



Dickerson Middle School Band

855 Woodlawn Dr.
Marietta, GA 30068
(770) 578-2710, ext. 237

John Palmer, Director

Scott Brown, Assistant Director

Dear Parents,

There are many expenses associated with running a band program of our size. Current funding models from the Cobb County School District are generous, but do not provide for many of the extras our students have become accustomed to in this program. Though we meet many of our most immediate equipment needs with our county budget, we still anticipate additional costs for fees, equipment, instructional materials, and guest artists (musical instruction). While some of these costs can be offset by county funds, those county funds can only be used for certain specified expenses.

To supplement our county budget, the music department often has a fundraiser. Last year, our fundraiser gave the band just over \$16,000 in additional funds, and your students are currently benefiting from these fundraising efforts. Several new instruments they are using were bought from our fundraising proceeds, and the guest artists many students have worked with have been paid out of the fundraising account. That account is now dwindling, and our proposed expenses for the coming year are high.

We realize that most of you are already paying to rent or own an instrument, and that there are other miscellaneous costs for any instrument. There are also uniform fees, private lessons, registration fees, etc. However, fundraising and donations are necessary for us to continue to offer our students a nationally recognized music program that provides “extras.” A proposed spending breakdown of future fundraiser money is on the back of this letter.

If you choose to make a donation in lieu of participating in the fundraiser, please make any checks out to *Dickerson Middle School*, and complete the student information on the envelope. All envelopes stamped with the “**BAND**” stamp and “donation” written on the line titled “other” will go directly to the local band account for the expenditures listed on the attached. Also, please remember that any donations made to the Dickerson Band are tax-deductible!

We thank you for your assistance in providing the best possible musical instruction for our students!

Sincerely,

John Palmer
Band Director

Scott Brown
Assistant Band Director

Proposed Spending Categories for Band Program Fundraiser:

These categories show the various ways money raised will be spent.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Approximate Amount</u>
Equipment	\$2,000.00
Percussion Accessories	
Mouthpieces	
Mutes	
Other small accessories	
Instructional Supplies	\$2,500.00
Method Books	
Solo/Ensemble Music	
Festival Judges Scores	
Other Music	
Registration Fees*	\$2,000.00
GMEA Festival Fees	
All-State Acceptance	
Festival Recording Fees	
Southern Star Festival Registration	
Awards*	\$800.00
Festival Plaques	
Award Plaques	
Solo/Ensemble Medals	
Honor Band Medals	
Instrument Repair	\$4,000.00
Supplement to County Budget to repair/recondition older instruments	
Concert Programs*	\$2,000.00
Program Printing	
Office Supplies	
Printer Cartridges	
Uniforms*	\$3,000.00
Tuxedos	
Guest Clinicians*	\$15,700.00
First Lesson Night	
Pre-Festival Evaluators/Clinicians	
Musical Instruction	
TOTAL	\$30,000.00

*County funds can not be used to pay for these items.

This is not an inclusive list. Instructional Supplies and other expenses may be added at either the Directors' or Principal's discretion.