

Please review this important information about the FMBC trip on November 16-18 and note the deadline of **October 29th**.

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

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 18th.

We are purchasing discounted tickets through FMBC, and the cost is **\$44 per ticket**. The cost of this ticket is not part of the Marching Band Fair Share and must be paid for separately and not with excess Fair Share funds.

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 17th immediately following the awards ceremony** 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 Wednesday, October 29th. 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 ~~hotel reservations~~, please contact Kim Maihack at kmaihack@bellsouth.net.

If you have a valid Busch Gardens annual pass, you do not have to purchase a ticket through the band, but please contact Kim Maihack 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 16th and 17th 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 **\$90 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 across the street from the practice field that will be used on Friday (Jefferson High School) and about 20 minutes south of the semi-final competition location on Saturday (Gaither High School).

The deadline for hotel reservations is Monday, October 29th. Please send in your check or money order payable to "JHS Band" for a total of \$90 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](tel:561-762-7951) or crider4cruises@bellsouth.net.

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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 four 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 11/16, 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 11/17, the band will eat breakfast at the hotel and travel to the Gaither 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 11/18, 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.