January 8, 2014

## This is a decision paper

To: Hardin County Board of Education

From: Nannette Johnston, Superintendent

Subject: Dixie Classics Concert Festival, Atlanta, Georgia, March 29th 2014

**Request:** Allow the North Hardin Wind Symphony to compete in the Dixie Classic Festival in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Facts:** The Dixie Classics Festival provides numerous learning opportunities for our students. Competitions such as these provide motivation for students and are a regional and national showcase for our band program, our school, and our school district. These events are also an important aspect to the growth process for a student as a musician and as a citizen. Students will perform at a world class venue where the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra performs, and will be adjudicated by nationally respected judges. High-profile events such as these, allow students to learn from watching and listening to some of the finest groups in the country. Students will also have the opportunity to visit the Martin Luther King Jr. Center, CNN, and other well-known sites in the Atlanta area. Our success with our band builds our students’ confidence that they can achieve in all areas of life. As a band we have proven ourselves to be exemplary representatives of our school competitively and as citizens.

The trip will be paid for with reimbursement payments from students, and subsidized with funding from the North Hardin Band Boosters.

This festival is a very prestigious festival and is competitive, but out of state competitions are charged a dollar per mile per bus. In this case, the cost of school buses per student is comparable to the cost of a charter bus. The use of charter buses allows more flexibility in the schedule and enables students to be exposed to more educational experiences. The reimbursement payments collected from students will fund this trip. Any students unable to make the payments will be subsidized by the North Hardin Band Boosters.

**Recommended Motion:** I move that we approve the North Hardin Wind Symphony to travel to Atlanta, Georgia on March 29, via commercial carrier.