

Band Boosters and Understanding Fair Share

Welcome back to all returning members and a big welcome to all our new members! This letter outlines the cost to participate in the East Lake High School band program.

Pinellas County School Board provides some funds to operate the band program at our school. (Our program includes marching band, orchestra, wind and jazz ensembles.) The funds received from the referendum contribute to the cost of purchasing music, instruments, technology, band uniforms, and miscellaneous other necessities. Unfortunately, the PSCB funds are not sufficient to cover all of the costs of the entire band program thus, fair-share becomes necessary. The purpose of the fair share for band is to help spread the financial responsibility for the band program equally between the students. The fair share amount of each ensemble represents only a portion of the actual student cost for participation, with the Band Booster fundraising providing the balance of necessary funds to provide a robust, enriching program for our students. Currently our main sourcing of booster funds include the following (we may add / delete programs in 2021-2022 but sponsorships, concessions and the Classic are all confirmed):

- (1) **Sponsorships:** Area businesses sponsor the East Lake Silver Sound for as little as \$50. Their sponsorships include and ad in the Classic program as well as a link on the East Lake band's website. Sponsorship forms are available on the East Lake Band's website. For every sponsor that you confirm, 50% of the sponsorship will go towards your students fair share payment. For example, if you confirm a \$500 sponsor, \$250 will go directly to offset your Fair share payment. For more information on Sponsorships, see the band website.
- (2) **Concession sales at the ELHS football games:** Operating the concession stand is a significant source of funds and we depend on the band parents to participate with this operation during home varsity, junior varsity, and powderpuff football games.
- (3) **East Lake Classic:** Each year our marching band hosts bands from across the state for a marching band competition. The event is a major source of funds for our program. The amount of money raised depends on the numbers of bands that compete in the show. Every band student and his/her family needs to assist with this event. Sources of income from the Classic include ticket sales, concessions, "shout outs", bake sale, and ads in the Classic program.
- (4) **FFCC:** Similar to the Classic, the band hosts color guards from across the state for a color guard competition. This event is also a major source of funds for our program. The amount of money raised depends on the numbers of guards that compete. **Every band student and his/her family** needs to assist with this event. Sources of income include ticket sales, concessions, and "shout outs".
- (5) **Tag Days and/or Spirit Nights:** These fundraising opportunities are scheduled throughout the year.
 - a. A Tag Day is when band members stand in front of a retail store and ask for contributions from the store's patrons. Students often play music.
 - b. Spirit Nights are fun family activities where a restaurant will donate a percentage of the profit to our band for anyone eating at the restaurant. Each restaurant has specific requirements so the 'rules' will vary.

VOLUNTEER NEEDS

To help offset student costs, the boosters fundraise for our music program throughout the year. We need parents and family members to be active within our booster organization for a variety of tasks. We meet monthly on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. (Depending on the school schedule, this may change occasionally. If uncertain, refer to the online calendar.) Monthly meetings give us the opportunity to regroup and direct ourselves to do what is needed to support our kids. We are always seeking new fundraising ideas and the parents/family members to help organize and administer them. Successful music programs around the country are always fueled by a robust booster organization. If you want to know what you can do to help your student and our music

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updated July 20, 2021

program, or you have a great idea for fundraising, please contact me (president@eastlakeband.com) or Mr. Black at (blacki@pcsb.org).

FAIR SHARE...WHAT IS IT USED FOR?

- G **Marching Band:** transportation, cleaning and maintaining marching uniform throughout the season, competition fees, instruction during camp and the season, equipment, music, show drill and props, water and snacks at away games and competitions, food at home football games
- G **Jazz / Concert / Wind Ensembles:** transportation to/from competitions and music assessments, entry fees for competitions and other events, upkeep of instruments and music equipment, music, clinicians
- G **Winter Program (guard):** music, instruction, uniforms

WHAT IS MY FAIR-SHARE? WHEN IS IT DUE?

	Item	Amount
Marching Band Member Fair Share / Fees		
	Marching band fair share (all members including guard) If paid by 8/31, will receive a free show shirt and classic shirt INCLUDES: Show shirt Classic shirt	\$575
Ensemble Fees (Winds, Jazz, Concert)		
	Ensemble members not in marching band [\$50 if paid by August 31 of the school]	\$60 / year
<i>Please fill out the attached Payment Coupon form and Student Info Sheet. Return BOTH forms to Mr. Black by August 9 and pay by 8/31 (or contact A/R Treasurer to discuss payment options).</i>		

FINANCIAL CHALLENGES

We encourage all students to participate in tag days and contact local businesses for sponsorships since it is possible to raise a student's entire fair-share through donations with no family cost. However, if after utilizing these options, your family is still experiencing difficulty paying your fair-share please contact the ELHS Band Boosters AR Treasurer or Mr. Black within the first two weeks of school. There are resources that we can utilize to assist those in need, but we must have direct contact in order to assist you.

We are looking forward to another fantastic year of band performances, competitions, and concerts -- all of which enrich each of our students' high school experience and make a lasting impact on them for the rest of their lives. Thank you for your ongoing support. Please let me know what I can do to assist you.

Sincerely,

East Lake Band Booster President

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Payment Coupon

(Please return with payment)

Student's Name: First _____ Last: _____

Please check all that apply and write the total below. (If you have two students, please submit two coupons.)

Mark all that apply	Item	Amount
	Band Member Fair Share / Fees	
	Marching band fair share (all members including guard) [\$575 if paid by August 31 of school year] INCLUDES: Show shirt Classic shirt	\$575
	Ensemble members not in marching band [\$50 if paid by August 31 of school year]	\$60 / year
	Optional Items: <i>Please attach Required Clothing or Spirit Wear form(s).</i> If you are a new member and need required clothing, please complete the Required Clothing Order form. Clothing items must be paid for in advance.	
	Total	\$

Please return form by August 9 to Pam Bert, Mr. Black's assistant or mail to:

ATTN: **ELHS Band Boosters**
36181 East Lake Road, Box 192
Palm Harbor FL 34685

Payments may be placed in the blue barrel in Mr. Black's office (place payments in a sealed envelope). Payments may also be submitted online using Paypal. (Refer to the **PAYING FAIR SHARE** below for online payment information.) If you are choosing a payment installment plan, then only make your first payment online. You will receive a monthly invoice via email to make the remaining payments, which can also be paid online.

PAYMENT METHOD:

_____ Full payment enclosed payable to East Lake Band Boosters

_____ Full payment made online. Confirmation # _____

_____ Payment Installment Plan: First payment due - \$100. Take remainder and divide by 5
(ex. \$575 - \$100 = \$475; 5 more payments of \$95 a month)

Email address for electronic invoicing if paying online _____

_____ Please contact me, I need assistance with the fee.

Contact Info: _____

Paying Fair Share

We offer the following methods to pay your fair-share.

- (1) Check [Place in blue barrel in Mr. Black's office. This option is only available when the band room is open.]
- (2) Paypal - Click on send money and then type fundraising@eastlakeband.com. Then put in the money to send and remember to add the name of your student and reason for the money (ex student - fairshare payment) in the comment box.