

MHS Band Boosters Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Call to Order: 7:01 PM

Present: Liz Konczal, President; Jen Knop, Secretary; Junette Ratan, Treasurer; Rebecca Hanrahan and Crystal Scott, Fundraising Chairs; Melanie Ferrin, Hospitality Chairs; Dave Buisson and Mike Briggs, Equipment Chairs; Erica Garrelts and Terri Plohr, Marching Band Uniform Chairs; Hope Molozaui, Volunteer Chair; Andy Sturgeon and Jerald Shelato, Band Directors; plus 7 others. Total in attendance: 20.

Introductions

Past Events

- Band Camps - Had to adapt this year due to construction and facility usage/availability; but overall went well
- Home Football Game: 8/21
 - Chaotic for front ensemble - but worked out thanks in part to all the volunteers helping as well. Water will be an adventure this year.
- Evening Rehearsals
 - Tough to have on the first day of school, but made it through

Chair Updates

- Treasurer: Junette Ratan
 - Evening of Jazz final numbers: \$6821.10 total earnings
 - Escrow funding percentage
 - Motion made to approve fundraising split of 90/10 (escrow/boosters) for all activities as of September. Vote is unanimously in favor. Motion passes.
 - Bank Balances, as of 9/8/26:
 - Escrow: \$17,261.047
 - Boosters: \$33,882.02
 - Raiseright ytd: \$192.70 (June)
 - Band Boosters Bylaws are available online if anyone ever wants to review or reference them.
- Evening of Jazz: Liz Konczal
 - Looking for a chair for May 2027
 - Income was a little lower this year, but we did not have a middle school band this year
 - On the plus side, the food worked out better by having a consistent spread instead of potluck donations
 - Supplies were all on an amazon wishlist - which also really helped cut back on costs
- Hospitality: Melanie Ferrin
 - Families were all so generous with the food donations for Band Camp.

- Might try utilizing amazon wishlist for this next year.
- Over 6000 total snacks served - and having inside was much better for the students.
- Equipment: Dave Buisson and Mike Briggs
 - Thanks to the parents for their help at the first game
 - Areas of improvement
 - Need to move the podium so that it is not in front of the dance parents
 - Water learning curve - we typically use 500 cups per game (but due to heat and inexperience of volunteers, we used several hundred more last week)
 - For tomorrow
 - Picture frames with canvases - watch for bolts that may fall out. We will also be zip-tying them again this year
 - Mishap on the ladder signup - we are currently short two people (might need to borrow someone from front ensemble)
 - Dave has been measuring wheels and ordered them to replace during the game
 - We now have three storage units that are located down by the field to make some of the equipment closer to the field
- Marching Band Uniforms: Erica Garrelts and Terri Plohr
 - 229 of 231 uniforms fit. There are a couple new kids, and a few may have dropped
 - It was really nice to be able to use the choir room for fittings
 - Added ribbons on uniforms in memory of Slyvia.
- Concert Band Uniforms:
 - Last year's chair has moved away - we may have someone to help chair.
 - All returning members were able to take them home for the summer
- Fundraising: Rebecca Hanrahan and Crystal Scott
 - Thank you for supporting summer dine outs
 - Panera raised about \$140
 - Culver's raised around \$437.67 (utilized a tip jar this year as well)
 - Approved for Tina G's on Oct 5
 - Lou Malnati's runs Sept 14 - Sept 28 for selling; delivery tbd
 - We will sell the pizza cards for \$15
 - Students should turn in one check for the entire order (no cash, etc)
 - Butterbraid sale will run oct 13-30; With Pick-up on Saturday, Nov 14, from 9-10:30
 - Keep this one ALL online this year; there will not be paper forms accepted
 - Fannie Mae sale will be in January
 - The timing should work to include profits for the last trip payment
 - Yard signs

- Discussion on whether to create a thematic (In Bloom) or standard Marching Mustangs design
 - \$9/sign quote - as a fundraiser we would sell for \$15-\$20
- Volunteers: Hope Molozaui
 - Moving forward, will also request a cell phone number on sign up forms to make contacting volunteers easier
 - Will start reviewing Homecoming volunteer needs/forms

Points of Interest

- Current board/chair openings: Hospitality Co-Chair (1); Jazz Invitational Coordinator (March); Band Awards Night Coordinator (May); Evening of Jazz Chair (May)
- Anticipated openings for next year: Uniforms (1), Fundraising (1)

Upcoming Events

- Thursday, September 10: Home Football Game (Senior Night)
 - Photographer is set as are most of the volunteers
- Friday, September 18: Home Football Game (Community Night)
 - Middle School 8th graders will be here - pregame/half-time and pizza before the game
 - Students eat at 6 pm (8th graders and leadership team)
 - Pizzas are ordered by band directors
- Friday, October 2: Homecoming Parade, Band Picnic, Football Game
 - Parade - route will likely be the same as last year - will need water walkers and a chase car, in addition to uniform volunteers
 - Band Picnic - will likely be held at the Transition Center again; although with the field house construction students will now need to walk through the school afterward.
 - Last year food drop off were in band director's office
 - May try utilizing an amazon wishlist for donations
 - Football Game (7:30 start) - will need all the usual volunteers
- Saturday, October 10: Prospect Knight of Champions Marching Band Festival
 - No schedule available yet (likely 8 pm again)
 - There will likely have a rehearsal and pizza before leaving MHS
 - Number and combination of equipment trucks and/or vans to be determined
- Sunday, October 11: Honors Jazz Ensemble (HJE) @ Durty Nellie's
 - There is a possibility that this venue will be sold and demolished next month
 - Tbd - looking at other options
- Saturday, October 17: U of I Marching Band Competition
 - Performance time is 7 pm

- Timeline is still in the works - but will definitely stay to watch the Marching Illini at 8 pm
- They now have the largest jumbotron ever

From Directors

- Next week the rehearsal is the same day as open house - so band directors will not be available for presentations. Parents are welcome to wander down to the stadium and watch part of the rehearsal
- Preview of drill

Meeting Adjourned: 8:22 pm

Next Meeting: October 1, 2026, 7 PM