

Pine-Richland Band Boosters
Fundraising, Individual Accounts, and Dance Team Structure Clarification
August 12, 2017

Following the parent meeting on August 9, 2017, questions arose regarding the change in this year's fundraising. We welcome questions and are working hard to ensure we are providing accurate information to our families. We want families to be confident that the booster organization is operating effectively and efficiently in the management of both operations and finances.

As we have communicated at multiple parent meetings, all booster organizations that support PR activities are to comply with Board Policy 915 to be a recognized organization. The most effective and cost-effective way to be compliant with this policy was to be a part of the Pine-Richland Unified Booster Organization (PRUBO). You can view some of the Rules & Regulations on the PRSD website [at this link](#). You can find information regarding PRUBO [at this link](#). PRUBO also has its own website and can be found [at this link](#).

The Band Boosters, along with all other booster groups at PR, have been working hard over the past few years to update processes and procedures to be in compliance with this policy and its associated regulations. The biggest change for the Band was the elimination of Individual Student Accounts that were used by students to decrease the cost of optional band trips, whose cost is the responsibility of the student and his/her family. This type of accounting is **forbidden by the IRS for non-profit charity groups**, such as ours. The PRSD is currently in the process of updating Policy 915. The current draft contains information on "Collective Fundraising". See link to draft district policy 915: [Current Draft of PRSD 915 from School Board Agenda](#). Below is an excerpt from the PRSD policy:

"All monies collected through fundraising shall be placed into a general fund to be used for the benefit of a team or club and its participants as a whole. Consistent with IRS regulations, the extent of student or member participation in fundraising activities of Organizations shall have no implications on the opportunities for students to participate in the activity or sport or on the receipt of awards or benefits distributed by the Organization. In accordance with IRS Guidelines, cooperative fundraising is prohibited.

Cooperative Fundraising is defined as when a group's members join together (cooperatively) to raise money and then credit the funds raised (or the time spent volunteering) to the individuals who participated in raising the money. When records are kept showing how much each parent/student contributed to the fundraising effort these records are called Individual Fundraising Accounts ("IFA") and are prohibited."

The following provides answers to specific questions asked of the board:

Question 1: How we are handling fundraising

The PRBB Executive Board is sensitive to the elimination of the individual accounts and the effect on the students and families. Therefore, we wanted to provide a way in which we could lower the cost of the trips for families. To do so, we made a decision to separate the fundraisers into two categories.

- The funds raised from fundraisers identified for the Trip will be used to lower the overall cost of the trip for the students by contributing these funds to the cost of the trip.

- Once we have the profits from these fundraisers, we contribute these funds to the total cost of the band trip. The remaining overall cost of the trip will be used to determine the per attending student cost.
- The funds raised from fundraisers identified as General Fundraising will go toward the good of the band program.
General Fundraising is how the vast majority of booster groups utilize their funds. These funds will be used for various events and activities provided to the students throughout the year (as outlined at the Parent Meeting), items identified by the Director for the good of the program, and other items that may be identified for the good of the program. One of the big ticket items for which we will be using these general funds is to purchase a much-needed band trailer.

Question 2: Why can the dance team be separate?

Please know that the dance team does not have individual student accounts. The dance team is a sub group of the Marching Band. It was determined that for them to also be compliant with the district policy, they would be a part of the band's booster organization. This structure has been reviewed and approved by PRUBO and the IRS.

The Dance Team participates in the Marching Band Season, pays band registration fees, and participates in band fundraisers. Funds collected by the dance team for fees and band-sponsored fundraisers go to the band's general or trip fund.

However, the dance team also performs and is involved in activities outside of Marching Band. In order to support these activities and operational needs for dance team, they have their own treasurer and hold their own fundraisers. Those funds go into the Dance Team general fund to support their needs as a whole, not for individuals. The Dance Team Treasurer reports into the Marching Band Treasurer and attends the PRBB Executive Board meetings. They are operating in compliance with the district policy as well.

We hope this information answers your questions. If you have additional questions or concerns, please let us know.

Thank you!

2017-2018 Pine-Richland Band Booster Executive Board
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