

## DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Sharon Raschke, Ed.D., Chief Financial Officer Bates School, 2704 Baker Road, Dexter, Michigan 48130 (734) 424-4100 ext.1015 fax (734) 424-4111 raschkes@dexterschools.org

December 14, 2020

To Dexter Community Schools Staff and Parents:

I am writing to inform you of some upcoming changes to strengthen our fiscal responsibility regarding charitable donations and fundraising programs. These changes are being driven by Dexter Community Schools in response to IRS requirements for charitable organizations, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) accounting and financial reporting standards for U.S. state and local governments that follow Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), and our District's independent audit firm. This notice specifically addresses the Busch's Cash for Education program.

## For Busch's Cash for Education money earned beginning January 1, 2021:

- 1) Designate your organization from the following list of Dexter Community Schools programs:
  - 1. Dexter Community Schools-K-12 Student Programs
  - 2. Dexter Community Schools-Anchor Elementary
  - 3. Dexter Community Schools-Beacon Elementary
  - 4. Dexter Community Schools-Wylie Elementary
  - 5. Dexter Community Schools-Creekside Intermediate
  - 6. Dexter Community Schools-Mill Creek Middle School
  - 7. Dexter Community Schools-DHS Student Programs
  - 8. Dexter Community Schools-DHS IB/AP/Dread Scholar
  - 9. Dexter Community Schools-Athletic Programs
  - 10. Dexter Community Schools-Band
  - 11. Dexter Community Schools-Drama
  - 12. Dexter Community Schools-Orchestra

Other non-profit organizations operating independently under their own tax-exempt/501c3 status benefiting students include: Athletic Booster Club of Dexter (ABCD), Educational Foundation of Dexter, Dexter Hockey Club, Dexter Dance Team, and Dexter Equestrian Team.

- 2) Shop at Busch's. Every purchase you make will earn rewards for your designated program. Just be sure to use your MyWay card or phone number at the checkout.
- 3) A quarterly check will be sent to the Business Office at Dexter Community Schools for deposit. The money will be credited to the School/Student Activity revenue account for the benefit of your designated program.
- 4) Because Charitable Contributions, by IRS definition, are made to qualified organizations, contributions can never be self-directed for the benefit of individuals. Therefore, Busch's Cash for Education donations will no longer accrue for individual students' activity fees.

- 5) Any funds unused by the individual student for its current intended purpose will remain with that specific Student Activity fund for the benefit of students engaging in that program in future years. Funds will not be passed on to other programs. Each program is reviewing its Scholarship program in light of these upcoming changes. We never want financial status to affect students' participation in school opportunities.
- 6) Internally, the principals, in collaboration with the groups' sponsors, will oversee spending the funds through the following specific School/Student Activity accounts, respectively:
  - 1. Dexter Community Schools-K-12 Student Programs
  - 2. Anchor Elementary (Anchor PTO)
  - 3. Beacon Elementary (Beacon PTO)
  - 4. Wylie Elementary (Wylie PTO)
  - 5. Creekside Intermediate (Bee Club 5%; Creekside Gardens 30%; Student Incentive 65%)
  - 6. Mill Creek Middle School (7th Grade Camp 1/3; 8th Grade Washington DC Trip 2/3)
  - 7. DHS Student Programs
  - 8. DHS IB/AP/Dread Scholar
  - 9. Athletic Programs
  - 10. DHS Music Band Camp
  - 11. DHS Drama Club
  - 12. DHS Music Orchestra Activities

## For Busch's Cash for Education earned through December 31, 2020:

To facilitate a transition, funds "earned" through 12/31/2020 will continue to be available for the individual students in their currently enrolled activity. (Example #1A, if prior to 12/31/2020, funds for 7thGradeStudentX were designated for 7thGradeStudentX's 7<sup>th</sup> grade camp fees, and camp is cancelled due to COVID, then 7thGradeStudentX's funds will be available for his or her 8<sup>th</sup> grade Washington DC trip; Example #2A, if prior to 12/31/2020, funds for HSStudentY were designated for HS Band Camp, then HSStudentY's funds will be available for his or her 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grade Band Camp fees.)

Any funds unused by the individual student for its current intended purpose will remain with the specific Student Activity fund for the benefit of students engaging in that program. Funds will not pass on to other programs or to siblings. (Example #1B, if 7thGradeStudentX does not go on DC trip the next year, the funds will remain in the 7th Grade Camp/8th Grade Washington DC Trip School/Student Activity accounts for program costs; Example #2B, if HSStudentY drops band, then the funds will remain in the HS Band Camp account for program costs.)

Funds will not accrue in anticipation of participation in a program in the future. (Example #3, if 5thGradeStudentZ is identified as the student for 7th Grade Camp, the funds will be used for the 7th Grade Camp program. Students currently in K-6th grade will not have an individual pot of money tracked for a future program.)

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation with these necessary changes. This is not being driven by any particular program or Busch's, so please contact me directly if you have any questions. I can be reached at <a href="mailto:raschkes@dexterschools.org">raschkes@dexterschools.org</a> or direct line (734)424-4107.

Sincerely,

Sharon Rascoke, CFO