

MHS Band Booster Meeting Minutes November 4, 2021

Call to order: 7:04pm

Present: Claire Kasamis, President; Tracey Boone, Treasurer; Serena Moon, Secretary; Jennifer Jenkins, Equipment Chair; Paula Luszczyk, Hospitality Chair; Kristine Asmussen and Sara Roberts, Marching Band Uniform Chairs; Chris Page, Fundraising Chair; Nikki Earich, Evening of Jazz Chair; Yvonne Buisson, Jazz Invitational Chair; Andy Sturgeon and Jerry Shelato, Band Directors; plus 11 others. Total in attendance: 23.

Past Events:

- Football Games: The football season ended well and everyone seemed to really enjoy the season
 - Friday October 8, 2021 - versus Warren
 - Friday October 22, 2021 - Last home game vs. Zion-Benton
- Saturday October 23, 2021 - Illinois Marching Band Competition at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: The IMBC was a nice way to wrap up marching band season
- Wednesday November 3, 2021 - Jazz Band Concert in auditorium with guest artist Kirk Garrison and Warren Township High School Jazz Ensemble 1. Mr. Garrison was great to work with, he had a lot of fun with his solos and he was so great when relating with the students. It was also nice to have a joint concert with Warren, not as competitors but as collaborators. The students had a wonderful time performing.

Board/Chair Reports:

Treasurer (Tracey Boone):

- Bank balances as of 11/1/2021:
 - Boosters: \$28,552.63
 - Escrow: \$19,902.03
- Highlights
 - Scrips deposits \$318.92 in rebates, we had \$5060 in sales!
 - The one large expense this month was for the IMBC hospitality (Jimmy Johns)
 - Tracey encouraged boosters to participate in enrolling for corporate matching programs through Benevity or YourCause, which allows employees to make charitable payroll deductions and receive a matching donation from employers (CVS, Abbvie and Jewel are known employers who participate)
 - We had a discussion about direct donations to student escrow accounts. There are drawbacks, such as the inability to receive a refund, and possible tax consequences. For now, it was agreed that these donations would not be allowed.

Hospitality (Paula Luszczyk)

- Jewel made an extra donation to the band during marching season (\$100 - which helped pay for various snacks)
- We talked about sending thank you cards to businesses that support the boosters. Andy has a supply of cards with the band photo.
- Special thanks to all boosters and band families for their donations throughout marching band season. We used all the donations and only have a small supply of water left.

Equipment (Jennifer Jenkins)

- We had a great group of volunteers all season, many who came to help at every football game.

Marching Band Uniforms (Sara Roberts and Kristine Asmussen)

- We just went through all the uniforms and pulled out any that needed cleaning. Sara and Kristine have been washing them. We do need to go through all the bags again once a decision is made about the spring break trip.
- Sara shared an idea she had for parent sweatshirts next fall (back design)

Concert Band Uniforms (report given by Claire)

- It sounds like some students may have not been sized yet. We have placed an order for more uniforms needed, however because of the supply chain backup we are not sure if we will have them in time for the first band concerts.

Fundraising (Chris)

- Hitz fundraiser earned \$448.25
- Tina G's earned \$275
- The fruit and butterbraid fundraisers will run at the same time. We should plan for plenty of leeway between the date of when we expect the students to return the form and when the orders are actually due.
- Butterbraid order forms are due 12/6
- The percentages distributed for earnings will be 75/25, students/boosters

Volunteer (Claire gave the report)

- We may need some volunteers for fundraising in December when the fruit/butterbraids come in

Jazz Invitational (Yvonne Buisson)

- Mr. Sturgeon shared that we opened up the registration this week for the Invitational and within 2 hours we had 18 high schools/22 schools/34 ensembles registered!
- The MHS festival focuses on education/clinic time - we try to have a festival like the kind we would like to attend. We've based our festival on the Hersey High School Concert Band Festival.
- The date for the Invitational will be March 12, 2022.
- Starting in January we will have additional invitational meetings after the regular boosters meeting. Mr. Sturgeon read the list of schools that have registered.

Evening of Jazz (Nikki Earich)

- As of now Nikki is working through various ideas
- The date is set for Mother's Day, which may need to be changed
- We will need volunteers to go around asking for donations once we start planning for the event

New/Current Events:

- Shadows needed/Open Positions:
 - We are still looking for a social media lead - although not a necessary position, it would help to have a dedicated person to get the word out on the various social media outlets
- Yvonne Buisson has stepped up to shadow Serena to be the secretary next year

Directors Updates:

- ILMEA recognition, all the names of the students who will represent MHS at ILMEA festivals were read out
- It was clear that all the students were very happy to be at the U of I festival
- Upcoming dates: HJE will be having a rehearsal with Michele Fernandez, from Florida, to play her song that she wrote in 2019. This will be the first time a reference recording will be made of this music. She

is also planning on attending the Midwest Festival. She will also be at Fitzgerald's and is planning on bringing some of her instruments to play with HJE, where they will be opening for the Bob Lark Septet.

Upcoming Dates:

- **Saturday, November 6, 2021 - ILMEA Orchestra, Band and Choir Festivals**
- **Tuesday, November 16, 2021 - Jazz Ensemble at Jazz Showcase**
- **Saturday, November 20, 2021 - ILMEA Jazz Festival**
- **Tuesday, November 23, 2021 - Concerto Competition**

Meeting Adjourned: 8:06pm

Next meeting December 2, 2021 at 7pm