

## **Jupiter High School Band Parent Meeting Minutes**

Date: January 18, 2017  
Location: JHS Drama Storage Room  
Meeting called to order: 7:10 pm

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President Susan Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

### **MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes from the December 14, 2016, meeting were distributed previously by email. They were approved on motion by Harvey White, seconded by Wendy Anderson.

### **OFFICER/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **FINANCE REPORT** – Rosalie Jablonski

We still have 19% of Spirit of Jupiter Fair Share outstanding.

Varsity Winter Guard has been billed \$600 per student to date, for a total of \$13,200. Only \$3,300 of that has been collected.

We need families to pay their Fair Share payments in a timely manner so we can pay our bills.

Statements were sent out this week to anyone who has outstanding band fees.

#### **SFWGA PREMIERE NORTH** – Sabine Watt

We will need a LOT of volunteers for the SFWGA Premiere North Winter Guard event on Saturday, January 28. The SignUpGenius link will be made available tonight. We will also be sending out a list of requested donations for band families.

### **FUNDRAISING**

#### **Birdies for Children**

Currently, the band is at #14 in the standings with a total of \$8,871.00 donated. When you make a donation, be sure to forward your receipt to Rosalie Jablonski at [RLJablonski@gmail.com](mailto:RLJablonski@gmail.com) so your student's account is credited appropriately.

#### **Roger Dean Stadium Concessions** - Pam Abruscati

The band runs Roger Dean concessions stands during spring break to earn money for student fundraising accounts. Profits are converted to an hourly wage that is credited to the student accounts.

We are scheduled to work games on 11 days during spring break and the following weekend: March 17-26, March 31 and April 1. *After this meeting the March 31 and April 1 dates were cancelled because we will host the SFWGA Championships on April 1.*

EVERYONE working concessions MUST go through Roger Dean Concessions Training or you will not be permitted to work a game. Students must be 16 by the time they work a game to participate. Adults can designate their hours worked and earnings to a specific student.

Workdays are approximately eight hours.

We also need someone to train with Pam to take this over for next year, as Pam is the parent of a senior.

### Culver's - Harvey White

The new Culver's restaurant offers a Dine for Cash opportunity to non-profit organizations to donate 20% of the profits. They do this two times per month. Harvey will investigate further.

### **WIND SYMPHONY CAMP** - Mr. Gekoskie

The camp starts tonight. We would like to make this an annual event and do this for the Symphonic Band next year too.

This camp allows students to experience the intensity of getting a lot done in a short amount of time.

Sectionals are held the first day of the camp (today.) Each instrument section is working with instructors proficient on the instrument. Instructors are from the Palm Beach Symphony, the Treasure Coast Symphony, etc.

Dr. Robert Cameron from Duquesne University is the Professor of Music and Director of Bands. He travels around the world guest conducting.

This camp will be like an All-District or All-State band experience for our students. Their knowledgebase of the MPA music will go through the roof over the next three days.

We will likely host this event the same week every school year.

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS**

Annual Board elections for the Band Parent Organization will be held at our March 15 meeting. Karen Bell and Sabine Watt are the Nominating Committee for this election. Nominations can be sent to Karen ([karenb5874@gmail.com](mailto:karenb5874@gmail.com)) and Sabine ([sabinewatt9904@gmail.com](mailto:sabinewatt9904@gmail.com)). You can nominate yourself or someone else.

The Board meets at least once a month to discuss band business. Board positions are President, Co-Vice Presidents (2), Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and Secretary.

Next year we will have several parents of seniors in their last year with the band. Consider getting involved so we can train volunteers for the future!

### **BAND DIRECTOR REPORT** - Mr. Andy Gekoskie

#### Spirit of Jupiter

We have a new design team for the marching band show, include a new drill writer and artistic director, both of whom work with the Bluecoats DCI group.

The design team met in January, and the show is already designed. We even have prop designs so we can get started sooner! We will be reusing part of the tree props from this year.

We are hoping to purchase permanent uniforms so that families do not need to buy a new uniform each year. The jacket is actually the vest used by the Cavaliers this year. Underneath the vest, there will be an Under Armour type of shirt designed specifically for the show each year. Students will also wear black bibbers.

Color guard uniforms will be new every year.

Mr. Gekoskie plans to have a formal video reveal of the show in April.

Mr. Gekoskie is visiting all middle schools next week to talk about marching band.

We need to give firm numbers to the drill writer on April 1 so we will have drill available to learn at the June camp. We anticipate about 20 more in marching band next year. We will do a push at the middle schools for color guard after the winter season.

Mr. Gekoskie will return to the middle schools in mid-March to place those students in JHS bands.

There are many rumors going around regarding rehearsals. Instead of a Monday/Thursday rehearsal schedule, Spirit will rehearse on Mondays and Wednesdays. We are not adding additional rehearsal days.

The online calendar is not “official” until the dates are formally announced. We do have a few dates on the calendar (Friday rehearsals) that we are using to negotiate with the Athletic Director for time on the football field.

#### 2017-2018 Bands

Mr. Gekoskie plans to have three concert bands next year: 9th grade Concert Band, Symphonic Band and Wind Symphony.

#### Bands of America

The Spirit of Jupiter is scheduled to go to a regional Bands of America contest in North Carolina the weekend of October 13-15. This will allow Spirit to get in the national scene. The Bands of America has been in existence for 75-80 years, and they have the best judges in the country.

The competition is a prelims/finals event, and they treat the kids VERY well. We hope to get excellent feedback at this event.

The competition is at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC on October 14.

Mr. Gekoskie feels his job is to get the best adjudicators for the band and the students so they the best feedback to improve.

#### Disney Workshop

We will only be doing one workshop instead of two due to the number of students who signed up. The workshop is approximately 2.5 hours. Students will learn how to put music to an animated feature. They will rehearse with sound engineers and learn how professional musicians record music. Students will spend the remainder of the day at Epcot.

We were able to get a lot of the outstanding band fee balances paid off by offering this trip.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We need volunteers for the following positions:

- Assistant/Co-Chair for Roger Dean Concessions – Pam Abruscatti is chairing this event, but her daughter is a senior. Pam would like to train someone for next year.
- Assistant for SFWGA Premiere North event - Sabine Watt is chairing this event, but her daughter is a senior. Sabine would like to train someone for next year.
- Volunteers for SFWGA Premiere North event - This event requires MANY adult volunteers. Please sign up with the SignUpGenius link is published.
- Concert Coordinator – We need someone to organize volunteers (and decorations as appropriate) for our concerts – ticket sellers, ushers, bake sale workers, etc.
- Recruitment Coordinator - We would like someone to coordinate the many recruiting events we do, including the middle school pancake breakfasts, JHS 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation, etc. We also had a wonderful binder of pictures (like a scrapbook) that we used at these events but it disappeared over the summer. If someone could use pictures from Flickr to rebuild this book, that would be very helpful!

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM**

#### Winter Concert

- We need someone to speak at the concert to make announcements.
- We need door monitors for the duration of the concert, not just up to intermission. We should have a SignUpGenius so students can sign up for time slots.
- We need to share concert dates with the middle schools so there are no concert conflicts. (Jupiter MS had their winter concert the same night as ours.) Mr. Gekoskie would like to host the middle school concerts at JHS.

### **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

1/28: SFWGA Premiere North event

2/3-4: Solo & Ensemble at Dwyer HS

2/7: Band Interest Meeting

There is a planning meeting for the SFWGA Premiere North event immediately following the Band Parent Organization meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm on a motion from Karen Bell and seconded by Guy Burns.