



# CAMDENTON HIGH SCHOOL

## PRIDE OF THE LAKE BAND

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Hello –

I bring you greetings from over 250 band students in the Camdenton School District. Our program, while different in 2020, is alive and thriving in spite of a world of uncertainties. What is certain, is that our band students need your help. I write to you to tell you of our band students many needs and how you can become and/or remain one of the many people and businesses who have helped the Camdenton Band be the Pride of the Lake.

Because of our amazing community, the Pride of the Lake has risen to a national ranked powerhouse program. In 2018, the Pride became the 2<sup>nd</sup> band in the history of Missouri to reach the coveted Semi-Final round at the Bands of America Marching Band National Championships. In 2019, we received our first national ranking of 29<sup>th</sup> in the entire country. I was asked “That 29<sup>th</sup> ranking is out of how many bands?” My answer.... “All of them.” Out of every marching band in the country, Camdenton was in the top 30. Camdenton Band has been the unofficial Missouri State Champion in Class 2A 8 of the last 12 years and the State Champion runner up in the other 4 years. YOU are a major part of this success! YOU are giving these students memories that will remain for a lifetime. YOU are the reason we are The Pride of the Lake.

As you probably know, because of the global pandemic, our band is not traveling this year to contests. But what you may not know is that we are continuing with a high profile, high expectation and high-level performances from our band for all of you to enjoy. While our travel expenses are minimal, our commitment to giving the 2020-21 Pride of the Lake students the very best in educational experiences remain at a very high level. Our needs continue to be great.

Travel expenses are only a small part of the financial commitments our students endure. Show design, meals, costumes, equipment, clinicians, and scholarships have all remained as an extremely important part of our marching, jazz and concert bands. Our band student fees were lowered to \$290 per student. While this number is considerably lower than the \$1400 that students were expecting, this smaller fee can remain as a difficult adventure for many of our band families. And with the thoughts of returning to a full Bands of America schedule in 2021, parents and students are excited but nervous of the \$1400 fee returning.

For our current year, we are in need of much. With your help, we can continue to give nearly \$10,000 in scholarships to our graduating seniors. These students have endured so much. To eliminate the opportunities for scholarships, would be yet another blow to an already fragile senior class. Our equipment needs remain even amid cancelled travel opportunities. Clinicians are still excited to come to Camdenton to work with our students. With your help, this season of 2020 will not be a lost season, but a season of remembrance, a season of triumph, a season of success and season of great pride for our students and for our community. Please consider a financial donation to the students of the Pride of the Lake so that 2020 will not be filled with the “what could have been’s” but instead will remain as a year of incredible pride!

Please remember that the Camdenton Band Boosters are a not for profit 501(c)3 organization. All donations and sponsorships are tax deductible. If you have further question, do not hesitate to contact me.

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You VERY Proud Band Director - Paul Baur