

Booker T. Washington High School Band Boosters, Inc.

4771 Bayou Blvd. #237

President: Kristen Hempfling

Pensacola, FL 32503

Vice President: Nichole Friedland

Directors: Dr. Michael Young, Ed. D | Jennifer Smith

2026–27 BTWHS Band Fee Letter

Everything our organization does—including classroom instruction, equipment, uniforms, transportation, instructors, and performances—costs money. These expenses are discussed and, when appropriate, voted on by band parents/guardians during our monthly Booster meetings.

These fees help provide our students with meaningful opportunities in music education, performance, teamwork, and leadership that will serve them long after they graduate.

Why Are Band Fees Different for Different Students?

Each student's annual fee is based on the resources they use.

Color Guard and Majorettes have some of the highest program costs, so their fees are higher than those of other sections. Wind and percussion students who use school-owned instruments also incur additional costs compared with students who use their own instruments.

We offer families opportunities to earn fee discounts through volunteering as well as participate in fundraisers throughout the school year to help offset these costs.

The 2026–27 fees are based on the actual expenses our Booster organization has incurred in recent years. This year, we are also breaking annual fees into smaller payments spread throughout the school year to make them more manageable.

Please make every effort to keep your student's fees current. We are a nonprofit organization, but we are not a charity. We cannot continue carrying unpaid balances year to year.

2026–27 Fee Groups

BLUE FEES — \$425*

All wind students who do not use a school-owned instrument will be charged \$425 for the 2026–27 school year. *Rookies in this category will pay \$525 to cover freshman fees. Eligible for concession discounts!

WHITE FEES — \$550*

All wind students assigned any school-owned instrument will be charged \$550 for the 2026–27 school year. *Rookies in this category will pay \$650 to cover freshman fees. Eligible for concession discounts!

SILVER FEES — \$600*

All percussion students will be charged \$600 for the 2026–27 school year. *Rookies in this category will pay \$700 to cover freshman fees. Eligible for concession discounts!

COLOR GUARD FEES — \$850

All Color Guard students will be charged \$850 for the 2026–27 school year. Eligible for concession discounts.

(continued next page)

Booker T. Washington High School Band Boosters, Inc.

4771 Bayou Blvd. #237
Pensacola, FL 32503

President: Kristen Hempfling
Vice President: Nichole Friedland
Directors: Dr. Michael Young, Ed. D | Jennifer Smith

*ROOKIE FEE — Additional \$100

Every first-year wind or percussion student will be charged an additional \$100 Rookie Fee to cover the cost of their fall uniform.

Monthly Payment Schedule

Please see your payment schedule and amounts on your student's fee contract, which is available in the Current Forms folder in our Google Drive. Fee balances will be entered into CutTime according to these monthly deadlines.

Don't Panic!

We know band fees are a significant expense, and we're doing everything we can to keep costs manageable. Here are a few ways to make things easier:

- Make smaller payments throughout the year.
 - You don't have to wait until a due date to make a payment. Making smaller payments as you're able can help prevent larger balances from piling up.
 - Participate in fundraisers.
 - Now that our fees are designed to reflect our actual program costs, **many of our fundraisers will directly benefit student ledgers.**
 - Earn concession discounts.
 - Families can earn **\$50 off their student's fees for each qualifying concession shift** at BTWHS home football games. Sign up, work your scheduled shift, and properly clock in and out to earn the discount. Details will be provided during volunteer training sessions.
-

Need Help With Fees?

If your family needs assistance keeping up with fees, please reach out as soon as possible to a band director or Booster Board member. We are working toward a system to help offset band fees for students and families who need assistance. We cannot help if we don't know you need help. Please don't wait until a balance has become overwhelming to reach out!

Booker T. Washington High School Band Boosters, Inc.

4771 Bayou Blvd. #237

President: Kristen Hempfling

Pensacola, FL 32503

Vice President: Nichole Friedland

Directors: Dr. Michael Young, Ed. D | Jennifer Smith

How to Make Payments

Cash or Money Order

Place cash or money order payments in the band room drop box located near the band office.

Online Payments

Payments can be made through CutTime using credit or debit cards, Apple Pay, Google Pay, etc. Online payments are reflected immediately in the student's CutTime ledger.

Cash App

Cash App payments may be sent to: \$BTWHSband Please pay close attention to capitalization in the Cash App tag. The first four letters must be uppercase.

PLEASE IDENTIFY YOUR PAYMENT!

Always include your student's full name, ID#, and what the payment is for in the memo line! We aren't smart or wealthy enough to investigate mystery payments!

In-Person Card Payments

Swipe, tap, or chip payments may be made in the band room during monthly Band Booster meetings, which are generally held on the third Thursday of each month.

Questions? We're Here to Help!

If you have questions about fees, payments, or assistance, please contact a band director or Booster Board member.

Director of Bands

Dr. Michael Young, Ed. D

myoung2@ecsdfl.us

Assistant Director

—

—

Assistant Director

Ms. Jennifer Smith

jsmith5@ecsdfl.us

Color Guard Coach

Ms. Brittney Britt

brittneybritt1642@gmail.com

Percussion Coach

Mr. Avion Wright

avion.wright13@gmail.com

BTWHS Band Booster Board

Booster President

Kristen Hempfling

president@theplayingcats.com

Vice-President

Nichole Friedland

vice-president@theplayingcats.com

Treasurer

treasurer@theplayingcats.com