

Band Boosters Meeting Minutes, 22Jan2024, Upper Arlington High School Band Room

I. President Amy Turnbull welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. *Director's Report*

Mr. Fessler said OMEA conference is next week. Charlie C. will be an All State Orchestra member, which is an impressive honor to be selected. Registrations are finished for solo and ensemble competition. Thirteen ensembles, 16 solos and 53 different students are involved in this year's solo and ensemble competition. Mr. Fessler said the elementary tour will be happening soon and selections are underway for students that will be asked to participate. Roughly 65-70 students will be involved in this tour on February 5 and 6. Mr. Fessler asked if the boosters could provide lunch for these students on the Tuesday date.

The bands attending OMEA competition will be traveling out of district due to the date conflicts with the musical production. Friday, March 8 the involved bands will travel to Big Walnut High School for this adjudication.

Renee and Mr. Fessler will be meeting with Bob Crandall about a potential trip and more information will be forthcoming. The district is providing \$30,000 for school owned instruments which include a bass drum, timpani, xylophone, upright chimes, 5 stands for snare/toms and 6 toms of various sizes for concert bands. Mr. Redman thanked parents for all their various contributions to the band program. Mr. Fessler commented how much parent booster involvement has increased compared to when he started 6 years ago. Suzanne asked when students will be aware of competition time slots at Pickerington North for solo/ensemble. This information will be available soon.

OMEA competition was requested to be on March 8, but there is still a chance that our bands will be scheduled on March 9. Regarding solo and ensemble, if a student has a cancellation, other students' times could have the option to shift if needed. Elaine asked about a concern with musical theater rehearsal on March 8, and Mr. Fessler said this concern has already been addressed and scheduling was approved through Dr. Moss. Rada asked when the schedule for jazz ensemble would be worked out and Mr. Fessler said this was in progress. Kristin asked if the students would be in full uniform for the elementary tour and Mr. Fessler confirmed that is intended.

Executive Board and Committee Reports

A. *Fundraising/Development report*: Michael mentioned we are still awaiting updates from our IRS application. A fundraising survey is in development, which includes 8th graders. Concessions are going well. Regarding the breakfast contest among concert bands, the gold band is the clear winner and that will be scheduled with the director soon. The spring flower sale will be a joint event with Hastings PTO. Fortemeyer decreased the minimum event order, which is helpful. Other fundraisers are in queue as explorations are currently underway for fundraising paths with either a return of the 501 status or if that will be still pending. Michael is looking for fundraising advisors. Michael Zelnik (the gold band director's brother) is working on an alumni database to help lay the groundwork for the initiative to loop alumni back into the band program. Development

sponsorship plans are also pending. Kristin asked about the potential Special Olympics concessions and if there was a conflict with parade rehearsals. Details regarding this are still pending.

B. *Financial Report:* Scott reported that clinician checks have been distributed. Fees for solo and ensemble have been collected. For the month of December, the boosters finished in the red due to a bass trombone purchase as well as clinician payments. The good news was that year-to-date, the boosters are about \$8000 in the black. A budget planning meeting is scheduled for March 2nd at the UA Main Library. This is to estimate expenses anticipated including a possible trip and additional instruments, etc. This budget is to be approved by the boosters before the end of May. Cut Time is being explored and may have the option to bar code school instruments as well as uniforms. A transition of record keeping to Quick Books has been initiated.

C. *New Business:* Amy brought up that the boosters needed to vote to provide \$15,000 for ordering uniforms from our uniform account, as the school district will be matching our contribution. Michael said over the next few years, the school is offering a total of \$30,000 total with the request that the boosters match that amount. In essence the school will help provide for the growth of the band, but the boosters will be responsible for uniform replacement. The school is ready to place the order at the end of January. Michael made the motion to provide \$15,000 for this purpose from the boosters and Karin seconded it. The motion passed.

Michael asked if the list of open committee positions and leadership roles had been provided to the 8th grade families for consideration. The decision was made to not send this to parents at this time, but it could be addressed during the 8th grade outreach meeting in the spring so that in-person dialogue could occur simultaneously, rather than sending information via email correspondence alone.

Renee asked about the current status of the trailer. Tim said they are ready to start working on it now, but will start by evaluating the budget.

The meeting was adjourned.

Attendance: Scott McWilliams, Amy Turnbull, Renee Rodabaugh, Elaine Alicea, Kristin Lach, Nancy Stevens, Karin Richard, Sarah Gemperline, Michael Geygan, Heather Dowler, Tim James, Suzanne Smith

Zoom attendees: Todd Fessler, Kolin Redman, Jane Brown, Ben (student teacher), Rada Terzieva

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Stevens, Communications manager