

# Should I Join the Band Program at Ardrey Kell High School?

## Things to consider that may help you decide

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1. The skills gained through music instruction, include discipline and the ability to analyze, solve problems, communicate, and work cooperatively; all skills that are vital for success in the 21st century workplace.
2. The arts are one of the six subject areas in which the College Board recognizes as essential in order to thrive in college.
3. Students who participate in school music programs are less likely to be involved with drugs, gangs, or alcohol and have better attendance in school.
4. School music programs enhance intellectual development and enrich the academic environment for students.
5. You will learn to pay attention and follow directions. Failure to pay attention on the marching field can mean being trampled by a phalanx of quick-marching sousaphones. Band members must listen to directions and keep their minds focused just to survive.
6. You will always have a place to hang out before and after school.
7. You will learn music not played on MTV. Too many young people are unaware of great art, good art or any art not in the 'Top 40'. Band will widen the scope of your appreciation of the arts.
8. You will make many friends and life-long memories.
9. A band member must have the kind of determination that will allow them to give of themselves mentally and physically for hours each day, as well as the common sense and awareness that makes them budget his/her time to maintain high academic standards and fulfill all other responsibilities. Band teaches you how to obtain dedication as well as the discipline, responsibility, and mental and physical thoroughness that is required for survival in the "real world".
10. You will learn cooperation, pride in a job well done, a sense of purpose, and a "don't ever quit trying" attitude that will last you a lifetime. In fact this may be the most valuable education you receive and the type of skills that all employers look for in all employees!