FMPA: Ferris Music Parents Association
Welcome to the Ferris Music Department!
2020-2021 School Year

Who are we?

We are you! We are the Parents of Ferris High School students enrolled in any of the many music groups (Bands, Choir or Orchestra). We are a 501(c)3 organization that supports the music programs at Ferris, both through financial assistance and with a dedicated team of volunteers. Our primary task is to provide fundraising opportunities for students and parents to pay for student trips to music festivals, tours, competitions and other enrichment activities. We also serve as a vehicle for communication between the groups and between students, parents and teachers. We meet 4 times per year (meeting schedule is in this packet) and everyone is invited to attend!

What do you need to do?

1. Attend
   - Music Department Open House – Tuesday September 15 at 7 pm (in Auditorium) Learn more about how the Music Department operates, what events are happening this year and more detailed information on our current fundraisers.
   - FMPA Meetings: First one is Monday Octobber 5 at 7 pm (Band Room).
     This is a great way make a giant school seem much smaller by meeting other music parents and interacting with our directors.

2. Choose how you'd like to support Ferris Music
   - Fundraising: there is an extensive list of options in this packet. Several help you earn funds directly for your student's personal music account; others help you earn funds that support the entire music department.
   - Volunteer: Numerous opportunities through the year and we can always use your help.
   - Chaperone: The directors will contact parents in each group prior to trips.
   - Share your skills: Do you have a special talent/skill that you'd like to offer to the music department? Please let us know (examples: website design, artistic talent, contact with companies that might donate products/funds, accounting/QuickBooks experience, etc.)

3. Watch your email and join our Facebook page
   - To avoid the high cost of postage, this is our preferred means of communication. You will receive periodic student music account statements, "Saxon Sounds" newsletters, as well as notices about fundraising and volunteer opportunities. Be sure to check your junk box for our emails if you find that you aren't receiving them.
   - Ferris Music Parents Association Facebook page will keep you up to date so send a request to join.

4. Pay your student's fees

   Each enrolled music student has an FMPA account. Expenses are posted to this account and the student's share of individual fundraisers are credited against these expenses. Outstanding balances are expected to be paid within a reasonable time.
   - What are the FMPA Fees?
     - Annual Fees provide enrichment opportunities that the school district does not. Some of the items covered are sheet music, clinician expenses, awards, music and supplies. This fee varies by group and is a required expense.
     - T-shirts and Sweatshirts are occasionally available and generally optional, however, the band sweatshirt is often used as the pep-band "uniform". Prices may vary.
     - Festivals are often overnight trips for competition. Costs may vary, but can range between $50 to $160.

    - Retreats may be held to prepare for upcoming events. Costs may vary, but range between $95-$160.
    - Tours are usually taken on or around Spring break. Costs may vary each year, depending on the location.
    - Solo & Ensemble Fees are approximately $10/solo.
- Other Fees: A Greater Spokane League (GSL) Activity Card is required as a member of the Ferris Band, Choir or Orchestra. This fee is a district fee and paid online with the district or at the Ferris Business Office. FMPA cannot process this fee.
- How will I know my FMPA Balance?
  A statement will be emailed or mailed to you by the end of September and then periodically throughout the year. To cut down on expense, please make sure we have your current email address. If you haven't received a statement by September 30th, we may not have current contact information. Please email Janyse Frerichs at fmpatreasurer@gmail.com or call her at 481-1338. You can also receive a statement balance upon request at any time.
- How do I Pay the FMPA Fees?
    - Make your check or money order payable to FMPA. In the Memo Line write the student's name and purpose of the payment (i.e. Annual Fee, Festival Payment, etc.)

    - Mail payments to:
      FMPA
      PO Box 30982
      Spokane, WA 99223

      Or have your student put the payment in the FMPA lockbox in their classroom. (They can ask their director for assistance.)

    - Credit Card payments are an option. Email Janyse Frerichs at fmpatreasurer@gmail.com for instructions.
    - If possible, please do NOT pay with Cash. However, if this cannot be avoided, the cash must be placed in a "Cash Receipt" envelope provided by the teacher. The envelope should be signed by both the student AND the instructor for security purposes.
    - Payments can be made through Online Bill Pay with your bank, but be sure the address listed is the PO Box above, NOT the Ferris school office.
    - If your student has a credit balance from fundraising, you may request that the amount be applied to expenses. Notify both the instructor and the treasurer if possible.
    - Student account balances (including annual fees) are expected to be paid in full prior to any trips. An exception may apply to tours where payments can be made over a period of months.
    - $10 fee will be charged for any returned checks.
    - Note that FMPA does not receive any payments from the Ferris Online Accounts site. Additionally, the Ferris Business office cannot receive FMPA payments.
    - According to our bylaws, credit balances from fundraising cannot be paid directly to a student.
- QUESTIONS about your student's music account? Email Janyse Frerichs at fmpatreasurer@gmail.com.