Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to the KTEC Middle School Band program. I am excited that you are going to be part of the KTEC band program this year. Many exciting events will be happening this year, including performing for the district’s Band O Rama performance.

This handbook is designed to inform and help you with concert dates, dress attire, practicing, supply lists, and other aspects about the band program. Please keep it as a reference all year long. After reading the handbook, please fill out the last page and hand it back to me no later than Friday, September 11th, 2015. If you have any questions, you can contact me at: lcook@kusd.edu.

I am looking forward to working with you this year and making great music!

Thank you for your support,

Leslie Cook
KTEC Band Director
Bands at KTEC

The 6th grade band consists of students in 6th grade who have either played an instrument for a year, or who are beginners. The Band performs in two concerts as well as the district’s Band O Rama performance. Students in this band will learn the musical foundation that they will need in the future.

The 7th grade band consists of 7th graders who have played in band in their sixth grade. Band members will perform in two concerts at KTEC, Band O Rama performance, and will be participating in Large Group Festival in the spring.

The 8th grade band consists of 8th graders who have played an instrument for at least two years. Students will be playing two concerts at KTEC, Band O Rama, and large group festival.

*all middle school students will have the opportunity to participate in this year’s WSMA Solo and Ensemble Musical Festival, where they will be able to play a solo or a small ensemble in front of another band director.

Classroom Expectations

All band members are required to observe the following:
- no gum chewing or eating other food in class
- bring a pencil to every rehearsal
- arrive promptly and be ready to play on time.
- Respect all equipment in the room.
- Always have your instrument in good playing condition, and your music to every rehearsal.
- Listen to yourself, the band, and the director
- After each rehearsal, pick up your music and instrument and put them in a safe place.
Grading

Grades will be given out at each semester (twice a year).

**Playing Tests**: worth 15 points. These tests will take place periodically during the band rehearsal. Students will be given ample time to practice the tests.

**Daily Participation/Attendance**: worth 40 points. Students are expected to attend each rehearsal unless the student is absent from school. Students who arrive late will not be given full credit that day unless a written excuse is handed in.

**Practice sheets/Private lessons**: worth 15 points. Students who have lessons with a private teacher on a weekly basis will receive extra credit in this category. ALL Students will need to turn in a weekly practice log. Students need to keep track of the minutes per week that they have practiced, and have a parent signature to obtain full credit. Weekly practice logs should be handed in on Monday mornings. Practicing in a quiet place at home, with a music stand and chair, will help each student succeed on their instrument. Try to reach about 20 minutes five times a week. Remember, any practice time is better than nothing at all.

**Kenosha Unified School District Grading Policy:**

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<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>98-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-97</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
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<td>D-</td>
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**Concert Attendance**: worth 30 points. Students are expected to attend the concert dates as listed in this handbook. Students will receive full credit by attending the concerts.

**Extra Credit**: worth 10 points. Students will have a chance to earn extra credit by taking private lessons, by attending other concerts in the district and turning in a program and brief summary of the concert, and by participating in the WSMA Spring Music Festival in the spring.
Concert Attire

All middle school students will be given a light blue polo shirt which needs to be worn at all of the concerts throughout the school year. The polo shirts will be given out to each student for no fee. All students also need to wear either black pants (or skirts), and black shoes and socks.

Solo and Ensemble

It is highly recommended that all students participate in the WSMA solo and ensemble festival held on Saturday, March 19th, 2016 at Indian Trail High School. Students may perform a solo and/or an ensemble. Students should see their private lesson teacher or Mrs. Cook for music. Music must be from the WSMA guidebook and judges must have an original copy at the time of the performance. Preparation for this should begin close to the winter break.

Large Group Festival: 7th and 8th grade students will be participating in this clinic/band competition. The festival will take place on April 15th, 2016 at Indian Trail High School. (Specific times will not be known until about 10 days before the event.)

Private Lesson Information

Lessons are not part of the school band program at the middle school level. However, the importance of private lessons is essential for the developing instrumentalist and is strongly recommended. If you need further information, you can contact Mrs. Cook for possible teachers in the area.

Classroom Materials

Method books and folders will be handed to students at the beginning of the school year. Please make sure all books and folders are clearly marked with the students name as soon as possible. There will be no fee for these method books and folders but students are asked to take good care of them during the school year.
Instrument Supply List

It is important that all students have their instrument in good working order and that they have all of the supplies for their instrument. Below is a checklist for each instrument. Please make sure you know what is needed with each instrument.

Pacetti’s music store: 262-657-5031 5905 6th Avenue
Music Center: 262-697-9393 7700 W. Green Bay Road
Are two music stores in Kenosha that should carry the supplies.

Woodwinds

**Flutes:** cleaning rod (preferably wooden) and soft cloth

**Clarinets and saxophone players:** all players should buy a box of reeds since it is more economic than individual reeds. 6th graders at least a #2 reed, 7th graders at least a 2 ½ reed, and 8th graders, #3 reed. Also have the appropriate cleaning swab and cork grease.

**Oboes and bassoons:** all players should have at least 4 cane reeds, not fiber cane reeds, and they should be “medium soft”.

**Brass:** 1 bottle of valve oil, 1 container of slide grease, 1 mouthpiece brush, 1 “snake” brush. All slides and valves should be in good working condition (free moving and not sticky).

**Percussion:** 6th graders: continue to rent the percussion kit like in 5th grade
*all percussionists should label their own sticks that they purchase (Not rent) with their names. The school will provide other miscellaneous percussion instruments. Stick bags can be purchased which is a nice way to safely carry the sticks to school.
Calendar of Events

KTEC Middle School Band/Orchestra/7th and 8th grade Choir Winter Concert at
KTEC West Auditorium, 6:30 pm. (date to be determined)

KTEC/Bullen/Washington Band Lock-in    January

Band O Rama Festival January 30th 6:30 pm AND January 31st 1:30 pm. At Indian
Trail High School. (all bands perform).

WSMA Solo and Ensemble Festival, Saturday March 19th 2016 Indian Trail High
School. (open to all middle school students).

WSMA Large Group Festival, April 15th Indian Trail High School. (7th and 8th
grade bands).

KTEC Spring Band Concert,  May 10th 6:30 pm. KTEC West Auditorium (all
bands).
KTEC Band Information Sheet

Last name__________________
First name__________________

Address___________________________

____________________
   __________
   __________

Home phone ____________   work phone____________
Cell phone ____________

Grade__________       Homeroom teacher_____________

Parent/Guardian name_________________

Parent email address_________________

Instrument___________________

How long have you played your instrument?____________

Do you own or rent your instrument?____________

Are you currently taking private lessons?____________
(If yes, name of private teacher__________________ )
Please sign below and return this page by Friday September 11th 2015. Feel free to contact me if you have any other questions or concerns.

I look forward to a wonderful year of music making!!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cook
KTEC Band Director
lcook@kusd.edu

We have read the KTEC Band Handbook and understand the policies and guidelines for the 2015-16 school year.

Parent signature____________________________

Students signature__________________________

Date______________________________________