



Southmoore Instrument Arts Program 2023-24 Southmoore Band Fees Information Packet

Reminder: The General Band Fees include the costs of the October Indianapolis Trip

Fee Payment Options

Option #1 Lump Sum Payment

- ❖ The advantage to a lump sum payment is a \$80 reduction to the general band fee cost.
- ❖ The student's account must be paid in full on September 5 including any past year fees or other current fees to earn the \$75 discount.
- ❖ Do you have siblings in the SHS HS Band? Please note the Sibling Discount details on page 2.

Date	Amount	Fee	Details
May	\$65	Show Performance Top	This fee covers the thematic performance top to be used throughout the 2023 Marching Season. The student will own the top once the season is complete.
July/August	Varies	Required Band Attire* (only for those who do not own or need replacement attire)	This fee only applies to incoming students or students needing to purchase replacement band attire. These items are sold ala cart during rehearsals.
August 11	\$60 or \$100	Fall Car Wash Fees Due	Students sell at least 6 Car Wash Tickets @ \$10 apiece and wash cars on August 13. Students may opt out completely and pay \$100 and not sell tickets or wash cars. See next page for details.
September 5	\$995	General Band Fee	Monies to cover operational costs and the Indianapolis Trip
September 5	\$50	School Owned Equipment Maintenance Fee* (only for students who do use school owned equipment)	This fee only applies to students using any school owned instrument. See below for details.

Option #2 Installment Plan

- ❖ The advantage to the installment plan is increased time to pay the fees.
- ❖ Do you have siblings in the SHS HS Band? Please note the Sibling Discount details on page 2.

Date	Amount	Fee	Details
May	\$65	Show Performance Top	This fee covers the thematic performance top to be used throughout the 2023 Marching Season. The student will own the top once the season is complete.
July/August	Varies	Required Band Attire* (only for those who do not own or need replacement attire)	This fee only applies to incoming students or students needing to purchase replacement band attire. These items are sold ala cart during rehearsals.
August 11	\$60 or \$100	Car Wash Fees Due	Students sell at least 6 Car Wash Tickets @ \$10 apiece and wash cars on August 13. Students may opt out completely and pay \$100 and not sell tickets or wash cars. See next page for details.
September 5	\$375	General Band Fee	Monies to cover operational costs and the Indianapolis Trip
September 19	\$350	General Band Fee	Monies to cover operational costs and the Indianapolis Trip
October 2	\$350	General Band Fee	Monies to cover operational costs and the Indianapolis Trip
December 4	\$50	School Owned Equipment Maintenance Fee* (only for students who do use school owned equipment)	This fee only applies to students using any school owned instrument. See below for details.

Fee Explanations

Indianapolis Trip

Bands fees on trip years are higher than years there is not a full band trip. The fee will cover room, transportation, and all the meal costs. Students will not need to take a great deal of monies on the Indy trip. Furthermore, there are rising costs each year in the production of the marching band show as we attempt to maximize our performance production qualities to be at a national level.

All marching band students attend the trip regardless of performance status. Although not every child may perform on the field – the performance is merely the 8-minute culmination of the event but there is so much more to the trip. Students will bring home memories from the bus ride, hotel stay, and other activities that have nothing to do with the performance itself. All students will be on the field and experience walking through the tunnel and watching outstanding performance groups. Our other trips such as London are certainly fun, but only these marching band trip bring ALL our students along and are therefore extremely important.

Sibling Discount

We are happy to offer a sibling discount for families who have blessed the band with siblings who are both members of the 2023-24 SHS Band! Please note, to avoid general confusion and any potential wide range of definitions of what constitutes a sibling, the sibling must be listed as “sibling” in the MPS Infinite Campus system to qualify for the discount. The discount will be credited to the younger sibling. In any case where there are multiple sets of parents and/or guardians responsible for band fees, it is contingent on the families themselves and not the band program to sort out the details of payment split. In cases where this becomes an issue and/or a general headache for the band, the discount will simply not be applied. You receive the full discount regardless of which option you use the pay the band fees.

- Older Sibling = Pays Full Band Fees
- Younger Sibling(s) = \$200 off general band fee.

Required Band Attire

All woodwind/brass/percussion band students must own the band shoe, band polo, Vegas Gold Shirt, and performance top (guard members have exceptions – you bought separate attire in June). New students and returning students needing replacement attire may purchase it a-la-carte during specific rehearsals.

- Performance Top: \$65
- Band Polo: \$40
- Vegas Gold Shirt: \$20
- Band Shoes: \$45.

“All-Call” Car Wash Fundraising Event

There are some expenses that are not covered using funds from the students and fees. To help over these costs, students will participate in a fall and spring required band-wide car washing extravaganza.

All band students will be responsible for selling 6 tickets at \$10 apiece. Students will also be responsible for working a shift at the car wash on August 12. Funds generated from the car wash will be deposited in the Band Activity Fund and/or Band Account to be used for general expenses throughout the year.

The profit generated past 6 tickets will be deposited in the student's charms account. Therefore, if a student sold 20 tickets - \$60 will be deposited into the activity/band account and \$140 will be credited to the students Charms account to be used to pay band fees.

If you just really do not want to sell tickets and wash cars, simply pay \$100 payable to Southmoore Band. This covers ticket cost and labor.

School Owned Equipment Fee

Student's utilizing school owned equipment will pay \$50 to help offset the maintenance and upkeep. Please note, this is the cost per student and not the cost per instrument. School owned instruments include instruments such as marching brass, french horns, bass clarinets, oboes, bassoons, etc., and include all percussion and jazz instruments such as amplifiers, drum set, and front ensemble/battery equipment.

Wind Ensemble Fees

Students qualifying for the Wind Ensemble will likely be required to perform a memorized solo at OSSAA district contest (and state contest if they qualify). The fee for participation is \$50 which includes the \$10 entry fee and \$40 for a professional piano accompanist (percussion music usually does not call for an accompanist). If the student qualifies for state contest the band will cover fees associated with state contest.

Additional Ensembles Fees

Students who participate in other ensembles within the program (Winterguard, Indoor Percussion, etc.) have fees additional associated with these ensembles. Additionally, students participating in optional events honor band auditions, solo contest (likely required for Wind Ensemble students), and other outside activities may incur additional costs for participation.

NEW THIS YEAR: To participate in the optional programs outside of the regular curricular offerings, current fees must be paid up to date before auditioning for groups such as Winterguard and Indoor Percussion.

London Trip

All monies deposited with the band will first be credited towards band fees and then for optional offerings such as the London trip. Band Fees must be paid in full to qualify to attend the London trip.

Miscellaneous Various Costs

Other expense may occur throughout the year. These fees are paid a-la-carte and occasionally outside of the Charms account (i.e. the \$10 for the summer band party). Check your periodic band bulletin for due dates and details. It is important to check your Charms account frequently as some of these miscellaneous costs may be added on your Charms account.

General Information

We recognize that participation in band directly involves two delicate and sometimes emotional issues, your children and your money. Unfortunately, there is no escaping the reality that a first-class band program such as Southmoore is expensive to operate. The SHS Band Program seeks to help families eliminate out of pocket costs associated with High School Band, therefore a multitude of fundraisers are offered. It is important to note that students are expected to either pay the fees or actively participate in fundraisers. Students may also participate in some fundraisers and pay the remaining balance.

Communication directly to Mr. Mewhorter concerning financial issues is imperative.

Mr. Mewhorter will work with families concerning finances, however active student participation in fundraising is critical.

Individual Student Accounts/Charms Account

The Southmoore band utilizes "Charms Music Office Assistant." Charms is an online system used to manage all student and financial information. Each student is set-up with individual accounts that families may view through a distinct username and password. Charms also allows payments to be made via PayPal (transaction fees apply). Simply contact our student treasurer, Melissa Dowling-Hartwig (treasurer@sabercatband.com) to obtain your log-in information. Please note – New Charms accounts cannot be set up unless we receive information from families via the Charms information form.

Access to the Charms is a convenience we provide families. This access may be revoked by the Band Director if this access is abused for any reason.

No Refunds

Please note that due to bookkeeping and our status as a tax exempt 501(c)3 organization, refunds from any band accounts are simply not available. Due to our tax-exempt status - fundraiser profit is earned tax free and the IRS certainly does not look kindly on the refunding of non-taxed earnings. Furthermore, the SHS Band parent organization incurs certain costs to maintain fundraising activities. For these reasons, profits from fundraisers can only be spent on band items and are not available to transfer to any other expense or organization. **To maintain clarity within the accounts – no funds are refunded regardless of how these funds were deposited into the account.**

The funds in individual student accounts rollover each academic year. However, please do not expect to simply "cash out" when your participation in band ends. It is for this reason that we do encourage you to be cautious when "over-paying" your account as these funds will not be available for future refund or transfer (however, you may transfer funds to another band student).

Most expenses take place during the fall semester and are related to marching band expenses. Therefore, any student still enrolled in band after September 1, 2023 are responsible for all fees.

Student Account Fundraisers

The band program provides several fundraisers in which monies earned are credited directly to the student's account. Please note that **100 percent** of all profit generated by these fundraisers is credited towards the student's account. These efforts are coordinated by our Parent Organization.

You may sign up for alerts concerning fundraising by texting subscribing to the band parent page on the "Band" app.

Diploma Hold

At the discretion of the band director, students still owing band fees upon graduation will have their diploma held until payment.

Southmoore Band Finance at a Glance

It is our goal for the band finances to be transparent and understandable by all who are affiliated with the band program. This chart is provided to give our patrons an idea of how the money is spent. Financial reports detailing all transactions are also made available each month at our parent meetings.

This chart is not all-inclusive and certainly is subject to change as charges may be financed through different accounts each year depending on the availability of funds each year. This chart simply serves to give an idea of the large number of items to be financed to maintain a first-class experience for our kids and further help to confirm the inescapable need to charge fees and fundraise.

Student/Band Activity Account	Band Account	School General Fund	Bond Funds
Funds appropriated through Student General Band Fee	Funds appropriated through Band Parent Fundraisers and requisite "all-call" band fundraiser	Portion of state appropriations that the district allocates to each school site to distribute.	Funds appropriated through property taxes as approved through community vote.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Auxiliary Staff Salaries ➤ All Indianapolis Trip Student and Director Costs ➤ Invitational Contest Entry Fees ➤ Marching Band drill design, custom music arrangements, and custom percussion arrangements ➤ A portion of Concert Season Sheet Music Costs ➤ A portion of Instrument Maintenance Costs ➤ Copyright Compliance Fees ➤ Some OSSAA Contest Fees ➤ Piano Accompanists for OSSAA State Solo Contest ➤ Colorguard Expenses ➤ Charter and Bus Transportation to events when school busses are unavailable ➤ Professional Clinician Fees ➤ Band Web-Site Fees ➤ ZOOM Subscription Fees ➤ Student Leadership Trainings ➤ Miscellaneous Instructional Workshops ➤ Miscellaneous Equipment & Supplies (mouthpieces, instrument supplies, etc.) ➤ Winterguard and Winter Percussion Costs not financed by participation fees ➤ Required State Association professional development expenses for staff ➤ Band Banquet Costs not covered in ticket fees ➤ Other costs as needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Semi-Truck Rentals ➤ Transportation of Equipment Trailers ➤ Student/Staff food for all contests and other various events. ➤ Props (marching band, winter guard/perc, etc.) ➤ Plaques and Awards ➤ Miscellaneous Equipment ➤ Senior Cords and Stole ➤ Senior Night Flowers & Gifts ➤ Gifts for Supporters/Contributors ➤ Fundraiser Maintenance Fees ➤ Charms Software Fees ➤ Storage Rentals ➤ Select professional development expenses for staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ School Bus Transportation to events where school busses are available ➤ Some OSSAA Contest Entry Fees ➤ Approximately \$5,000 in other miscellaneous expenses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Facilities ➤ Instruments ➤ A portion of Concert Season Sheet Music Costs ➤ A portion of Instrument Maintenance Costs ➤ Classroom Furniture (chairs, stands, office equipment, storage, etc.)