MHS Band Boosters Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 5, 2026

Call to Order: 7:00 PM

Present: Liz Konczal, President; Jen Knop, Secretary; Junette Ratan, Treasurer; Rebecca Hanrahan and Crystal Scott, Fundraising Chairs; Melanie Ferrin, Hospitality Chair; Mike Briggs, Equipment Chair; Erica Garrelts and Terri Plohr, Marching Band Uniform Chairs; Hope Molozaiy, Volunteer Chair; Dana Rupczynski, Concert Uniform Chair; Andy Sturgeon and Jerald Shelato, Band Directors; plus 4 others. Total in attendance: 17.

Past Events

- Friday, October 2: Homecoming Parade, Band Picnic, Football Game
    - Everything seemed to flow smoothly
- Thursday, October 8: Adam Larson visiting jazz bands during day
- Saturday, October 10: Prospect Knight of Champions Marching Band Festival
    - Designate someone to be in charge of the bus chaperones
- Sunday, October 11: HJE @ MHS with Chris Madsen Trio
    - Amazing concert - the clinic was open to anyone that wanted to sit in and listen
- Saturday, October 17: U of I Marching Band Competition
    - Kudos to the kids that were stuck on the broken down bus
    - We placed fourth out of nine bands in our class.
- Tuesday, October 27: Fall Jazz Concert with guest artist Greg Artry
    - Awesome concert with dinner beforehand for the artist as well as Wauconda High School's jazz band.
- Friday, October 30: Vandercook School of Music Concert Band visiting MHS
    - Lily Jones is a former MHS student that is now at Vandercook.

Chair Updates

- Treasurer: Junette Ratan
    - Bank Balances, as of 11/4/26:
        - Escrow: $16,187.57
        - Boosters: $35,130.13*
            - Includes oct 2026 raiseright credit prior to escrow split
    - Lou Malnati's fundraiser summary
        - 679 cards sold for $10,185 total; profit of $3,395 with 10% of that going to the Boosters account
        - As expected, participation is up this year
    - Bylaws Amendment
        - Proposed to modify Article 7.4 re appropriate use of student escrow accounts
        - Added letter 'g" - any of the above items may also apply for a sibling who is also enrolled in the MHS band program.
        - Will vote on this at the next meeting.

- Hospitality: Melanie Ferrin
    - Everything went great last month
    - There were a few lessons learned along the way - Jersey Mike's was a hit for UIUC; next year will make sure busses are stocked with paper towels, finger wipes and water, as well as the snacks.
    - Leftover snacks from the busses ended up in the band office - students have been helping themselves

- Equipment: Dave Buisson and Mike Briggs
    - Thank you to everyone who helped with the season
    - Special shout out to the u-haul drivers for getting through without crashes!
    - Amazed by dedication of volunteers every week, every event - got it all done
    - Student help was also appreciated - they were polite and willing to help
    - If you have feedback, let Dave or Mike know:
        - Better communication at the beginning of the night for football games
        - Bus chaperone organization for the trips - learned from the first trip to do better on the second trip (assign another point of contact, etc)
    - Winter storage - we can leave things for now - but we need to consider the weather as it gets colder as the pods are not temperature-controlled

- Marching Band Uniforms: Erica Garrelts and Terri Plohr
    - Thank you to everyone that helped out - plumes, fittings, check-ins
    - Uniforms are offsite and we'll see them again for Disney
        - We have 162 going to Disney (3 full busses) and we now have enough chaperones
        - Ribbons should be removed for Disney

- Fundraising: Rebecca Hanrahan and Crystal Scott
    - Lou Malnati's - sent us 11 extra coupons
        - We are able to keep them and use as we'd like - maybe use for Evening of Jazz in a basket (expiration is May 30)
    - Butterbraid sale closed Oct 30; Pick-up will be Saturday, Nov 14, from 9-10:30
        - Sale was only online this year
        - 247 items sold; 26 students participated
        - Sales were 100 items lower (there was competition from Show Choir with their pastry sale)
        - This year was online-only
        - For Fannie May we'll go back to online and paper orders
        - Another club did pizza coupons right after us - and sold them for $20.
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    - Dine Outs
        - TIna G's Dine and Share brought in $350
        - New McDonald's - will be scheduled for sometime in January
    - RaiseRight total for October was $1026.99 (up)
        - Lots more people are using it this year
        - Physical gift card order going in on November 28 (avail at December meeting)
        - Talk about RaiseRight at the May parent meeting

- Volunteers: Hope Molozaiy
    - Looking back on the Marching season - learned a few things together
        - Breaking up some of the slots to catch more people for the competition days
        - Hospitality did name tags this year - maybe look into that for other roles too
    - When the marching season ends with a competition, it can be a very emotional time for some students - but it's tricky as we jump right into concert band season without any real closure beyond unloading a truck at 2 a.m.

- Concert Band Uniforms: Dana Rupczynski
    - Given the growth of the band and choirs - we were short quite a few uniforms
    - All kids have been sized and ordered
        - Shipping was rushed, but it's going to be close
        - We will need 20-30 dresses and pants that will need to be hemmed
    - Thank you to Dana for fitting every choir and band member!
    - We will be increasing our budgets to allow for more uniforms - do as we need for now - hopefully when we have storage we can order ahead more
        - We may need to consider order new marching band uniforms as well (since they are doing more choreo - knees are wearing out more)
        - New uniforms cost roughly $300K - but our uniforms are reaching the latter stages of wearability as it is.

Points of Interest

- Current board/chair openings:
    - Hospitality Co-Chair (1),
    - **Jazz Invitational Coordinator**
        - Sign up list for volunteers goes out at 9 a.m.; and it's mostly filled the same day
    - Band Awards Night Coordinator
    - Evening of Jazz Chair - Liz has done for two years, time for someone else to step in
- Anticipated openings for next year: Treasurer, Marching Band Uniforms (1), Fundraising (1), Raise Right

Upcoming Events

- Saturday, November 7: ILMEA Band, Orchestra & Choir Festival - New Trier

    - Mini bus to New Trier early in the morning and rehearse all day; concert at 3 pm
    - All State is during finals week this year

- Thursday, November 12: Fine Arts School Tour (Jazz Ensemble, Honors Wind, Drumline, Noise, and some Color Guard)
    - All day field trip to all three middle schools
    - Used to be in January, but now it's moved to November since MHS registration is so early

- Thursday, November 12: Class of 2031 Night (Drumline & Jazz Combo)

- Wednesday, November 18: Fall Band Concert (HWE, HSW, SB, CB)
    - Hopefully uniforms will make it in

- Saturday, November 21: ILMEA D7 Jazz Festival - Zion Benton HS
    - Nine students attending this competition

- Friday, December 4: Spotlight Show Choir Concert
- Monday, December 7: Concerto Competition

From Directors

- Holiday Collage Concert is also in December
- Hosting University of Wisconsin Eau Claire Jazz Band on Dec 2
    - workshops and concert during the day
- Starting the concert band season - we only have four weeks to put together our first concert
    - It's really fun to work with them during the day
    - It's an even mix of those who miss marching band and those that are thrilled it's over
    - It's nice that our program has such a wide variety of options
    - We get to see a different side of the kids during concert band season
- Pep Band season will be starting soon - we haven't seen the schedule of games yet
    - They usually start over Thanksgiving weekend - but each band will likely play in December
    - There are three pep bands with each one performing for three games

Adjourned at 8:01

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 3, 2026, 7 PM