
TIPTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of School Trustees
FROM: Kevin Emsweller, Superintendent
DATE: 01/07/2020
RE: Band Uniforms

Mr. Skiba has made presentations to the board about the THS's Band Department effort to raise funds to purchase new band uniforms.

Indiana law allows for school corporations to do this specifically for band uniforms.

IC 20-30-15-8Contract appropriation

Sec. 8. (a) A governing body shall pay contractual obligations under this chapter. However, a contract is not valid unless the governing body has made an appropriation from the school corporation's general fund (before January 1, 2019) or the school corporation's education fund (after December 31, 2018) for the contractual obligations before making the contract.

(b) A governing body may appropriate from the school corporation's general fund (before January 1, 2019) or the school corporation's operations fund (after December 31, 2018) for any one (1) year an amount equal to the total funds raised by school patrons during the year in which the appropriation is made to purchase band uniforms for high school bands sponsored by high schools located within and operated by the school corporation.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-10.1-8-3.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.14. Amended by P.L.244-2017, SEC.60.

Mr. Skiba is requesting the school corporation appropriate \$15,000 (approximately 37% of the total purchase) to provide new uniforms. (See below for the note from Mr. Skiba.)

It is recommended that we appropriate \$15,000 from the Operation Fund for the purchase on band uniforms for Tipton High School.

Note requesting funds for new band uniforms from Mr. Skiba (December 3, 2019)

The Tipton High School Band Department has raised over 75% of the funds needed to purchase new uniforms for the Pride of the Blue Devils Marching Band. All of the raised funds were done through fundraisers, donations, and corporate sponsorships. No grants or other third parties helped fund the initiative. In order for the uniforms to be received by marching season Stanbury Uniforms must receive the check before the end of January 2020. There is a 3% discount if the entire order is placed at one time instead of paid in segments. This would save us approximately \$1,200.

The list of fundraisers utilized by the Band Department includes (but is not limited to): hosting Gold Drum and Bugle Corps, picking up walnuts around the Tipton area, a car wash at Dan Young Chevrolet, selling holiday greenery items, selling poinsettias for the holiday season, and collecting proceeds from Apple Group after our bi-annual apparel store fundraisers.

Our future financial goals involve setting up a CD through the Band Boosters and setting aside \$3,000 to \$4,000 a year for the next uniform purchase. Uniforms typically last 15 years. If we set aside this surplus amount every year then the next uniform cost will be covered when they're needed (even including the growth hoping to be seen in the Band Department).

Many school corporations assist in the purchase of uniforms like this at matching or even larger amounts. My experience, from student teaching in one of the top band programs in the world, showed the school corporation covering the entire bill. While that's an anomaly, it's not unusual to see a school corporation cover 50% of the cost. I am asking the school board for a total of \$15,000 towards the final uniform cost. This would work out to approximately 37%. This coverage would enable us to place the order early enough to receive them by the following marching season without having to continue our semi-crazy fundraising schedule before the holiday break. It would also allow us to set our eyes on the future and other goals set in the Band Department instead of keeping our focus on just this project.