



## **KPHS Indoor drumline becomes a reality**

Kingwood Park High School band director, Robbie Sitka, turned a drumline dream into a reality. When first hired as band director at KPHS the goal was to start an indoor drumline so that the students were given another opportunity to perform and be exposed to a larger musical world.

The Kingwood Park Indoor Percussion Ensemble was created and participated in their first competition season this past February. The Kingwood Park Indoor Percussion Ensemble is made up of several of the Kingwood feeder schools. Included are Kingwood Park High School, Kingwood High School and Kingwood Middle School. Directed by Robbie and his wife Rachael Sitka, band director at Summer Creek High School, the team competes against other percussion ensembles all around Texas.

This year there are 24 performing members of the ensemble. Most are percussion students but they also had oboe, bassoon and flute players. With an intense competition season the ensemble practice schedule involves building strength and endurance, technique, memorization and strength training. Similar to a club sport Mr. Sitka explains, "If you asked the students about their physical contribution, I think they would consider it to be as close to a sport as you can musically get." Carrying heavy drums, while running around a gym floor and playing their musical part is not easy. Also similar to a club sport the organization requires student fees and sponsorships to compete and travel.

Recently the students competed in the Texas Color Guard Circuit's state competition and placed second in their competition. This is their third competition season. For more information about sponsoring next year please contact Robbie Sitka at, [robbie.sitka@humble.k12.tx.us](mailto:robbie.sitka@humble.k12.tx.us).