



## The Rachel Dimmock Memorial Scholarship for the Class of 2026

The Bethel Park Music Boosters (BPMB) will award (1) \$1,000 scholarship to an eligible senior applicant for use towards school tuition, the purchase of books, and other education-related fees. The following details the specifics relative to: eligibility, essay for consideration, application / submission timeline, review / scoring process, and the awarding of the scholarship. Scholarship recipient will be announced by May 15th, 2026.

### 1) Eligibility:

The following **must** be satisfied to be eligible for a scholarship

- a) A graduating senior at Bethel Park High School
  - b) *Currently* involved in at least 1 of the following music department activities:
    - Concert Band    Marching Band    Strings Orchestra
    - Jazz Band        Concert Choir    Symphonic Band
    - Musical            Top 21 Choir     Chamber Orchestra
  - c) Are (or will be) committing to a college, university, trade school or other institution of continued education after graduation.
- Note: commitment is not required at time of application submission but is required prior to distribution of funds.

### 2) Essay

The applicant is to provide an essay to convey what they have gained from their engagement with the music activities.

- a) Address the following elements as related to the applicant's personal perspective: *Describe how you became involved in music, how your involvement in the music department has impacted your school experience, and how the skills developed through your musical experience will benefit your future*
- b) The essay must be:
  - Typed
  - 12-point Arial font
  - Double-spaced
  - 1-inch margins
  - Maximum of 500 words in length
  - Do not exceed 2 pages
- c) Nothing in the essay shall state the applicant's name.
- d) Use of AI tools are prohibited to provide content and/or build the body of the essay.

### 3) Application / Submission Timeline & Logistics

The following details the requirements and purpose for the application, timeline for submission timeline and logistics.

- a) Application (refer to form to see specifics):
  - i) Provide name, address, and contact information
  - ii) Indicate Institution you are planning to attend after graduation
    - Note: if unknown / undecided at time of submission just indicate on application.
  - iii) Indicate the total number of years involved in each of the listed music activities from 9<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grades.
  - iv) Indicate any awards / honors / leadership positions held in each music activity. • Note: this information is only for clerical purposes and will have no impact on the review / scoring of your essay.
- b) Submission Timeline & Logistics Application and essay must be submitted **no later than 2:30pm, Monday, April 27th, 2026**
  - i) The following must be provided at submission:
    - (1) One completed application
    - (2) **3 identical copies** of the essay; **each in their own sealed plain envelope**
      - Letter or manilla envelopes are acceptable
      - Nothing written or printed is permitted on envelopes
      - Envelopes must be glue sealed (no metal clasps, tucked or paper-clips)
    - (3) The application and the (3) sealed envelopes shall be stapled together.
  - ii) Deliver the complete packaging to the **BPHS Band Room in the marked scholarship box.**

**> No late, incomplete or non-complaint application will be accepted <**

### 4) Review, Scoring & Selection Process

The submitted application / essay packages will be processed through a defined process to ensure each is assessed in an unbiased manner.

- a) Review - Scholarship Responsibilities for the officer-secretary of the music boosters
  - i) The Booster Secretary shall collect the hard copies of applications after the application deadline (within 3 business days).
  - ii) For each package submitted, the following will be performed:
    - Confirm the application and provided essay envelopes are complete.
    - A letter designation will be designated and securely recorded separately.
    - The application form will be removed
    - The letter designation will be written on each essay envelope
  - iii) Gain verification from the music directors the applicant is currently involved and confirm the stated years of involvement.
  - iv) Compile scores and confirm which students are to be awarded scholarships.
  - v) No parent of a senior shall be involved in any of the above Scholarship Committee duties
- b) Review - Review Committee Responsibilities
  - i) The music department directors or BPMB Officers will choose three (3) independent persons to comprise the "Review Committee"
    - Note: reviewers shall not be affiliated with the Bethel Park Music Department
  - ii) Each member will be provided an essay envelope
    - Note: reviewers will only know the letter designation for each essay.

- iii) Each member shall independently read and score each essay based on the criteria listed in the established rubric (see attached).
  - iv) Each member shall return their score rubrics back to the Scholarship Committee • Note: essays are not returned; each member shall destroy the provided essays.
- c) Scoring
- i) Scoring will be based on all years of involvement and the provided essay
  - ii) The applicant's BP Music Department involvement score will be given a weight of 40%.  

$$\text{Weighted Participation \%} = \left( \frac{\text{Total Number of Years Participation}}{34} \right) \times 40$$
  - iii) The applicant's average essay score will be given a weight of 60%.  

$$\text{Weighted Essay \%} = \left( \frac{\text{Average of Essay Scores}}{33} \right) \times 60$$
  - iv) Final Score is the sum.  

$$\text{Final Score} = \text{Weighted participation \%} + \text{Weighted Essay \%}$$
- d) Selection Process
- i) The highest total scores will be awarded a scholarship.  
 • Note: in case of tie: first, the highest Total Years of Involvement will decide the recipient; if there remains a tie, second will be based on a coin flip.

## 5) Awarding of Scholarship

The awarding of the scholarship will be based on the following:

- a) The scholarship recipient will be announced at the end of the year concerts and subsequently announced via electronic BPMB communication and on the BPMB website.
- b) Scholarship money will be paid directly to the college.
- c) Scholarships must be used during the school year following high school graduation.
- d) Funds will only be provided after printed proof of commitment to attend is provided the BPMB Board (such as signed letter from college, university, trade school or other institution)

## 6) Overall Disclaimer

- a) Consideration shall not be based on which college, university, trade school or other institution the applicant will attend nor the intended major.
- b) Consideration shall not be based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin
- c) If a recipient becomes ineligible for any reason, the scholarship will be forfeited and kept by Bethel Park Music Boosters, Inc.

## The Rachel Dimmock Senior Scholarship application for the Class of 2026

Submit complete application stapled to (3) sealed plain envelopes containing copies of your essay to the BPHS Band Room **no later than 2:30pm, Monday, April 27th, 2026.**

> **No late, incomplete or non-complaint application will be accepted.** <

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution you plan to attend in the fall: \_\_\_\_\_

( if unknown / undecided at time of submission, please indicate. Written commitment required prior to fund distribution. )

### BP Music Department involvement

Identify all music department activities YOU have participated in and how many years while at BPHS (9th - 12th):

Activity	Number of Years Participation	Activity	Number of Years Participation
Symphonic Band		Chamber Orchestra	
Concert Band		Freshmen Orchestra	
Freshmen Band		String Orchestra	
Jazz Band		Concert Choir	
Marching Band		Treble Choir	
Musical		Top 21	

### Awards / Honors / Leadership Positions for the above activities

(for clerical use only; not a factor in scholarship decision)

### Essay:

Topic: *Describe how you became involved in music, how your involvement in the music department has impacted your school experience, and how the skills developed through your musical experience will benefit your future.*

Structure: typed, 12-point Arial font, double-spaced, 1" margin, maximum 500 words, do not exceed 2 pages

**Eligibility and Requirements:** See attached for detailed information on student eligibility, application requirements, essay structure, and essay submission requirements. All requirements must be met to be awarded a PTMB Scholarship.

**Honesty and Integrity:** by submitting this application and essay, I acknowledge that I have not plagiarized the essay, had it written by anyone other than myself or used any AI tools to build or define the essay content.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Essay Letter: \_\_\_\_\_

**Essay:**

Topic: Describe how you became involved in music, how your involvement in the music department has impacted your school experience, and how the skills developed through your musical experience will benefit your future.

Formatting: typed 12-point Arial font, double-spaced, 1" margin, maximum 500 words, do not exceed 2 pages

**Depth of Reflection**

Outstanding		Excellent		Proficient		Basic		Unsatisfactory	
10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Reflection demonstrates profound insight into the impact of music department involvement on high-school experience and potential for future influence.		Reflection shows a clear understanding of the impact of music department involvement on high-school experience and potential for future influence.		Reflection briefly touches on the impact of music department involvement on high-school experience and potential future influence		Reflection lacks depth and offers minimal insight into the impact of music department on high-school experience and potential future influence		Reflection is vague and lacks any meaningful insight into impact of music department involvement.	

**Clarity of Connection**

Outstanding		Excellent		Proficient		Basic		Unsatisfactory	
10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Clearly articulates, providing specific examples and utilizing personal experience to support the impact of music department involvement on both high school career and future life.		Provides examples and personal experiences in support of the music department involvement, but lacks clarity on connection.		Attempts to provide examples and personal experiences to support the impact of music department involvement, but lacks in development, clarity and coherence		Offers vague or unclear examples to support the impact of the music department involvement		Fails to provide any relevant examples or personal experiences to support the impact of music department involvement.	

**Structure / Organization**

Outstanding		Excellent		Proficient		Basic		Unsatisfactory	
5	4	3	2	1					
Essay is well-structured with a clear introduction, body paragraphs supporting key point, and a strong conclusion that effectively wraps up the argument.		Essay is mostly well-organized with defined introduction, body paragraphs presenting key points, and conclusion.		Essay has some organization with an introduction, body paragraphs with key points and conclusion but lacks clarity in the connection of ideas.		Essay is disorganized with unclear structure, making it difficult to follow argument		Essay lacks a coherent structure or organization of ideas making it difficult to comprehend	

**Grammar / Mechanics**

Outstanding		Excellent		Proficient		Basic		Unsatisfactory	
5	4	3	2	1					
Essay demonstrates exemplary grammar, spelling, punctuation, and sentence structure throughout with no errors.		Essay has minor errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, or sentence structure that do no detract from overall readability.		Essay contains noticeable errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation or sentence structure that slightly impacts readability		Essay has frequent errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, or sentence structure that detract from readability		Essay is riddled with errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, or sentence structure making it difficult to read.	

**Formatting**

(5) Requirements:

Typed 12-point Arial font; double spaced; 1" margin; maximum 500 words; no more than 2 pages long

Proficient	Basic	Unsatisfactory
3	2	1
The essay meets all (5) formatting requirements	The essay meets 3 or 4 of the formatting requirements	The essay meets less than 3 of the formatting requirements.

Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_