Marching Knights Information 2026

Expectations/Eligibility

The King's Academy Marching Knights is a performing ensemble during the fall season (August through December). Students will perform in the stands and on the field at TKA home football games. As members of this ensemble, students will increase their musical knowledge and performance skills and will gain valuable life skills by learning to be an active, committed member of a team. Students will also enjoy being an active member of our school community as we cheer on the TKA football team at "Friday Night Lights!"

The King's Academy Marching Knights is open to all TKA students 6th grade and above. Younger students with musical experience (5th grade and above) may participate in the Knights Pep Band, which plays in the stands along with the marching band at football games. The Marching Knights is also open to homeschool students, as well as students from Lyndon Academy and Valor Christian Academy who are interested in performing as part of a marching band. (Please note – non-enrolled students will need to complete a separate application for TKA athletics to be approved for membership. An application fee of $40 per student will be charged. See additional documents for full details.)

Individual section requirements are as follows:

- Winds – includes all woodwind and brass instruments. Wind musicians must have a minimum of one year of experience on their instrument. Most students will supply their own instrument, but rentals are available on request.
- Percussion – percussion includes both marching drumline and sideline percussion instruments. Most instruments require a minimum of one year of musical experience, but students without musical experience may find success here as well (with instructor approval).
- Auxiliary instruments – includes other instrumentation that can support the sound of the band on the field. This may include keyboard, guitar, or bass guitar. The ability to read music is a helpful skill, but ensemble experience is not necessary. Guitar/bass guitar members will need to provide their own instrument and amplification.
- Color Guard – the visual representation of the music created by the ensemble, color guard members will use flags and choreography to add visual excitement to our halftime show. No musical experience is needed, but experience with dance will be a bonus.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

- Student in good standing, whether enrolled at TKA or other private school/homeschool
- Willing to abide by the TKA Statement of Faith and Code of Conduct (available on request)
- Completion of Athletic Physical prior to the start of the first band camp on July 20 (must be dated after April 1)
- Registration through TeamSnap
- Parent and Student signature on membership contract

FEES

Fees are used to support the performance goals of the ensemble. These funds will be used to purchase music, uniforms, and performance equipment (including color guard flags/poles, instruments, etc.), pay support staff, and provide other miscellaneous supplies for the group.

Marching Knights - $450 per student ($250 per student for pep band)

Additional purchases of personal equipment (and approximate costs) will include:

- Marching shoes ($40)
- Uniform Gloves ($5 for winds/percussion; $20 for color guard)
- Uniform T-shirt ($15) and hat ($20)

FUNDRAISING

To keep participation costs down, the band fee covers most, but not all our projected expenses for the year. To make up for the difference, we will have a few fundraising efforts during the season. These may include in-person events like car washes, or virtual fundraising efforts such as a "Pay the Date" calendar. Funds raised will go into the general band fund. This year students will have the opportunity to help raise their individual participation fees through selling sponsorships. More information is available from the TKA Athletic Department.

REGISTRATION

Deadline for registration will be Saturday, July 3. This will allow potential new members to attend Rookie Camp (see below) before making a final commitment for the season, while still giving instructors time to adequately prepare for the full band camp.

This year we will have the option to raise all or part of your fees with sponsorships. If you select the Payment plan, a $10 payment will be required at registration. Your balance will be divided equally into two monthly payments in August and September. Even if you plan to get sponsorships, we encourage you to register now so that Mrs. Adams can prepare for the upcoming season. 70% of your sponsorships will be applied to your account after registration, reducing your balance due.

2026 Marching & Pep Band registration: https://registration.teamsnap.com/form/59010

SPORTS PHYSICALS & FORMS

Students are REQUIRED to have a current physical form on file in the Athletic Department prior to participating in tryouts that indicates that the student is physically approved for participation. **(Note: If your child receives a physical after April 1st, it will be good for the entire following school year.)** If you are unsure whether your physical is current, please contact Roni Redd rredd@thekingsacademy.org
Participants must turn in the following forms to the Athletic Department prior to participation in Band camp or practices. All forms can be found at https://www.thekingsacademy.org/athletics/Forms.cfm

Submit Annually

- GAPPS Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation form (current and signed by a physician; not a camp physical form). Physicals after April 1st of the current year will be good for the entire next school year.

Submit One Time

- High School Affidavit of Eligibility (New HS athletes 9-12th)
- Middle School Affidavit of Eligibility (New MS athletes 6-8th)
- GAPPS Concussion Information & Acknowledgement Form
- GAPPS/GHSA Student/Parent Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Form

AES/HOMESCHOOLED ATHLETES MUST BE APPROVED PRIOR TO TRYOUTS:

- Refer to separate AES Approval Process Document available for download:
  - https://www.thekingsacademy.org/athletics/Forms.cfm

UNIFORMS

Marching Band uniforms will be issued to each woodwind/brass/percussion student during band camp. We will make every effort to find a uniform that fits your student well, but if small alterations are needed (hems on pants, sleeves, fixing buttons, etc.) please check with Mrs. Adams before making those alterations. The uniform includes a jacket, bibbers, cape, and sash issued from the band. These uniform items are numbered and will be issued to students by name. All items are expected to be returned in good shape at the end of the season; fees will be assessed for any missing/damaged items.

Other uniform parts include a band baseball cap, uniform t-shirt, black marching shoes, black socks, and black gloves, which will be purchased separately. These items will be ordered in bulk after band camp, and information on cost will be provided at that point. Unless they are outgrown or worn out, these items can be used again in future seasons.

Uniforms will be drycleaned prior to the first football game. Please be prepared to have additional cleaning done personally if we have a rain/mud situation! Please ensure that uniforms are kept hanging in between performances!

Color Guard costumes will also be issued during band camp. Some personal items, including a leotard to be worn under the costume, gloves, and shoes will be purchased separately, either in bulk or through a link provided by coaches.

BAND CAMP DATES

Drumline Camp and Color Guard Camp: TKA Fine Arts building, July 6-10, 9 AM to 12 PM, $75

> Required for both new and veteran Marching Knights drumline and color guard members. Register at **https://tka.campbrainregistration.com/**

Rookie Camp: TKA Fine Arts building, July 6-10, 9 AM to 12 PM, $75

> Mandatory for first-time marchers, this camp will introduce you to the basic fundamental skills needed in marching band. Athletic clothing and closed-toe shoes recommended. Optional for returning Marching Knights members. **Register at https://tka.campbrainregistration.com/**

Mandatory Summer Band Camp: Lyndon Academy, July 20 – 31, Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM

> During this mandatory camp, you will continue to learn the basic fundamental skills of marching band performance, including marching and maneuvering, music performance, and team-building. Color guard and percussion students will receive specialized instruction in their disciplines. The main goal of this camp is to begin building our halftime show for this season. Athletic clothing and closed-toe athletic shoes required.

****My family's summer plans conflict with Band Camp! Does that mean I can't be a part of the Marching Knights??**** Camp is very important, but missing part of those two weeks is not a deal-breaker. Please contact director Mrs. Adams to let us know of your interest and discuss how your student can join the band. That being said, please make every effort to prioritize this time as it is vital to our success for the season.

Weekly practice schedule:

- Tuesdays, 5-7 PM at Lyndon Academy
- Limited Friday practices on away game weeks, 5-7 PM at Lyndon
- Pre-game continuity rehearsal, home game Fridays, 5:30 PM Hopewell Field (pending construction)
- Color Guard choreography practice – TBA after school during the week

PERFORMANCES

The Marching Knights perform at all TKA home football games. Additionally, we may attend one or more of the scheduled away games. We will also march in the TKA Homecoming parade in October and the Woodstock Festival of Lights parade the first Saturday in December. We also plan to participate in a band competition in late October. A football schedule/performance calendar is provided – please mark these dates on your family calendar! Especially note the dates for Fall Break, and the added Friday practice dates.

As a small team, we are highly dependent on each team member to work diligently to learn their music, drill, and/or choreography for each performance. It is also important for each team member to be present for performances, as gaps in our drill formation can cause other students to struggle. Please make every effort to account for practices and performances when scheduling other family activities/events.

STAFF

We are fortunate to have highly skilled and passionate volunteer staff members to teach our students! Marching Knights instructional staff members are as follows:

Marching Knights Head Director/TKA Band Director – Lisa Adams

Assistant/Lyndon Band Director – Shelli Koenig

Color Guard head coach – Jessie Legendre

Assistant color guard coach/choreographer – Grace Randolph

Percussion head coach – Davey Legendre

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Parent volunteers are an essential part of the behind-the-scenes working of our organization. Band parents will be asked to serve a variety of roles from fundraising to chaperoning during football games to helping load the equipment trailer.

Some specific volunteer needs are as follows:

- Uniform committee – supervise the fitting and distribution of uniforms during band camp and collection of uniforms at the end of the season. Periodically help with drycleaning drop-off/pickup, minor repairs (replacing buttons, fixing a hem, etc). Assist with uniform needs on game/performance days.
- Prop crew – help at performances to assemble props before performances, move props onto and off the field for performances, and break down/reload props onto the trailer.
- Chaperones – be on hand for football games and performances to assist staff/students with any needs that may arise.

Contact Information: Band Director - Lisa Adams: ladams@thekingsacademy.org