



March 31, 2008

Dear Chesterfield Business Leader,

I am writing to seek your financial support for an institution that enlivens Chesterfield County and instills discipline, teamwork and pride in our youth.

I am referring to the band program at Thomas Dale High School. In 2005, 2006 and 2007, our "Marching Knights" earned "**Superior**" ratings (the highest possible) from the Virginia Band and Orchestra Directors Association. And in 2006 and 2008 the program attained the coveted "**Virginia Honor Band**" status, based upon Superior performances by both the marching band and winter Wind Ensemble band performances.

These achievements come at a time of tremendous growth for the program. The size of the marching band and auxiliary has essentially doubled over the past four years, and is expected to grow another 20 percent for the fall 2008 marching season.

Naturally, we are *thrilled* to see more young people engaged in this highly constructive program. You only have to watch the band routine during football half-time shows to know how hard these kids work! And, make no mistake, we are very grateful for the continued support of our school administration. But maintaining, equipping and advancing a top-quality band program requires fund raising beyond the school board's contribution.

So, we are reaching out to the community for help. Our **marching band uniforms** were first purchased ten years ago, and many are simply too ripped, too torn or just too worn-out to be repaired. In the 2008-2009 academic year we are faced with the need to raise \$45,000 to buy replacement band uniforms. Band uniforms are specialized garments, costing \$450-500 each.

**Two Ways to Help:**

If you'd like to help, we are offering two options. You can write a **tax-deductible donation**, payable to "Thomas Dale High School Band" and use the enclosed pre-addressed envelope to send your contribution.

**OR**

You can **purchase an advertisement** which will appear in the 2008-2009 Academic Year Calendar that band members will distribute to 1,500 homes in the Chester community in September. The fund-raising calendar is being produced by our Thomas Dale Band Boosters organization. To help you visualize how your ad would look, an almost full-sized mock-up of the calendar is enclosed, along with a fact-sheet and order form.

Whether you're making a donation or buying an ad, you can use the enclosed pre-addressed envelope to respond. If you can help, we need to receive your response by May 1, 2008.

Your support will help ensure that this important character-building institution continues to be a thriving asset to the young people of our community. Thank you for your consideration and you can learn more about our program at [www.tdhsband.com](http://www.tdhsband.com).



Steven A. Barton  
Director, Thomas Dale H.S. Band



David L. Holley  
Director, Thomas Dale H.S. Band



Tami Schoepflin  
President, Thomas Dale Band Boosters

*Donation form: please detach and send in the enclosed pre-addressed envelope:*

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*Yes, I want to help the Thomas Dale High School Band Program continue to grow and thrive to benefit the young people of Chesterfield County.*

*\_\_\_\_\_ My tax-deductible contribution check, to "Thomas Dale High School Band" is enclosed:*

*I would like my contribution to be recognized in band programs and on the [tdhsband.com](http://tdhsband.com) Web site: \_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no*

Music Patron – Donations up to \$49.99  
Band Booster - Donations \$50.00 - \$99.99  
Section Leader – Donations \$100.00 – \$199.99  
Drum Major – Donations \$200.00 – \$299.99  
Director's Circle – Donations \$300.00 or more