***August 2016***

***Welcome*** to a new year with the East Lansing Band and Orchestra Parent Association (ELBOPA)! We would like to extend a hello to new and returning band and orchestra families. We are pleased to again welcome all MacDonald Middle School families. It is ELBOPA’s goal to provide continuous support through volunteer and financial efforts which benefit our students’ performances and educational opportunities as East Lansing School district musicians.

*Family involvement and participation is ELBOPA’s bedrock.* Please check the East Lansing High School ELBOPA web site for dates and times of our 2016-17 ELBOPA meetings and events (elbopa.org).

Important information for the 2016-17 school year:

* ELBOPA executive, full board and general membership groups meet the **third Tuesday of most months at 6:30 pm** **in the ELHS Media Center (Hub or Library)**. The **first full group meeting will be Tuesday, September 20th**. Please check the ELBOPA or school web site for any changes **(www.elbopa.org).**

**This E- Packet includes:**

* **The calendar for the Bands and Orchestra programs will be available soon on our website:** [**http://ELBOPA.org**](http://ELBOPA.com)
* **Concert Uniform fitting schedule and cleaning fee due on Activity Day September 1**
* **Direct Donation and Sponsorship Form:** By making one simple donation, businesses and families are recognized as sponsors in performance programs throughout the school year (ELBOPA has 501 c.3 tax exempt status and a tax receipt will be provided for donations over $50).
* **ELBOPA Membership Form**: Complete and return to vote on ELBOPA items! Anyone can be a voting member!
* **Kroger and Amazon Smile Community Rewards Fundraising Information:** easy at-home donations to ELBOPA!

**Upcoming events:**

* **High School Instrumental Music Trip (May 2017) Fall Kickoff!**: Check the ELBOPA website for news of the spring **ELHS 2017 Washington DC trip! Commitment and first payment due around September 30!**



* **First Fundraiser – our biggest - Night Out:** **Sunday, September 25th, from 4:00-8:00 pm.** ALL High School Band and Orchestra students are assigned prearranged East Lansing neighborhoods to perform the EL and MSU fight song and other popular works, collect donations for the ELBOPA general fund and advertise for the Car Wash the following week. The evening ends with a pizza party for the students who participated in the event. Please watch for family volunteer sign up.



* **Second Fundraiser – our second biggest! -Car Wash Fundraiser:** **Saturday, October 1st, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, at MacDonald Middle School.** Band and orchestra students will wash cars, trucks, and even buses for a donation. All of the car wash donations will go to the band and orchestra general fund. Please watch for family volunteer sign up.

Feel free to contact any board member with questions:

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*We look forward to another awe-inspiring musical year!*

Larissa Miller

ELBOPA President