

The Snake River Bands would like to thank everyone that voted for them in the Pepsi Refresh Project. On January 23, 2012 Pepsi officially declared the Snake River Bands a recipient of a \$25,000 grant through its' Pepsi Refresh Project. The project was created to purchase new instruments for the Snake River band program. There are many instruments that Snake River has never had available for their students. Now, with this money the band program will be able to purchase instruments that will fill out the band and make the program stronger. Currently we are in the process of creating bids for the items and ultimately the price of each item will determine the quantity of instruments that will be able to be purchase. There are however a few instruments that the grant was specifically designed to purchase at full retail value. Those instruments are as follows:

- 2 Marching Tubas (this will replace our broken sousaphones)
- 1 Marching Baritone
- 1 Marching Mellophone
- 1 Set of Concert Chimes (with field frame)
- 1 Marimba (4.3 octave with field frame)
- 2 Sets of Quints (tenor marching drums w/harnesses)
- 2 Marching Snare Harnesses (to replace outdated versions)

Currently we are working with a Drum and Bugle Corp to possibly purchases used instruments. These instruments have only been used for 2 or 3 years so are in great used condition. If they are in great working order, they can be purchased for a fraction of the cost of a new instrument. This would allow us to purchase more instruments that were not originally calculated into the grant thus maximizing the effectiveness of the \$25,000.

On Thursday, January 26, 2012 the Snake River Bands were also awarded a grant for \$8,466 from Century Link through the Idaho State Department of Education. This grant is strictly for purchasing technology that is to be used in the classroom. The technology that will be purchased with this grant is designed to save the band money, make teaching more effective, and assessment more accurate. The equipment that will be purchased with this grant is as follows:

- 2 MacBook Pro's
- 1 Apple iPad
- SmartMusic Software(4 subscriptions-1 for each Mac, 1 for iPad, 1 for teacher computer)
- 1 portable classroom projector
- 4 Roland Rhythm Coaches (teaching percussion rudiment and accuracy)
- Pyware Marching Band Drill Design Software

With the Snake River band program growing as quickly as it has over the past few years, these instruments and technology will provide a means to sustain the growth. The educational experience will be greatly enhanced because each student will have the ability to get direct, measurable feedback on their playing. With this feedback and direction from the teacher, each student will have a greater opportunity to learn and grow than what was previously possible.