

Dear Band Parents:

Our band department must conduct fundraising events in order to purchase most of the equipment and supplies that are a part of successful band program. Last year, our students and parents helped raise almost \$25,000.00 for band expenses. This money went a long way toward providing many of the necessary items associated with a healthy band program. Some of the annual expenses associated with operating a band program of this size are:

- Transportation associated with field trips (\$3,000.00)
- Sheet music and books; band office supplies and classroom materials (\$3,000.00)
- Instrument repair and replacement (\$5,000.00)
- Instruction from top professionals for groups of students (\$20,000.00)
- Accompanists for solo music performances (\$3,000.00)
- Entry fees for MPA, All State, All District and transportation to various music festivals (\$4,000.00)
- Individual Student Band Awards (\$2,000.00)

Many, if not all, of the above expenses can be met if the parents of each child in our program will assist in finding sponsors for the kids. This year we are proceeding with the same funding program that has proven so successful for us over the years. We ask each parent to look over the enclosed material to help their child to participate in our fund-raising activity. Please read the **Letter to Sponsors/Sponsor Form** your child has brought home. By asking individuals or businesses to sponsor a student, 100% of the money raised will go to benefit the students in the band. We are sure you will agree that is a much better return than the traditional 40% to 50% profit associated with selling items that most people do not want.

Although participation in fundraisers at a public school is not required, it is strongly encouraged in band. If everyone will do his or her part or fair share of **\$110.00 per student**, we can cover all the above expenses and not ask you for as much money for entry fees, accompanist fees, transportation fees, etc. throughout the year. Please help your child come up with ideas of who to call to generate sponsorship. Out of town relatives, business owners, friends and neighbors are good places to start. Also, many parents work for corporations that provide matching funds for money donated to schools. Please look into this option as well.

Due to COVID concerns, credit card (contactless) donations are preferred. Donate by credit card via the website [palmbeach.schoolcashionline.com](http://palmbeach.schoolcashionline.com); you will need to establish an account for your student to use this site. If donating by check, please make the payee "Independence Middle School." Regardless of the payment method that is used, please complete AND turn in the Letter to Sponsors/Sponsor Form. (Attach check or cash to the form if donating using those methods.)

Every Sponsor will be listed in our Concert Programs and/or the Band's website, and all Sponsors will receive a formal Thank You Letter from the IMS Band in the mail for their taxes as well!

Thank you for your support of music in our schools!

Sincerely,

J. Christine Murray  
IMS Band Director