

Please CAREFULLY review this important information about the Spirit of Jupiter FMBC trip on November 22-24 and note the deadline of **November 1 for all FMBC fees.**

In order for us to stay both nights in Tampa, we need families to get current with their Fair Share payments so we can pay our trip expenses. The final Fair Share payment (if you are not participating in the Christmas tree fundraiser) is due November 3.

Fees for the following items are **DUE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1.** (See details about each below.)

Friday Dinner/Saturday Lunch: **\$20** per student
- **CASH** or checks payable to **CASH ONLY**

Busch Gardens Ticket: **\$65** per student - Family can also buy tickets at this price
- CHECK or MONEY ORDER payable to JHS BAND

Hotel: **\$120** per room per night - ONLY for family who want to stay with the band
- CHECK or MONEY ORDER payable to JHS BAND

To assist us in bookkeeping, PLEASE WRITE SEPARATE CHECKS for all items.

Friday Night Dinner/Saturday Lunch

We will be preparing dinner for the students at our rehearsal location on Friday 11/21 and purchasing Publix subs for students to eat after the semi-finals performance on Saturday 11/22. The total for both meals is \$20.

Chaperones eating with the students will also need to pay for these meals.

We prefer CASH payment for these meals, or checks payable to CASH will be accepted.

Busch Gardens Tickets

As part of this year's annual FMBC trip and to cap off the marching season, the marching band plans to visit Busch Gardens on Sunday, November 23.

The cost is **\$65 per ticket.** The cost of this ticket is not part of the Marching Band Fair Share and must be paid for separately.

Funds from a students' account can be used to pay for Busch Gardens tickets if and only if the following conditions are met:

- IF your fundraising account has enough to cover 100% of this year's Fair Share (including the last scheduled payment that has not been posted yet)
- IF your fundraising account has enough excess to cover 100% of the expense you'd like to pay, and
- IF you have no outstanding debt.

There are very few accounts that qualify, so please be sure you are cleared to do this by Treasurers Rose Lynch (jhsbandtreasurer@comcast.net) or Gina Phinney (ginaphinney@comcast.net). The Fair Share covers the students' hotel expenses. Fair Share does not cover Busch Gardens tickets.

All Spirit students and their families are invited to participate. We will be picking up the tickets at will call the morning of our visit, so you should plan to travel with the band that morning to get your ticket.

Students are not required to purchase a ticket and go to the theme park; *however*, **students who choose not to participate must be picked up by a parent from the Tropicana Dome on Saturday, November 22 immediately following the awards ceremony (around midnight)** at the FMBC Finals. Arrangements must be made in writing with Mr. Larkin prior to the Busch Gardens ticket purchase deadline.

Ticket orders are due Saturday, November 1. Please send in a check or money order payable to "JHS Band" with the following information:

Name of student

Total number of tickets

Place your payment in an envelope marked "Busch Gardens Tickets" and deposit it in the money collection box set up for "FMBC Expenses" near the kitchen in the band room.

If you have any questions about Busch Gardens tickets, please contact Kate Tierney at katetch01@aol.com.

If you have a valid Busch Gardens annual pass, you do not have to purchase a ticket through the band, but please contact Kate Tierney if you still plan to attend Busch Gardens with the band so we know you will not be leaving early.

FMBC Hotel

For the FMBC trip, the band will be staying the nights of November 21 and 22 at the Tampa Marriott Westshore (1001 N Westshore Boulevard in Tampa). Lodging and breakfast for students is included in their Marching Band Fair Share.

We have reserved extra rooms for parents and families who would like to attend the event. The discounted group rate is **\$120 per night**, and it includes breakfast each morning and taxes. Rooms are reserved on a first come, first serve basis based on availability. The hotel is located about 10 minutes south of Skyway Park, where we will be rehearsing on Saturday, and about 10 minutes north of the semi-final competition location on Saturday (Henry B. Plant High School).

The deadline for hotel reservations is Saturday, November 1. Please send in your check or money order payable to "JHS Band" for a total of \$120 per room reservation. Place payment in an envelope labeled "Pam Crider/FMBC Hotel" with the following information:

Your contact information (name and phone number)

Number of rooms you are reserving

Number of nights per room you are reserving (1 or 2)

Which nights you are staying (Friday or Saturday or both)

Names of all persons staying in the room (up to 4 per room)

Please deposit your payment in the money collection box set up for "FMBC Expenses" near the kitchen in the band room.

If you have any questions about the hotel reservations, please contact Pam Crider at 561-762-7951 or crider4cruises@bellsouth.net.

To assist us in bookkeeping, please WRITE SEPARATE CHECKS for Busch Gardens tickets and hotel reservations.

About FMBC

FMBC is the Florida Marching Band Coalition, and it provides a means for a consistent evaluation system for marching band competition across the state of Florida. With the exception of MPAs, all of the Saturday competitions in which we participate are qualifiers for the FMBC Semi-finals held in the Tampa area on Saturday, November 17th. There are separate semi-final locations for each marching band class, and the bands with the top five scores at each of the semi-final competitions move on to perform in the Finals at the Tropicana Dome that same evening.

For the last six years, the Sprit of Jupiter has finished in the top five bands for their class and performed at the Tropicana Dome. This level of excellence is what our students have come to expect and is why they are working so hard!!

On Friday 11/21, the band will travel to Tampa to rehearse and check in to the hotel. This trip is an excused absence from school, and students will receive appropriate paperwork prior to the trip

On Saturday 11/22, the band will eat breakfast at the hotel and travel to Plant High School for their semi-final performance at some point during the day. They will stay at that location to hear the results, and then move on to the Tropicana Dome for the evening.

On Sunday 11/23, the band will eat breakfast at the hotel and travel to Busch Gardens for a few hours of fun before returning to the school that evening at a time to be determined.

A more detailed schedule and a packing list will be provided as we get closer to the trip.

We will also hold a parent/student meeting on Friday, November 14 at 6:00 pm in the JHS Auditorium.