



Message sent from Olathe Public Schools

Parents and Students-

Attached to this email you will find all of the required forms for participation in band at Olathe East regardless of which band class you are enrolled in.

In addition to the forms I have attached the band handbook for this year. We have already reviewed the handbook in all classes except one, and we will review it in that class tomorrow during block schedule. Please review the band handbook document before you sign the policy awareness form.

On Thursday, August 18th in the evening from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. we will have our annual Forms and Fees night in the band room (room 415). This event is "come and go" and is purposely scheduled right before the Olathe East Open House event so that you do not have to make an additional trip up to the school. We will have hard copies of the forms available that night if you do not have a way to print them off at home. In addition to the four attached forms that all students need to turn in, we will also be collecting fees/contributions that evening. We will be setup to accept payment in cash, check, or card. In addition you can make a card payment anytime on the band website at [www.oeband.com](http://www.oeband.com)

The breakdown in fees/contributions is listed below. As always, if you need financial assistance please email me and let me know, we will never exclude a student from the program because of financial need.

### **Fees**

The only true fees that are required to be paid are as follows:

- students in marching band who have ordered marching shoes, gloves, and our performance dry fit shirt. The breakdown is as follows: shoes- \$40; gloves- \$5; dry-fit performance shirt- \$15. Percussion students do not use gloves because of their instrument so they will not have that expense. Students new to the marching band program at East would need all of those items. Some upperclassmen have also requested new items because items were lost or they out grew them. We will have a spreadsheet on hand that night which will show what your child has ordered. We will not deliver the materials to the student until they have paid for them or have made financial arrangements with us for financial assistance.
- Students who need a tuxedo shirt and bow tie for their concert uniform will need to order those items however, we will send a link out later in the year for those items and have families order those items individually. We will not be doing a group order for those items and will not be collecting any money for that expense at this time but I wanted to make you aware of the future expense. This is for any student in band who chooses to wear a tuxedo (versus a concert dress) regardless of which band they are in.

### **Contributions**

The band booster organization fills in the gaps in funding from the building budget so we can have a high level competitive program. This is more important than ever after we received a large budget cut to our building band budget this year because of the district's overall budget shortfall. The boosters ask for a "suggested contribution" and it is a true contribution and not a fee. We recognize that some will not be in the financial situation to pay it and budget accordingly. Because the band booster organization has 5013C status your payment for the suggested contribution is tax deductible! If you are able to contribute we would really appreciate it! We will accept payment in payments throughout the year if that works better for you than one lump sum. The amounts for the booster suggested contribution for each ensemble is as follows:

- members of 3rd hour concert band and 7th hour percussion class- \$50
- members of 1st hour marching band and 2nd hour drumline class- \$350

We believe in having a very transparent booster organization. If you have any questions about what is covered with these contributions I would encourage you to attend our band booster meeting next Tuesday, August 23rd at 7:00 p.m. in the band room. We have a financial report at each meeting that details expenses.

### **Show Shirts**

For marching band parents we will have parent versions of the show shirts for sale at Forms and Fees night as well. We typically would sell those at the Orange and Blue BBQ but they were not ready in time this year. They are identical to the student's shirts but printed on a white t-shirt instead of navy blue. We love to see parents in the stands at contests supporting the show!

Thanks,  
Mr. Smikahl