



Dear Parents:

This will be a great year for the Blake High School Marching Band with a wonderful opportunity for our students to play at the 2016 Sugar Bowl in New Orleans. We know that our students are all excited about this trip!

As you probably know, the cost of the trip, before any fundraising efforts, is nearly \$1,000 per student. Our students have been working with us toward a fundraising goal of \$25,000 by obtaining Corporate Sponsors. To date, they have raised \$3,600. That's a really strong start but to hit our finish line, we need your help.

There are several ways you, as band member parents, can help to raise funds through the Corporate Sponsor Program. Consider this:

1. **Do You Own A Small Business?**

Our Corporate Sponsor program relies on local area small businesses for support. Not only do they support their community, but also they recognize that their contribution also buys them advertisements in Blake programs and many Blake families want to support other Blake families. It is a chance to support your kids and to get your business name out into your community. Your contribution can be as low as \$250 – most print ads and even web-based ads are much higher.

2. **Do Your Family Members or Friends Own Businesses?**

Similarly, do you know others who own businesses who might want an opportunity to invest in a local high school program like the Marching Band? Many business owners in the community would like to participate in the success of their local schools. Most only have to be asked. And certainly, those who know your student may be inclined to help.

3. **Does Your Employer Have A Community Giving Program?**

Many employers have community giving programs or will commit funds to support local projects. Large employers, such as cell phone and utility companies, and smaller companies, such as car dealers and medical suppliers, have supported the Blake Marching Band already. Could you approach your employer with a request to become a corporate sponsor of the Blake High School Marching Band fundraising drive for your child's New Orleans trip?

**What Do You Do Now?**

For the 2016/2017 fundraiser efforts to be successful - for the New Orleans trip to be a little more accessible for all our families – we really need your help. ***If each Marching Band family were to bring in one new corporate sponsor at the lowest level, we could raise \$19,750!*** Really – together we can make this happen.

Attached you will find documents we have been using to petition businesses of all sizes for their sponsorship of the program. One is a letter explaining the purpose of the fundraising campaign. The second is the sponsor form explaining the funding levels and describing what they would receive at each level of contribution.

Talk with family and create a list of family, friends and contacts and then reach out to them. The first “ask” is always the hardest but it can be fun and very rewarding. Sponsors' checks can be made out to Blake High School Music Boosters and may be sent to the band teachers through your student in an envelope marked for Corporate Sponsor Program.

Thanks in advance for your help. We are looking forward to making this a great trip!

Regards,

Karen Nelson  
Pres., Music Boosters

Alison Klumpp  
Vice Pres., Music Boosters