

Warrior Band Boosters General Meeting Minutes

Date: February 19, 2015
Location: Band Room
Meeting called to order: 7:05 pm

Booster President Stephanie Schulz called the meeting to order. She welcomed everyone in attendance and noted that refreshments were available.

Stephanie noted that the computer was up and logged on to VIPS for parents to enter their hours.

The minutes from the January 22, 2015, Booster meeting were distributed previously by email and posted on the band's web site. The minutes were approved on motion by Sharon Warwick and seconded by Tom Schulz.

BAND DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Winter Guard Trip to Dayton: The paperwork for the trip is completed; we are waiting for approval from the Chief Academic Officer.

Winter Percussion: The uniforms are in and were distributed on Saturday.

New Courses

New music classes will be offered next year at JHS. AP Music Theory will be taught by Mr. Germana, who teaches AICE Art & Photography and also has a master's degree in bass performance. This class will be open to juniors and seniors only and will include ear training and composing.

A Concert Band class will also be offered in addition to the current Symphonic Band and Wind Symphony classes. A new teacher (part-time band and part-time chorus) will be hired to teach this new class, as well as help with co-curricular activities.

A Personal Training/Yoga class will be taught by Dr. Easterling (chorus teacher). This class will count as fulfilling the PE requirement. It was noted that marching band does not automatically take care of the PE requirement.

Marching Band Fall Competition

Mr. Larkin would like to try to host a competition this fall. Currently, the only weekend available is the weekend before FMBC Semi-Finals/Finals, and it is not a qualifying weekend, so it is likely attendance would be low.

There is a possibility that Santaluces HS might pull out, which would open up the first weekend of November. FMBC knows we are interested in hosting a competition in the event a weekend opens up.

Hosting a marching band competition should be easier than the winter guard competition, as there are not as many groups and it is a shorter day. We should anticipate 15 bands for a first year.

Marching Band Recruiting

Most band programs that do well have a higher percentage of students in marching band than we currently do. We don't want to require marching band, but that is done in other strong band programs because it is an expectation.

We can get more people interested in marching band by "assuming the sale." Approach new students by assuming they will be in marching band instead of asking if they want to participate. The expectation is that everyone is a part of marching band.

Marching Band Dates:

Spring Rehearsals: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Monday, May 18

Thursday, May 21

Tuesday, May 26

Thursday May 28

Monday, June 1

Wednesday, June 3

Mandatory Band Camps

June 8-11: 1pm - 9pm

July 13-16: 8am - 9pm

Aug 10-15: 8am - 9pm OR Aug 17-22: 8am - 9pm *

* August Band Camp is dependent on the start date of school. Plan on being in town August 10.

We also need to focus more on recruiting color guard members outside of band classes, especially on students who have backgrounds in dance and/or cheerleading.

We would like to continue the JV Winter Guard program.

FMBC Class Adjustments

FMBC has adjusted class sizes to get a more even balance in each size grouping. JHS will probably be class 4A this coming year. The larger the class, the more ideas instructors have for the show! More kids means fewer props too!

OFFICER/COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE REPORT – Rose Lynch

Rose prepared a financial report, and copies were distributed.

We do have some cash, but the bad news is we are borrowing from funds designated for next year to pay this year's bills. There is \$15,000 in the account that is pre-payment for next year, and that is what is funding us right now.

Marching Band

We've received approximately \$90,000 in payments, but our bills are \$104,000. We have \$17,000 in uncollected fees.

More was spent on Marching Band this year than last year because our cost for buses increased (by \$5,000), as we needed three buses. We also had to pay for buses go to Marching band MPA, unlike previous years. We also spent more on instructors (\$2,000) this year.

Concert Band

This group includes all students in a band class who are not in a co-curricular group and, therefore, are not responsible for a separate Fair Share.

We've received \$7,000 in payments and raised another \$7,000 in fundraising (concessions, concert ticket sales, etc.), but our bills are \$26,000. We are REALLY in the hole with concert band.

The delay of the turf field and reduced number of football games really hurt our concessions numbers.

Equipment repair is a big expense. We are given \$600 by the school district, but repairs this year alone are up to \$6,500. Instructors are another big expense, and we've already had to reduce or eliminate their use this year.

Winter Guard

We've collected \$9,700 in fees, but have spent \$15,000.

Winter Percussion

We've collected \$7,000 (including \$466 from the drawing at the Winter Concert). Bills for this group are \$12,000.

Rose also prepared a report regarding delinquent Fair Share and Fundraising Commitment payments:

<u>Group</u>	<u>Balance Owed</u>	<u>% Outstanding</u>
Marching Band	\$ 16,894	16%
Concert Band *	\$ 11,425	61%
Winter Percussion	\$ 8,683	68%
"A" Winter Guard	\$ 5,451	49%
"JV" Winter Guard	\$ 458	38%
	<u>\$ 42,911</u>	

** The Concert Band group includes all students in a band class who are not in a co-curricular group and, therefore, are not responsible for a separate Fair Share.*

Often, we don't collect fees fast enough to pay our bills.

SFWGA Event

Our income from this event was \$12,000, but our expenses are projected to be \$5,000-6,000. We anticipate our net profit will be \$5,000-7,000. Reimbursement from SFWGA is factored into the net profit. We don't have custodian and security bills from the school yet.

Jupiter Jubilee

We raised \$163 this year. In the past, we've raised \$500-700 selling drinks. This year, it was not very hot, and we were placed next to a booth that was giving out water for free.

We need to determine if it is worth it to continue this fundraiser, especially since it conflicts with Solo & Ensemble every year. Could we expand our offerings to include funnel cakes, fried Oreos and/or hot dogs?

It was suggested that we see if we can get a booth at Sunfest. Apparently, Wellington HS does this.

Judy Tripp suggested that we go to clubs (like the Loxahatchee Club) for to get on their list of organizations that they support. We have tried to get parents to write grant applications for the band in the past, but no one has followed through. Judy will discuss this separately with Mr. Larkin.

Honda Classic Birdies for Children

This fundraiser ends February 25, and it is a very easy way to pay for band fees by credit card. 100% of your donation goes to your student's fundraising account, and an additional 10% goes to the general band account.

NEW BUSINESS

JPAF – Kristy Kreiger

The JHS Jazz Ensemble opened JPAF's Annual Gala featuring Tierney Sutton and Bill Mays, and the band did an amazing job. It was a great event! We don't know how much was raised yet.

It was suggested that JPAF offer student seating at the back of the theater for a reduced price.

Sharon Warwick noted that JPAF scholarship applications will be made available in March and will be due in April.

JPAF is also holding a contest to design a logo and create a name for a race on June 13. Watch your email for contest information and submission instructions.

JPAF encourages all parents of seniors to join! They need help!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

IMS Band Pancake Breakfast/Silent Auction – February 21

The Jazz Ensemble will be performing at this event. We need a few parents and students to help recruit and answer questions regarding the JHS Band program.

Middle School Pre-MPA – February 24

Our three local middle schools will be performing their MPA literature at JHS. We need parents to help recruit and answer questions for middle school students and parents. We need students to help set up chairs and stands on the stage.

Spring Concert – March 5

Contact Lana Wiefels to help with ticket sales, etc. We will be having a bake sale, so please bring your baked goods.

FUNDRAISING

Honda Classic Birdies for Children

This was mentioned earlier in the meeting.

Scrip Gift Card Orders

The next order will be due March 25 so orders are back in time for Teacher Appreciation week. Watch your email for ordering instructions.

Roger Dean Spring Training Concessions – Pam Abruscati

Today was the last training session to be able to work concessions during spring training. The band is doing concessions at a game on February 24 and four games during spring break week. Participation is low compared to last year. Thanks to those who have signed up to help.

Pam is looking for ideas on how to promote this fundraiser better for next year. Split the work day into two shifts? Send out more invitations to help? Post pictures/blog the day to explain what happens next year? Describe percentages of Fair Share paid by this fundraiser?

It was noted that workers will need matching hats. Debbie Wiley will contact Bonnie Welsh to see if she can locate the hats used the past couple of years.

Spring Concert Silent Auction

Judy Tripp has two baskets, and she says Grace Luxton's mom will do something too.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Elections for band board positions will be held at March band parent meeting. The positions and brief descriptions of their responsibilities are as follows:

- President: Presides over all meetings; Creates agendas for all meetings; Ex officio member of all committees
- Vice President: Performs all duties of the president in the president's absence and other duties as assigned by the President; Tracks hours earned towards the Volunteer Credit; Processes Sponsorship donations
- Treasurer: Works directly with school bookkeeper to meet the requirements of school policies; Writes purchase orders, processes check requests, prepares staff contracts and writes fundraising requests; Uses Charms to track finances and create monthly reports; Manages petty cash

- Assistant Treasurer: Collects/deposits checks from fundraising and direct deposits and updates financial activity in Charms; Enters fixed payments into Charms and ensures student accounts are appropriately credited/debited; Forwards fundraising paperwork to appropriate committee chairs; Updates school's obligation list; Assists Treasurer as necessary
- Secretary: Records votes and keeps/distributes minutes of all meetings; Creates and maintains student rosters for all groups via Charms; Communicates via email on behalf of the band director and board to members; Writes correspondence (thank you letters, donation requests, etc.) as necessary; Performs other duties as required by the Board

It was noted that many of the duties Stephanie Schulz performs are NOT part of the President's responsibility, but are for her jobs as Spirit Travel Coordinator and Spirit Assistant Volunteer Coordinator.

Nominations were taken at this meeting as follows:

President: Susan Taylor

Vice President: Kate Tierney and Debra Wasserman

Treasurer: Vanessa Baird (not present to accept nomination)

Assistant Treasurer: Gina Phinney

Secretary: Debbie Wiley

We will continue to accept nominations until the election. It would be great if parents of current 9th and 10th graders would step up to be members of the board or take a chair position for this coming school year.

Rose Lynch noted that she will still be available to help with treasurer work in regards to Concessions, and she offered to continue to be the intermediary for the band with School Treasurer Peggy Groh in regards to fundraising. We need a treasurer who will help keep the books for the band.

The following parents were named to the Nominating Committee:

Stephanie Schulz

Rose Lynch

Pam Crider

Nominations can be submitted to anyone on the committee. The committee will also make sure that all nominees are willing to accept the position for which they are nominated.

BAND TRAILER

We have received \$1,500 towards the band trailer fund from the Athletic Boosters as a result of the Harbourside Place Grand Opening event. We have an account specifically for the trailer, and we can solicit donations for it separately now. We are told by the Athletic Boosters that after the track is fully funded, they will help us raise funds for the trailer.

Mr. Frank has a lead on a "free" trailer, and he continues to seek out contacts for us.

When we get a trailer, we will still need to rent a cab and find a driver for it, but the rental cost is \$100 per day vs. the cost of two UHaul trailers. Andy Riedy mentioned that there is a driver school close to Cooper City High School. We need to investigate if there is a similar vocational school nearby. We do have 2-3 parents with CDLs also.

BANQUET

The date of the banquet has been moved to Friday, May 1, to accommodate those students participating in the Boston Crusaders drum corps. The banquet will still be held at Abacoa Golf Club.

We are hoping to have a couple of planning meetings in April so we can have several parents help with the decorations. It is likely that we will not be able to start setting up until 3:00 pm the day of the banquet.

CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM

SFWGA Winter Guard Event

- In Concessions, we should have students serving customers and assigned runners to those individual students that will fill orders.
- Students needed to work instead of sit around – more specific jobs. Maybe have them work in shifts in different areas so they don't get bored?
- We need more parent volunteers. Can we encourage them by offering them a part of the profit of the event (like Roger Dean)? Can we "force" at least one adult per family of a winter group to volunteer?
- We need to get more concert band parents involved. This is a "band" event, not an event for marching band or a winter group.

MISCELLANEOUS

Uniforms for Recruiting Event: Students will wear full uniforms (no shakos or gloves) and the NEW jackets for the March 13 Recruiting event.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned after a motion made by David Cooper and seconded by Tom Schulz.

It was noted that there will be an SFWGA Premiere Event Planning meeting next week.