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Grand Rapids High School Bands

800 Conifer Drive Grand Rapids, MN 55744 www.grbands.org

September 8, 2020

Well, here we go everyone. It is time to get this trip rolling! 2020 has been quite the year and we are all "Re-Imagining" everything that we do. In the spring, prior to Covid-19 and going to distance learning, we had announced we are going to Hawaii in 2022. As a result of missing several months to fundraise, we are changing gears a bit. Instead of nailing down the location, we are going to set a fundraising goal we feel is reasonable to achieve in the 16 months ahead. Band directors and the Booster board have set that number as \$1600 per student. We will begin that journey now and as we get closer to the trip, we will see how far that will take us. Strange times but our commitment is to provide an amazing "Trip of a Lifetime" for our students.

Here is what you will find in this packet:

- 1. Trip Experience Contract
- 2. "Not participating on the trip" contract
- 3. Chaperone Interest Survey/Application
- 4. Grand Rapids Bands Basic Rules/Guidelines and Penalties

The timeline we are planning to travel is Late March/Early April 2022. Exact travel dates will be set according to the best flight rates, destinations and opportunities available and their timelines.

Time lines for trip accounts on the contract are what the Band Boosters are expected to make to trip vendors. Band Boosters are not in a position to give people loans and I need to stress that we are making the payments for you. It is not a fundraising venue for the Band Boosters and will still cost them some money that will defer additional costs to you. Please make your payments in a timely manner so we can make our payments for you.

Chaperones will be needed. We cannot make these trips happen without you the wonderful parents who not only contribute financially, but personal time to help all of the band students. We hope you will consider being a chaperone for the Grand Rapids Bands. We realize you might need to put in for time off from work very soon, so we are going to try and start filling chaperone positions by May 2021. If you are interested in chaperoning, getting involved now with the band program helps us to get to know you. A suggestion might be attending a monthly Band Booster meeting. They take place the third Monday of each Month and are listed on the band calender. The meetings take place in the GRHS Band room at 7:00 PM. You can also find more info on our band website www.grbands.org. Look for the "Trip Experience 2022" page. Chaperones do have to pay to attend this trip. The cost is typically about half or a bit more of the cost of a student's trip. We will get a firmer price soon.

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Charms Office Student Account Management:

We use the Charms Office website to manage all of our student accounts. You are able to view their account, make payments via credit card and receive information on upcoming statements and the rest if you upload an email into your student accounts. Here's how you go on:

Step 1: go to www.charmsoffice.com

Step 2: find the "login" button and click on parent/student

Step 3: enter "GrandRapids" for the school code

<u>Step 4:</u> enter student ID. The first time you login, this is your students school ID number. If that ID number begins with 0, start at the first non 0 number....so, if ID is 0012345, just use 12345

Step 5: You will be asked to change the password to something you want. Please do that.

Step 6: Update any information on your student you wish, head to Financial area to see balance on accounts

**if you forget your password, we can reset it for you. Send us an email. It will reset to your student ID again

What do we need at this time? We need a signed contract with a \$150 deposit brought to the High School Band office or mailed to Leonard Brown, Band Booster Treasurer. His address is on the contract. This needs to be to us by September 28, 2020 so we can tell our travel vendors how many rooms, flight tickets, etc. to tentatively reserve. Make checks out to: GR Band Boosters.

Please read over the contract and if you have any questions, please contact Mr. Gunderson at the GRHS Band office: 218-327-5760 ext. 41502.

Again, thank you for your attention to all the information and making an incredible "Trip Experience" a reality for your child.