

April 23, 2020

Hi, Band Parents & Students,

This is a fundraising letter. However, the good news is that fundraising in 2020 is easier, more streamlined, and less of a hassle than ever. Our other 2 fundraisers did not go as well as we had hoped. On Thursday, April 23rd, we are kicking off our first FlashFund with Southwestern Fundraising. FlashFund is a crowdfunding platform for school programs.

Our goal for this Spring is \$6,000. We will be sharing 20% of our profit with the Ada Jenkins Food Pantry in Davidson, North Carolina. Your donation will help two organizations!!!

In order for this to be a successful fundraising initiative, we need your participation. The way FlashFund works is that students/parents collect email addresses from friends and family and go to the web address below. On the web page, students/parents will click on the register button and enter information, a photo and/or video message and then click the LAUNCH NOW button. Those friends and family members will receive an email with a link to the FlashFund website. They will then be able to donate to our program through the site and be able to follow our progress in real-time as we move towards our goal. Donations can be made with a credit card or PayPal. You can check out our FlashFund site here:

<https://www.gaflashfund.com/BaileyMSBandBoosters/welcome>

If you would prefer to make a direct donation, please [click here](#). We will ensure that the Ada Jenkins Food Pantry receives 20% from any direct donations as well. (Checks can also be made out to BMS Band Boosters and sent to BMS Band Boosters, Bailey Middle School, 11900 Bailey Road, Cornelius, NC 28031.

Here are the reasons why we are fundraising:

First off, our band program is getting better and better! We keep reaching new goals with all of our bands. We have new students in band this year! BMS does its best to provide what they can for our programs and, as always, we are thankful for what they provide. However, with additional students comes the need for additional resources [music, instruments, instrument repairs, guest clinicians, applications and programs, etc].

Second, every child that wants to participate in band should have access. This means having quality instruments in good working order, books and accessories, sheet music, replacement

parts on equipment, and new equipment. One piece of sheet music for one band costs \$40-\$65 at the middle school level.

Third, some of our band instruments and equipment at Bailey MS are aging. School instruments have to be cleaned professionally. Replacement parts have to be purchased. New equipment is needed. I repair and clean as much as I can to save money.

Fourth, our bands travel to venues outside of our school for performances. From community performances, to Music Performance Adjudication (MPA) to traveling in state and out of state, traveling takes money and we look for help to give students opportunities they deserve.

Fifth, it is our goal to provide students the opportunity to work with fantastic musicians, clinicians, and artists. We also want to recognize the great things the students have achieved with our awards at the end of the year.

Sixth, our school has gone one-to-one. Every child has a Chromebook that he or she can use at school and home. I would like to see every student have access to some of the best tools available. MusicFirst would allow each student to progress at their own pace, provide immediate assessment and feedback as well as provide a plethora of additional resources for each child to explore.

Thank you for all you do in helping make our program great! We could not have a band program of this caliber without you!

Ruth Petersen
Band Director
Bailey Middle School
Cornelius, NC