

CBBA FANS

Financial Assistance for Needy Students

Although the Cherokee Bluff District is known as an affluent area, there are, at any given time, members of the band community whose family members have lost jobs or loved ones and are struggling to make ends meet. As a result of these financial hardships, there are always a few families that cannot meet the full financial burden of band membership. The result of this is either a high student account balance with undue stress, or declining participation in the band due to financial hardship.

In order to address this issue, the CBBA is announcing the Financial Assistance for Needy Students (FANS) Fund. This fund will be set up to specifically address those situations where members cannot meet the full financial obligations of band membership. We ask that our fellow Band Families, Alumni, and Friends of the band consider donating any amount possible to make the rewards of Cherokee Bluff Band Membership available for all.

The FANS Fund will operate as follows:

- **Confidentiality:** The family members awarded fee/balance reductions will be kept confidential. The CBBA Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Treasurers (review committee) will be the only members of the CBBA Board to review these situations and award relief. It must be recognized that financial hardships are also emotional hardships. Individuals in this situation must be assured that their plight is not public knowledge.
- **Eligibility:** In order to be eligible for financial aid there are three ways of requesting assistance:
 - Requested by the needy family
 - Recommended by a fellow band member or the Band Directors
 - Determined by the treasurers through review of band member outstanding balances.
- **Qualifications:** Those needing assistance will provide information to the review committee as to the basis of the need and the amount of relief needed. The CBBA review committee will discuss the need and determine if an installment payment plan is in order, or if any or all of the debt should be relieved. Wherever possible, debt relief through payment plans or participation in fund raising activities, which generate student account credits, will be an integral part of the relief solution.
- **Scholarship Funding:** The FANS Fund is to be 100% supported by donations from the community, the current band membership, and band alumni. The following methods of donation will be available:
 - **Anonymous Donation:** Individuals choosing to donate to this fund may do so anonymously.
 - **Public Donation:** Individuals choosing to donate to this fund may do so and have their name printed in the CBBA Newsletter and/or on the CBBA Web Site.
 - **Targeted Donation:** Individuals, through their own means, who know of a family in need, can make targeted donations to assist those families in need. Targeted donations will offset the targeted band member's account directly and are not subject to the review of the CBBA review committee. Targeted donations may be anonymous or public depending on the wishes of the donor. The recipient family, however, will remain confidential. (**Note: Targeted Donations are not tax deductible**)
 - **Fund Raiser Donations:** Individuals working those fundraisers that offer Student Account Credits may, at their request, funnel those credits toward the FANS Fund or may direct those credits as a Targeted Donation.
- **Tax Implications:** All non-targeted donations to the CBBA FANS Fund are tax deductible. A confirmation of the donation will be sent to each participant for tax purposes.
- **How to Donate:** Checks or Charge Card Authorization (with account #, amount, exp. date) for the FANS Fund may be placed in the CBBA Box in the band office or mailed to the CBBA, 6603 Spout Springs Road, Flowery Branch, GA 30542. Please include a note or form indicating the type of donation and your wish, if applicable, to remain anonymous.

Please Consider A CBBA FANS Donation Today