion instruments.
5. Warm-up is more important than working on the pieces. In order to further develop technique, blend, balance, and intonation warm-up needs to be focused.
6. NO GUM, FOOD, OR DRINKS! Unless otherwise stated.
7. Talking will not be tolerated during rehearsal. Socializing is a part of the band experience, but should be done at the appropriate times.
8. Put everything away after rehearsal. Leave the area cleaner than you found it.

### Classroom Consequences

First Offense	Warning and Adjustment of Rehearsal Grade
Second Offense	After School Detention and Adjustment of Rehearsal Grade
Third Offense	2 Days of After School Detention, a Call Home and Adjustment of Rehearsal Grade
Fourth Offense	Traveling with the band suspended and required meeting with a parent or guardian

## **CONCERT ATTIRE**

Concert attire for the Concert Band is as follows:

OPTION ONE: long black dress or black slacks with a black blouse & black shoes.

OPTION TWO: long-sleeve white shirt, black tie, black pants, black socks, and black shoes

Concert attire for the Symphonic Band is as follows:

OPTION ONE: long black dress or black slacks with a black blouse & black shoes.

OPTION TWO: long-sleeve black shirt, black pants, black socks, and black shoes

Concert attire for the Wind Ensemble is as follows:

OPTION ONE: black gown & black shoes

OPTION TWO: plain black tux, white tux shirt, black socks, and black shoes

Concert attire for the Jazz Ensemble is as follows:

ALL: black pants, black button up shirt and purple tie

## **BAND DRESS CODE**

1. During school hours all school policies will be in effect.
2. Performance and rehearsal attire is to be followed strictly. Any failure to do so may result in loss of performance, suspension of travel privileges and disciplinary actions.
3. For band activities outside of school hours these school dress codes still apply:
  - a. Clothing must fit securely enough to be non-revealing and no clothing that permits a view of undergarments at any time.
  - b. Pants must be worn secured at the waist at all times.
  - c. No clothing, jewelry, or other accessories may be worn or displayed in any fashion which contains or is imprinted with lettering, slogans, signs, symbols, advertisements, logos, or artistic depictions of any of the following:
    - a) any controlled substance legally unavailable for sale to minors including, but not limited to, tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, or illegal drugs;
    - b) vulgarity, obscenity, profanity, pornography, or sexually explicit or suggestive subject matter, including “double entendre” wordplay;
    - c) items which represent offensive affronts to any segment of the school population on the grounds of ethnicity, race, religion, gender, handicapping condition, or national or geographic origin or residence.
  - d. No gang-related insignia or style of dress is permitted at any time.
4. Tennis shoes (cross trainers are preferred) are to be worn at all marching rehearsals during pre-camp and band camp. No VAN-like shoes...Athletic Shoes Only!!!

**Ardrey Kell High  
School Mighty  
Knight Band**

**Performance  
Ensembles**

# Wind Ensemble

## Course Description:

Wind Ensemble is a class exclusively for band students that have successfully passed an audition and received a director's approval. Students will be studying music and all of its elements through the performance of band literature at the highest level (NCBA Grades V & VI). Students will demonstrate the highest level of proficiency on their instrument, and will demonstrate a thorough knowledge of playing fundamentals including scales, arpeggios and rhythms. Wind Ensemble students will perform 4-6 performances a year. They will be responsible for some after school rehearsals prior to concerts. Wind Ensemble students should audition for all-district band or an honor band (CYWE, CSYO, Western Regional Orchestra, etc.)

## Students will need:

1. All students will need their warm-up/technique book.
2. Brass will need valve oil, straight mutes (trumpets & trombones), slide grease, polishing cloth and pencils each class.
3. Woodwinds will need at least 4 reeds, cork grease, polishing/cleaning cloth and pencils each class.

# Symphonic Band

## Course Description:

Symphonic Band is a class exclusively for band students that have successfully passed an audition and received a director's approval that are not quite ready for the Wind Ensemble. Students will be studying music and all of its elements through the performance of band literature at a proficient level (NCBA Grades IV, V & VI). Students will demonstrate a high level of proficiency on their instrument, and will demonstrate a thorough knowledge of playing fundamentals including scales, arpeggios and rhythms. Symphonic Band students will perform 4-6 performances a year. They will be responsible for some after school rehearsals prior to concerts. Symphonic Band students are strongly encouraged to audition for all-district band or an honor band (CYWE, CSYO, Western Regional Orchestra, etc.)

## Students will need:

1. All students will need their warm-up/technique book.
2. Brass will need valve oil, straight mutes (trumpets & trombones), slide grease, polishing cloth and pencils each class.
3. Woodwinds will need at least 4 reeds, cork grease, polishing/cleaning cloth and pencils each class.

# Concert Band

## Course Description:

Concert Band is a class open to any band student that has successfully completed middle school band. Students will be studying music and all of its elements through the performance of band literature at an intermediate level (NCBA Grades III& IV). Students will demonstrate an intermediate level of proficiency on their instrument, and will demonstrate a thorough knowledge of playing fundamentals including scales, arpeggios and rhythms. Concert Band students will perform 3-6 concerts a year. They will be responsible for some after school rehearsals prior to concerts. Concert Band students are encouraged to audition for all-district band. Concert Band students are encouraged to audition for all-district band or an honor band (CYWE, CSYO, Western Regional Orchestra, etc.)

## Students will need:

1. All students will need their warm-up/technique book.
2. Brass will need valve oil, straight mutes (trumpets & trombones), slide grease, polishing cloth and pencils each class.  
Woodwinds will need at least 4 reeds, cork grease, polishing/cleaning cloth and pencils each class.

# **Jazz Ensemble**

## Course Description:

Jazz Ensemble is a class exclusively for band students that have successfully passed an audition and received a director's approval. Students must also be a member of another band class. Students will be studying jazz ensemble music and all of its various styles through the performance of jazz literature. Students will demonstrate the highest level of proficiency on their instrument, and will demonstrate a thorough knowledge of playing fundamentals including scales, improvisation and rhythms. Jazz Ensemble students will perform multiple concerts throughout the year. They will be responsible for some community performances. Jazz Ensemble students are eligible to audition for Western Regional Jazz Band.

## Students will need:

1. All students will need their warm-up/technique book.
2. Brass will need valve oil, straight mutes (trumpets & trombones), slide grease, polishing cloth and pencils each class.
3. Woodwinds will need at least 4 reeds, cork grease, polishing/cleaning cloth and pencils each class.
4. Percussionist will need snare sticks, vibie mallets and pencils each class.

# **Indoor Ensembles (extra-curricular)**

## Ensemble Description:

The indoor ensembles at Ardrey Kell are an extension of our marching band and concert band programs. The rehearsals should begin shortly after marching band ends. The competition season begins in January and goes through march. There is a fee of \$500 to participate in an indoor ensemble.

# Marching Band

The marching band is an extension of the classroom curriculum. Concepts, techniques, and other items taught in the classes will be reinforced in marching band. In order to participate in marching band a student must be signed up for a concert class (the only exception is for color guard members). Marching band students have the option of signing up for marching band for credit or no credit. All students whether they will receive credit for marching band or not will be assigned a grade based on their attendance, appearance and performance. Students in marching band will be required to attend summer practices which include but is not limited to pre-camp rehearsals, band camp, post-camp rehearsals, football games and marching competitions (a calendar will be given by the end of the school year).

## Marching Band Attendance Policy

The goal of any performing ensemble is to work together to achieve excellence. That being the case it is a **requirement** for everyone to be at all rehearsals. If someone has an absence from practice the student will be immediately removed from marching band and an alternate put in their place and in the case of no alternate being available then then drill spot will be closed up and taken out. Absences will be dealt with on an individual basis. Mr. Butler will review the absence and speak with a parent or guardian **before** the student will be allowed to rejoin the group. Even if the student is allowed to rejoin the group the individual must earn their spot back from the alternate who did not miss practice. Mr. Butler is the only person who can excuse an absence. For more information please refer to the band attendance policy on page 4. This policy begins at band camp and goes until the last performance. If a student is removed for absences they will not be allowed to rejoin the following year.

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The key to every good band program is student leadership. Being a student leader is tough but with proper guidance it can be a rewarding experience. It is important that all students be familiar with the chain of command and how it applies to them. Students who earn the honor of being a student leader have displayed outstanding musical ability, self-discipline, and responsibility. Student leaders are expected to lead by example and promote stability within the band. They are held to a higher degree of responsibility since they have been selected to serve as leadership.

### **Chain of Command**

The chain of command is a system designed to identify who should be instructing and leading the band. All students are expected to follow directions from leadership, regardless of section. Any student, who feels a student leader is acting in an unfair manner, is asked to speak with a director at an appropriate time (before/after rehearsal; break time). Students should not argue or ignore direct instruction from anyone above them in the chain of command for any reason. Section leaders are to be reminded they will be held to high standards when it comes to dealing with other students. Failure to treat students under you fairly may result in removal from your leadership position.

The chain of command is as follows:

Director(s)  
Staff Members  
Drum Majors  
Student Leaders  
Members

## **BAND CAMP INFORMATION**

Band Camp is held at Ardrey Kell High School.

### **WHAT TO BRING:**

Athletic shoes, large water bottle (32 ounces or more), **light colored sports clothes**, rain wear, **sun block**, band aids, pen/pencil, notebook, light colored hat, and sunglasses.

Please exercise good judgment in what you wear to rehearsals. Breathable athletic clothing is preferred. **DO NOT** wear dark colored clothes, you may overheat. **DO** wear light colored clothes and a hat. You must wear tennis shoes with socks for all marching rehearsals. Sandals are permissible only at music rehearsals. **NO SANDALS or BARE FEET AT MARCHING REHEARSALS. NO JEANS OR JEAN SHORTS.**

### **CAMP RULES:**

1. All school rules are in effect. This includes school dress codes rules and regulations.
2. At no time will students be without shoes.
3. No visitors, at any time.
4. Be a good representative of the Mighty Knight Band.
5. Stay in the designated areas of the school during camp hours.
6. Students will not be allowed to leave campus at any time until dismissal at the end of the day.
7. Students must be present at ALL REAHEARSALS FOR THE ENTIRE TIME.
8. During meals students should drink water and/or juice. Avoid caffeinated drinks and milk.

## PROCEDURES FOR BALLGAMES

1. Above all this is a musical organization so the students are expected to play musically, with consideration to tone, tempo and intonation.
2. Never play your instrument unless it is in an organized fashion instructed by a Director or Drum Major. When the band does play, everyone is expected to stand and play his or her proper parts.
3. Everyone must have their own flip folder. Sharing of flip folders are not allowed. It is the responsibility of the individual students to make sure they have flip folders and lyres at each football game and rehearsal.
4. You will sit in your section with the band. Non-band members are not allowed to sit with the band except for alumni at Homecoming.
5. When entering, the stands, everyone will remain standing in place at “standby” until seated by a Director or Drum Major.
6. You may remove your hats and gloves when instructed to do so.
7. The band will be given a break during the third quarter at the directors’ discretion. Band members must be back ready to play with 2 minutes left on the game clock for the third quarter. Any damage to the uniform due to food or drinks spilt on the uniform is the responsibility of the student and must be taken care of prior to the next performance. **EVERYONE IS EXPECTED TO EAT DINNER PRIOR TO CALL.**
8. Anyone returning tardy from a break will lose his or her break time at future games. Anyone leaving without permission will be subject to further disciplinary actions.
9. Only water is to be allowed in the stands. No food, other drinks, gum, etc. allowed in the stands. This is to keep uniforms and equipment clean. If you break this rule you are responsible for any extra cleaning and disciplinary actions may be taken.
10. At away games, travel in groups of at least four.
11. No profanity or obscene gestures will be tolerated! You are a representative of yourself, the band, your school, and your community.
12. Any directions given by a Director, Drum Major or Band Staff member are to be strictly followed.
13. No one is to appear in public in partial uniform unless otherwise instructed by a director.

## Uniform Inspection

Before each football game and competition there will be a uniform inspection conducted by the band leadership, staff, and directors. All performing members must meet uniform standards.

### Uniform Check List:

- ✓ Clean and polished black marching band shoes
- ✓ Solid black crew length socks
- ✓ Light weight athletic shorts under uniform pants
- ✓ “Under Armor” Shirt (must purchase)
- ✓ Band jacket completely zipped and snapped
- ✓ Black bibber pants hemmed and worn at the correct length
- ✓ White marching band gloves
- ✓ Hat and plume (beret for tubas)
- ✓ Gauntlets worn correctly on the appropriate hand
- ✓ Instrument- sparkling clean and in great working condition
- ✓ Sticks taped with stick bags
- ✓ No jewelry of any kind showing while in band uniform. Necklaces that are worn under the shirt will be permitted.
- ✓ No make-up or colored nail polish.
- ✓ When wearing the marching band hat, hair must be pulled up off the collar and worn inside the hat.

Anyone who fails uniform inspection will not be allowed to perform and may face other disciplinary actions.

**NEVER CARRY YOUR HAT LIKE A BUCKET.**

**NO ONE IS TO APPEAR IN PUBLIC IN PARTIAL UNIFORM AT ANY TIME UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED BY THE DIRECTOR.**

**THE UNIFORM MUST BE HUNG CORRECTLY BACK ON THE HANGER AFTER EVERY FOOTBALL GAME OR COMPETITION.**

## Alternate Uniform

In the event of heat or bad weather an alternate uniform may be required. The alternate uniform is usually shorts or jeans and the band t-shirt. Guard members may have warm-ups or other alternate uniforms.

# **BAND BOOSTERS**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Ardrey Kell High School Band Boosters' mission is to help advance the program of the Ardrey Kell High School Band through financial support and encouragement.

## **PURPOSE**

The AKHS Band Boosters is a non-profit organization formed exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, with the following objectives:

1. To foster and support the educational goals of the Ardrey Kell High School Band program as established by the Band Director and the school administration.
2. To provide financial support for the program through the establishment of fundraising opportunities.
3. To provide assistance for band activities as requested by the Band Director.

## **LEADERSHIP**

The Executive Board and its officers shall be the governing body of the Organization. Their duties shall be to transact the necessary business of the Organization. Duties of the Executive Board may include but are not limited to: the creation of standing and special committees, approving plans or work of committees, presenting reports at general meetings of the Organization, establishing an annual budget, selecting person(s) to conduct the annual financial review, and approving expenditures within the limit of the budget.

Meetings: Executive Board shall meet at least monthly with date and time to be determined by current Board.

Officers shall include: President, Vice President – Fundraising, Vice President – Special Events, Vice President - At Large, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Color/Winter Guard representative and such others as the Executive Board shall deem necessary.

## Band Fees

The AK Mighty Knight Band receives very little if any funding from the school district. Therefore in order to operate the band program, each student is expected to fund-raise or pay their band fees to participate in the program. The band boosters help run CHARMS where parents and students can keep track of their fee payments. A CHARMS representative is responsible for receiving, recording and charging students for different ensembles or events the students may be involved in. When dealing with this representative you will need to remember the following things:

1. All payments should be made by check or money order and should be made payable to the AKHS Band Boosters. (please put the student's name on the check)
2. The canceled check will serve as your receipt. If you need another receipt please request one when you make your payment.
3. All payments should be made to the booster representative or placed in the black box in the band room. **Band directors and staff will not accept payments.**
4. **All band fees must be paid in full by October 1.**

### Fair Shares for 2015-2016

Marching Band	\$600
Winter Performance Ensemble	\$500
Wind Ensemble*	\$100
Symphonic Band*	\$100
Concert Band*	\$100

\*students in marching band pay only the band fee for marching band

## **WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT THE BAND EXPERIENCE**

From the Harvard University Admission Department:

“We always consider extracurricular talents and personal strengths when we evaluate a candidate’s credentials. We look for students whose previous participation in the arts shows that they can make a substantial contribution to our community.”

and from the Admissions Department at Johns Hopkins University:

“Participation in the performing arts during the pre-college years is a clear indication to our admission committee that a student is dedicated to, excited about and engaged in the educational journey.”

and this from The College Board concerning SAT takers:

“Students with course work in music performance scored 51 points higher on the verbal portion of the SAT and 39 points higher on the math portion of the SAT than students without music course work. (Further)...those who studied four or more years scored 59 points higher on verbal and 44 points higher on math portions of the SAT than students with no experience.”

and this from Thomas Meyers - Director of Investor Relations, TRW, Inc:

“I view the instrumental music program as leadership development. One of my tasks is to find new employees who will become the company’s senior leaders in ten to twenty years. Most of the students we hire have impressive grades, good business experience with major companies, and the leadership, character, and skills they acquired while being a member of their high school band.”

and this from “An Evaluation of Achievement in Reading and Arithmetic”:

“Music students always out perform non-music students on achievement tests in reading and math. Because of their study of music, their skills are better at reading, anticipating, memory, listening, forecasting, recall and concentration.”

and this from Dr. F. Rauscher and Dr. G. Shaw of the University of California:

“Music lessons have been shown to improve a child’s performance in school. After eight months of keyboard lessons, preschoolers showed a 46% boost in their spatial IQ, which is crucial for higher brain functions such as complex mathematics.”

# How To Access Student Band Finances And Parent Information

## \*Charms\*

This year the Ardrey Kell Band will use accounting program called Charms. Charms gives you access to your student's band account and also helps us to communicate important program information more efficiently. In order to fully maximize the benefits of Charms, every family should follow the instructions below and verify or update your student's contact information. Please complete this process as soon as possible and return the signed form to Mr. Butler.

- Log on to [www.charmsoffice.com](http://www.charmsoffice.com) (Bookmark this page! You'll use it often!)
- Locate the "Parent/Student Login" section of the web page.
- Enter the school code: **AKBand**
- This will bring up the main parent page which features public information and buttons to access the band calendar, band handouts, the AK Band website, and Mr. Butler's email.
- Access your student's personal and financial records by entering the student password, his/her **Student ID**. Your child should already know this number ("XXXXXXX"), but it can also be found on a recent report card. Some marching band students will have an alternate password.
- The student section contains buttons that access additional, personal information including Finances, Personal Info, and Change Password. "Finances" allows you to track your student's account balance including amount owed for Band Fees, amounts earned from fundraisers, and payments applied. Note that you can print receipts for individual payments by clicking the "R" next to that item.
- Please click on "Change Password" to create a unique password upon initial login. We won't have access to your new password, but we can reset your password at any time if it is misplaced or forgotten.
- **Please click on the "Personal Info" button and verify/update all contact information.** Note that all emails entered will receive the weekly Band Blast. Make sure you click the "**update**" button before leaving this screen. Once you have completed this process you may exit the charms program.

---

Student Name

---

Parent Signature

---

Date

*If you have any questions please contact Mr. Butler.*

## **Ardrey Kell High School Band Handbook Acknowledgement Form**

Dear Parents and Students:

Please read the Ardrey Kell High School Band Handbook and return this signed sheet. Please read through the handbook so that you may become acquainted with the policies under which our organization is governed.

After reading the handbook, please acknowledge the following statements by printing both parent and student name, as well as signing and dating in appropriate places.

By my signature, I confirm that:

1. I have read the Band Handbook and agree to comply with the policies set forth therein. I agree that I will support the Band Director(s) in following the policies within the handbook.
2. An unexcused absence from a performance or a rehearsal WILL result in removal from the group and/or loss of credit.
3. I hereby give permission for my child to participate in all band activities (including football games, marching and concert competitions, parades, and activity trips) during the school year. I understand that all trips will be taken with carriers approved by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, and will comply with all local and state governing rules. I agree that I, as a parent or legal guardian, will be financially responsible for any damages that my child causes and will incur the cost to transport my child home from a trip if his or her behavior warrants immediate attention.

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_