

W. W. LEWIS MIDDLE SCHOOL BANDS
1752 Cypress St.
Sulphur, LA 70663
(337) 527-0609

Dear Band Parents,

Any band program requires a significant amount of money to operate. Expenses include travel, festival entry fees, copy machine maintenance and toner, supplies, office expenses, miscellaneous band supplies, drum heads, and method book replacement. The replacement of obsolete and damaged equipment is also necessary, as is the need to keep up with the current technology in band teaching materials.

What many people do not know is that the Calcasieu Parish School System does not fund these needs. Calcasieu Parish band programs receive a small yearly budget specifically for music purchasing and school-owned instrument repair. To meet the daily operating needs of their band programs, many of the parish bands have resorted to requiring that band fees, or dues, be paid by each member. I know, however, that you have already invested a significant amount of your money for your child's band instrument.

Therefore, to raise the necessary money we will be kicking off our annual **Cookie Dough** fundraiser on Friday, September 15th. Your child will need to return the completed attached form to participate in the fundraiser. If you prefer not to take part in the fundraiser, you can participate by paying dues in the amount of \$35 to the W.W. Lewis Band so that the burden can be spread between all of the members. This is the minimum profit that we would like each fundraiser participant to make for the program, but many parents prefer this alternative. It is your choice.

Your child will also need a W.W. Lewis Band Shirt for all performances. These are quality Hanes brand Polo-style shirts with an embroidered logo. Cost to the individual is \$17 for the shirt at no profit to the band. **Returning students have already been told to check to make sure that their shirts still fit, so please follow up on that.** Shirt money is due by October 1st. ****Any student who sells 20 items during the fundraiser BY THE FUNDRAISER DEADLINE will have their shirt provided.**** Cost of the shirt is not included in the \$35 dues if you do not do the fundraiser. I am offering a payment plan to those who are paying instead of fundraising. Below is a summary of the options:

1. Fundraiser participation:

- 10 Items sold - ALL expenses (except shirt) paid for year. Shirt money due by Oct. 2nd.
- 20 Items sold - All expenses paid PLUS free band shirt.
- Less than 10 items sold - Difference will need to be paid ($\$35 - \text{your profit}^* = \due).
*Profit is 40% on each item sold **minus** fundraiser expenses such as shipping and prizes

2. Dues in lieu of Fundraising: \$35.00 for Band and \$17.00 for shirt (if applicable) due no later than Nov. 1st.

3. If using method #2, you may pay in three installments (\$17, \$17, \$18) due Oct. 2nd, Nov. 1st, and Dec. 1st.

If you don't want to pay for your shirt, then SELL, SELL, SELL!

If you need to make special arrangements, please call the band room and I will return your call.

Sincerely,

Tim McMillen
Director of Bands

Please return the appropriate attached form no later than Thursday, Sep. 14th.