

# *Buena Bands eyes with pride!*

## Dear Parents and Friends,

Buena has one of the finest band programs in the State of Arizona!

Being in "the band" provides unique opportunities that promote meaningful, life-enriching experiences through music. Students gain a unique and rich experience by being a part of something larger than themselves, which ultimately helps in their growth and development as young adults. The Buena Bands has a proud history of representing our city, state, and country. In these times of budget and program cuts, the arts have been greatly affected. Unfortunately, it takes money to be able to maintain an active and quality program, and the School District has only limited funding. Your support now, is needed more than ever!

What if you had the chance to help the Buena Bands raise this money by getting someone else (in this case, the State of Arizona) to pay money to the School for the band program... and it wouldn't ultimately cost you anything? There is a way to do this, but it can only be done with your help. Does this sound too good to be true? It isn't, believe it or not!

Arizona Law allows you to take a "tax credit" of up to \$200 per year when filing a single return or up to \$400 per year when filing as a married couple on a Joint Return. It does require a contribution from you up to the above amount on or before December 31 of each year. (this can be done in multiple installments)

But, here is the good news: whatever you contribute (up to \$200 or \$400 respectively), you get back from the State of Arizona a few months later when you file your tax return. In other words, you obligate the State of Arizona to use its other tax money (and not yours) to contribute to the Buena Bands (see the reverse side of this page for a detailed example).

How do I get started? Attached to this letter is a form that you need to complete. Fill it out, designate its use for Buena High School Band, and write a check payable to SVPS District #68. It can be dropped off to Mr. Chun or Mr. DeSpain or even to the Office at Buena High School on or before December 31, 2007. If you wish part of your contribution to go to other school organizations or functions please consider doing that as well. However, every dollar that you designate specifically to Buena Bands goes directly to the band, so we would hope that you would consider giving a significant amount to the Band.

Are you still unsure about this? Mr. Chun, Mr. DeSpain or any Buena Band Association member will be happy to explain it to you in detail and answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Duane Chun, Band Director  
Geoff DeSpain, Band Director  
John Klein, President, Buena Band Parent's Association

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## Here's an example as to how it works:

Let's say you are a married couple and you would like to have the Buena Bands receive the maximum amount they could as a result of your action: \$400. As an example, assuming that you expect your family's Arizona taxable income for 2007 (and on the Tax return that you file next February, March, or April) to be \$40,000. based on this amount of family income, the total amount of taxes you would pay to the State should be around \$1,200.

If you have \$1,700 withheld from your paychecks during 2007, next February or March you would file a Sate Income Tax Return and expect a refund of \$500. If, instead, you write a check to Sierra Vista Public Schools "donating" \$400 to the Buena Bands in December 2007 and fill out the form to take the Arizona tax credit, your 2007 tax return would look like this:

Arizona Taxable Income:	\$1,200
Education Tax Credit:	-\$ 400
Balance of Tax Owed:	\$ 800
Amount Withheld During Year:	\$1,700
Refund You Will Get:	\$ 900

In this example, instead of getting \$500 back from the State, you would also get back the \$400 you donated several months earlier, for a total refund of \$900. While this is only an "illustration," it shows that whatever money you donate before the end of 2007 (up to \$200 for a "single" or \$400 for "married") comes back to you from the State a few months later.

By doing this, you get the State of Arizona to contribute money to the Buena Band program.

*The Arizona School Tax Credit is a benefit to the taxpayer,  
Sierra Vista Public Schools, and the Buena Bands.*

**FOR ME**

The Sierra Vista Public Schools Governing Board has established a fee schedule for extracurricular activities for which taxpayer contributions may be accepted :

- ◆ To fund supplemental travel costs for extracurricular activities including interscholastic competitions and field trips.
- ◆ To fund supplemental costs of equipment, services, and materials for extracurricular activities.
- ◆ To fund projects for which specific donations were received that are consistent with the extracurricular programs of the individual school.

**FOR A RELATIVE/FRIEND/NEIGHBOR**

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**SIERRA VISTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS UNIFIED DISTRICT NO. 68**

Please apply the enclosed donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (up to \$400.00 as per A.R.S. § 43-1089.01) and make check payable to the school and identify the academic and/or extracurricular activity programs below:

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donor Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone #: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

**Specific area(s) I want my contribution to be used for:**  
 (Choose from the list on the back panel of this brochure.)

\_\_\_\_\_

**OR** Please use my contribution for General Extracurricular Activity Fees:  
 Elementary     Middle School     High School

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**Every dollar makes a positive difference to the Buena Bands.**

***Thank you for your continued support!***