



Blanchester Schools Foundation

951 Cherry Street ❖ Blanchester, OH 45107

foundation@blan.org

Dear Friend of Blanchester Schools,

Beginning this fall, students participating in middle and high school athletics (7th-12th grades) will be required to pay a \$100 fee for each sport/cheerleading they participate in with a \$600 per family cap. While this is still much less than several of our neighboring school districts, it is a significant increase from the \$10 and \$20 fees students have been required to pay the last several years. It is going to be especially difficult for some families with kids who play multiple sports or have more than one athlete in the grade levels that are required to pay the fee. Our kids at Blanchester have always been encouraged to play multiple sports. Playing more than one sport has many benefits to students - it makes athletes much less likely to get injured because they are using different muscle groups for each sport, it allows them to play sports with different groups of kids and coaches each season, it helps teams be more competitive having more athletes on each team and most importantly, kids get to enjoy playing more than one sport a year. With the new fees in place, it is going to be much harder for kids to get this opportunity. Unfortunately, it will also keep some kids from even getting to play one sport.

The good news is that the Blanchester Schools Foundation and several Blanchester alumni have decided to start a scholarship fund used solely to help students cover the pay-to-participate fee. Our hope is to sponsor several athletes each season by either paying the full fee or just the portion of the fee their family is having a hard time covering. Any athlete that receives the scholarship assistance must be committed to completing the season with some exceptions like injury, illness, etc.

We feel that school athletics/cheerleading are very important and life changing experience for students. Being on a team helps students learn leadership skills, how to work with others, how to be selfless for the team, to be proud of what you accomplish together and how to be not only a good sport when you lose but a humble winner when you win.

We hope you will consider donating to this scholarship fund. All donations are tax deductible. No amount is too small and 100% of each dollar will go towards helping our student athletes. Our hope is that no one is unable to play a sport they want to play due to financial restraints.

The scholarship fund has been set up through the Blanchester Schools Foundation which is an IRS approved 501 c 3 non-profit tax exempt organization. Donations should be made out to Blanchester Schools Foundation. Please put "Pay To Participate Scholarship" in the memo. Checks can be mailed or delivered to the school board office at 951 Cherry St. Blanchester, OH 45107.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!!

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