

# **FORT ZUMWALT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **NORTH HIGH SCHOOL**

**1230 Tom Ginnever Avenue**

**O'Fallon, Missouri 63366**

*Honored for "Distinction in Performance" by the State Board of Education*

**Dr. Bernard J. DuBray**  
**Superintendent of Schools**

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**Mr. Joe Sutton**  
**Principal**

**Dr. Jeri LaBrot**  
**Mr. Luke Lammers**  
**Mr. Ed Nelson**  
**Mr. Gary Pohlman**  
**Assistant Principals**

January 29, 2013

**Mr. Ted Hickey**  
**Activities Coordinator**

Dear Band Parents:

As part of your child's participation in band, each family is asked to contribute to the overall operating budget for the band through our Family Commitment program. The Family Commitment is determined by taking the total budget for the band and dividing it by the number of projected students enrolled. Included in the family commitment will be 2 meals for every festival weekend, as well as band shoes, and two band shirts for performance and festivals. Also included are the cost of our clinicians, drill writing, music composition, bus travel to festivals, and equipment/props.

The Family Commitment amount next year is not finalized yet as we are still putting the budget together. However, I am estimating that the amount will come in around \$600, which will include \$200 per student for the trip will be taking (pending district approval) to Tulsa, Oklahoma the weekend of Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>. Each student will need to have at least \$400 of their Family Commitment paid by May 15<sup>th</sup>, with the entire balance due by July 15<sup>th</sup>. This is essential to allow the band to pay its operating expenses for the marching band season.

Knowing that this is a significant amount, we are offering two fundraisers for the students, the first one kicking off today, and we will have a second one right after Spring Break for frozen pizzas.

In addition, the Band Boosters offer a Scrip gift card program where families can purchase gift cards for their groceries, gas, and restaurant dining and receive a percentage back for what they purchase. Restaurants usually return around 10%, groceries return 2 to 4%. Last year, I personally was able to earn \$300 back for my 8<sup>th</sup> grade student in about 8 months' time through this program. There are also some evening events at the Family Arena where parents can earn money for their child's account through working concessions. In addition, the Band Boosters have a few scholarships available to assist families in financial need. Please contact me if you need to inquire about scholarship assistance.

In previous travel years, our trip cost has exceeded \$800 per student just for the trip, so this trip cost of \$200 is significantly less by design. My goal is to make band accessible to everyone by keeping the cost as low as possible. Our cost per student is still lower than the majority of the competitive programs in Missouri and FZN consistently places in the top 5 bands in the state.

As always, I thank you for supporting your child in his or her participation in the FZN Panther Pride Band. Please contact me with any questions. You can also go to [www.fznband.org](http://www.fznband.org) for more information.

Sincerely,

Rob Babel  
[rbabel@fz.k12.mo.us](mailto:rbabel@fz.k12.mo.us)

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