|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Luke RUHS Logo.png | Rincon/University Bands |
| 9/3/2014 | 421 N. Arcadia AVE Tucson, AZ 85711 Phone 520-232-5834 |
|  | UHS Site Council  Luke RUHS Logo.pngTo our esteemed site council members,  In the past, TUSD musical instruments were provided by the district. About 7 years ago, that process slowed to a trickle as budgets shrank and for the past 3 years, I have been told by district fine arts that there are simply no funds at all for either instrument acquisition or instrument replacement. In that time our band has grown significantly. As a result, all of the instruments purchased were accomplished through boosters, or tax credit, school purchase or straight fundraising. This has strained our budget in other ways as a result.  While the majority of our school-owned instruments are nearing the end of their equipment life, we can’t replace them all. I chose to work first on the mellophones. They were in the worst shape and were a collection of mismatched instruments pitched in several different keys and in various states of disrepair. Since our efforts began three years ago, boosters have purchased four, the school purchased two for a total of six instruments. A complete set for a band our size would be ten mellophones. When we asked for a quote this year from Instrumental Music Center, they came in so low that we are hoping to jump on this and buy the remaining four we need for a full set.  Usually, the cheapest place to buy band instruments is through mail order clearing houses. As you can see, they are all quoting this instrument at $1871.99. One of the sites will give free shipping as well. When IMC tendered their quote it came in at $1379 each plus tax, but no shipping costs. That is an incredible deal. They are also an approved TUSD vendor, which means we can act quickly. As of the quote, Yamaha had 40 in stock.  Should you fund our request, rest assured that the instruments will be taken care of. We do a lot with very little funding and your help would be appreciated.  Thanks for your careful consideration,  Marchant, Jeff |