

Howard High School

Instrumental Music Department

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Dear Parents:

I hope this letter finds your summer going well. This letter is designed to help explain the new structure of fees involved in being a member of the Howard High School Band Program. As you "veteran" folks know, we formerly operated financially using one single Assessment Fee. The fees are now broken down into specific items in order to facilitate better financial management as an organization. In addition and most importantly, it is our goal to provide the students with the best quality uniforms and instruments.

The form attached with this document gives a breakdown of all of the fees required. **All fees are due in full before uniforms are ordered or issued and or instruments are assigned.** As you can see, the marching band uniform obligations will stay the same for the most part. The biggest change occurs in our concert uniform organization. Female students will now be purchasing their own concert gowns. This will facilitate proper sizing and comfort, all of which have been issues in the past with the school issued gowns. Male students will be issued a "NEW" full concert tuxedo after the rental fee is paid. Male students will be responsible for purchasing their own cummerbund, bowtie, and tuxedo shirt. The marching band t-shirt will be a shirt worn underneath of the uniform jacket. In addition to the uniform expenses, students who use a school owned instrument will be required to pay a nominal rental fee and ALL students will purchase a black concert folder (personalized with the ensemble name and student's name).

The nice part for you is that we do all of the ordering for you. You do not have to go out shopping to find any of these items. **On Friday, August 17th, 2007 @ 7:00pm in the HHS Band Room, there will be an informational meeting for ALL Wind Ensemble/Marching Band parents regarding uniforms, fee structure, and general band booster items. On Friday, August 24th, 2007 @ 7:00pm, there will be an information meeting for ALL Concert Band/ Orchestra parents to discuss the same items. There will be a representative from the boosters in the Auditorium lobby during the beginning of rehearsal during band camp to answer questions, take fee payments, and to size for uniforms.** Following the meeting on the 24th, we will have our Annual Ice Cream Social to help kick-off the year. Also, please check our website, www.howardmusic.net for all information relating to our program. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail, HowardHSBand@comcast.net.

Sincerely,

Christopher D. Campbell

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