

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

## **What classes are offered that my student can take?**

- There are several different classes offered that your student can take, based on what instrument they play, what they want to participate in, and their level of experience. Currently the classes that are offered are Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Marching Band, String Orchestra, Jazz Band and Color Guard. The classes your child takes is based on a) what instrument they play, b) what they want to participate in, and c) their level of ability. See the “List of Instrumental Music Classes & Activities Offered at Sultana” form for more explanation on the specific class or classes you are interested in.

## **Does my child need their own instrument to participate?**

- It is helpful for your child to have their own instrument, however I understand that that is not always the case. Sultana has a select number of woodwind, brass and string instruments that can be provided on a first come, first serve basis. There are also music stores that you can rent-to-own, or your child can learn a new instrument that the school has available. Students are always responsible for their own instrument-related needs, such as reeds, mouthpieces, cleaning rags, valve oil, sticks, mallets, slide grease, strings, rosin, shoulder rests, harnesses, sticks, mallets, etc.

## **Does my child have to take PE if they are in Marching Band, Color Guard or Drumline?**

- No! If your child is enrolled in Marching Band and an ensemble class, they receive their PE credit, so they would never have to take a PE class if they participate all four semesters.

## **What else does my child need to participate?**

- If your child plans on participating in an after school performing group that receives P.E. credit (Marching Band, Winter Guard or Winter Drumline), district policy requires that each student must have a Physical on file each year. Your student will also need to purchase a corresponding Spirit Pack based on the group they wish to be a part of (Drum Pack, Guard Pack, or Band Pack), and many of the items in this spirit pack will last them all four years in the program.

## **How much does it cost?**

- The financial responsibilities depend on the group(s) your student wishes to be a part of. Fall Marching Band, Winter Color Guard and Winter Drumline have equal ‘Fair Share’ operating fees associated with the season, which is determined by the number of students who participate, the overall season operating costs, and the amount of contribution from the Booster program to reduce the cost. In addition to the Fair Share amount, new students will need to purchase a Spirit Pack based on the group or section they are a member of, which will contain their necessary items for the group they wish to join. All efforts are made to make the Fair Share dues as inexpensive as possible

## **Are there any ways of reducing the season’s financial dues?**

- Yes! There are several opportunities throughout the year for your child to fundraise to help reduce or even completely eliminate the costs for the season. In addition, the band boosters parent organization host several events and fundraisers throughout the year to also help offset the costs for the program. The more money the boosters are able to generate as an organization, the greater their contribution to the season’s operating budget will be, thereby lowering the individual costs for each student. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to actively participate in all fundraisers!

## **What is the Sultana Band Boosters organization?**

- The ‘Boosters’ are a non-profit organization made up of parents and friends of the Sultana instrumental music students that supports all aspects of the band program through activities including social events, uniform fittings and alterations, equipment transportation, fundraising, and much more. We encourage all families to participate in the booster club to support their individual student and the band as a whole – the stronger, active and successful our parent organization is, the more successful the music program can become!