



Music Booster Meeting notes 1/14/2025 6:30 pm



Attendees: Arlene Dubiel, Anthony Gnutek, Jennifer Parker, Robert Acheatel, Chad Bobik, Lisa Devona, Amy Moran, Jennifer Winters, Keith Kornatoski, Carla Yanett Chavez, and Jill Bradley.

President called meeting to order and reviewed minutes from the 11/19/2024 meeting.

- Motion carried and minutes were approved.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT – President Arlene Dubiel

Agenda for Tonight: Treasurer’s report, Director Reports, VP Reports, Fundraising.

President Dubiel indicated that the budget is looking good and most areas should have some spend available. Asked that directors review and confirm plans on how it will be handled. Directors agreed and thought things were looking good. Comment from Director Bobik regarding “Upstaging Lightening” in Sycamore selling their used inventory. Have seen items on Facebook marketplace, exponentially cheaper than going new (ex \$1500 a light). Might be something to consider. Originally reached out for internships in music production but representative mentioned they redo their stuff regularly and sell off the used inventory.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Treasurer and Co-treasurer Keith Kornatoski and Jennifer Winters

Budget 2024-25 as of 1/11/25				
INCOME	24-25 Proposed	Gross Revenue		
TAG DAY MARCHING BAND ONLY	\$8,000.00	\$7,982.33		
50/50	\$1,500.00	\$1,370.00		
CRAFT FAIR	\$7,000.00	\$8,001.05		
POINSETTIA SALES	\$500.00	\$0.00		
POPS / SPRING FUNDRAISER	\$3,000.00	\$0.00		
CASH BOX AND OTHER DONATIONS NOT EARMARKED FOR MARCHING BAND	\$1,500.00	\$690.35		
CORPORATE DONATIONS		\$436.96		
TOTAL GROSS REVENUE	\$21,500.00	\$18,480.69		
CORPORATE DONATIONS		\$436.96		
REVENUE + DONATIONS		\$18,917.65		
EXPENSES	24-25 Proposed	Spend	Remaining	Notes
Band Equipment/Instruments	\$1,000.00	\$462.85	\$537.15	
Chorus Equipment/ Instruments/Accompanist	\$2,000.00	\$781.81	\$1,218.19	shared percussion kit - one yea
Orchestra Equipment/Instruments	\$12,000.00	\$0.00	\$12,000.00	Orchestra Set of Timpani
Guitar Equipment/Instruments	\$1,000.00	\$811.81	\$188.19	shared percussion + amp
Band Festivals/Clinicians	\$1,000.00	\$672.50	\$327.50	
Chorus Festivals/Clinicians	\$1,000.00	\$62.50	\$937.50	
Orchestra Festivals/Clinicians	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	
Guitar Festival/Clinicians	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	
Band Transportation	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	
Chorus Transportation	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	
Orchestra Transportation	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	
Guitar Transportation	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	
Jazz Concert Venue	\$500	\$150.00	\$350	
Department Awards	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	
Department Emergency Funds	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	
Department Inter-District Activities	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	
Marching Band (extra curricular)	\$8,000.00	\$5,116.54	\$2,883.46	festivals, transportation, copyrig
Madrigal Dinner	\$1,500.00	\$902.97	\$597.03	
Musical	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	
Operating Funds	\$250.00	\$786.77	-\$536.77	
TOTAL	\$40,750.00			

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Orchestra Director: Terry Foster (Not Present, Recap by President Dubiel)

- Orchestra Pops concert coming up on Feb 25.
- Upcoming LA trip, checking with Bob Rogers to confirm it's still occurring. Don't anticipate fires will create an issue, since we are in Anaheim, but will double check.
- Want to bring in clinician this spring to work with students.
- New door discussions still in process (President will discuss).

Band Director: Anthony Gnutek

- Band – in the middle of pep band season for basketball. Things are going well.
- February festival in Batavia. Symphonic band is going. It's always a good event. Great people.
- Band pops concert is Feb 20.
- Then solo and ensemble March 8.
- Things moving along and "doing our band thing."

Choir Director: Jennifer Parker

- Choir world is wrapped up in the musical right now. Principals for musical blocked, plugging along.
- Musical "All Shook Up" is Feb 13-16. Devona mentioned lots of blue suede shoes. Parker stated about 50 pairs of blue suede shoes.
- Madrigals wrapped up. Basically sold out, but all the numbers aren't in yet. Would like to get a bigger space for next year. If we can't do that then may need to add another night, but would prefer a larger venue.
- Taking 6 kids to ILMEA Allstate, 3 vocalist, 2 composers, 1 future music educator, in two weeks.
- Choir pops concert is Feb 27.

Guitar Director: Chad Bobik

- First and foremost, thanks for the drum set and guitar amp. It's such a huge help for guitar dept and music production. Really brings all together. Will be house kit for battle of the bands.
- Battle of the Bands is happening this Friday (1/24). Groups include 2 from Jacobs, 3 from Dundee Crown.
- Next want to get some sponsorship from local businesses for the event. For example, Instrument Barn is donating. Could be a good avenue for fundraising down the road.
- Guitar club is learning new music for concert in April.

VP REPORTS

Orchestra VP: Jenni Clark-Moran (not present, no update)

Band VP: Amy Moran

- No New Updates for Band. May be doing some fundraisers coming up

Choir VP: Lisa Devona

- Working on musical stuff.
- Starting new fundraiser. Butter Braids starting 1/27-2/14. We earn \$6 per braid. Delivery 2/26. Pick up at Devona's.
- Going to do pizza coupons after that. Lots of people asking about it, since it's easy and a lot of demand doing it again. That will wrap up California fundraisers.

Guitar VP: Jill Bradley (not present, no update)

FUNDRAISING DISCUSSION

VP Moran:

- Coffee fundraiser underway. Email with fundraiser info went out last week Thursday. Haven't gotten any questions, comments or complaints. Director Parker commented that she liked the color coding on the forms. VP Moran indicated forms were done by another person, but will pass the feedback along.
- Two weeks for the fundraiser, will hold for a week and then submit with a week to process. Info will be sent to Matt and orders will be picked up at Moran's house after items are sorted. She is checking to see if it's going to be delivered to house or school. Also emailing the contact to see if he's going to send one full invoice and will turn in checks to treasurer. Custom labels on coffee that will reference HDJ Music boosters. In hindsight, realized order forms don't include the contact info of purchaser. Will need to send a follow up email that when in with pick up instructions.

President Dubiel:

- Craft fair always do first Saturday of November. This year that is day after Halloween and set up would be Halloween night. Yucky. Do we want to move it to 11/8 and set up 11/7? VP's said agreed. A motion was made to change the date. Motion carried – Craft Fair will be 11/8/2025.
- Spring fundraising event – The Music Boosters haven't done anything in Spring for the past two years. Used to do when pops concert was all in one night, but it became overwhelming. Would like to look at activities to do on event nights to raise funds. Read email from orchestra director in this regard suggesting gift baskets, 50/50 raffle, etc. President also mentioned we could to a separate special fundraising event later in spring – family activity fair event.
 - Director Gnutek commented that the last time all the Pops concerts were in one night in 2020 Jazz band kids going on 10 pm Thursday night (in another ensemble too). Way too long of a night. Jen and I agreed it was just too late and kids too tired.
 - Director Parker open to the idea of a single event, however, over the last 6 years have noticed people going to less "extra" events. Only come to ones they need to (kids performing). On those concert nights, parents are already present. Have already done stuff to supporting the fundraisers. They are using their own money to give us a portion of that money to support their students (almost doesn't make sense).
 - President Dubiel suggested the single event be something to invite younger students as trying to recruit (middle schools, elementary) to get involvement. If an event was done in addition to Pops, it would take some of the pressure off Pops for fundraising.
 - Director Gnutek indicated Band says we're going to do pops anyway, need the concert for the kids. Otherwise too much time in between concert events. Director Parker agreed. VP Moran added that parents expect Pops to be a fundraiser, prepared for it, expect to spend.
 - Could do some kind of raffle over the course of three concert nights and events. Email so they know it's coming in advance – so it's not "band baskets," "chorus thing" etc. Could do raffle event for all and then send out winners afterwards. Over course of three concert nights. Buy raffle tickets now.
 - Director Parker referenced the Barrington event and explained that they have the event space and they rock it. But it's a tradition and have done it for years. Husband works at church, sees the same thing. No one wants to come in and volunteer, give extra time. We can start it, but it will take a while to get it going so we need to be prepared for that. We don't have the tradition of doing a separate activity event.
 - Director Gnutek - On a personal note, cringe at trying to add one more thing in own schedule. Between own schedule, kids schedule, etc., it becomes one more thing. Very difficult. Not sure can handle anything else and don't want to put other parents in that position. Asked what we have time to do now, in the immediate term before the Pops Concert season starts?
 - VP Moran - Planning an event out this quickly would be difficult. Have a better chance of getting businesses to donate items or services in the short time span we have for the concerts.

President Dubiel asked for vote to NOT have a standalone event for spring fundraising for 2024-2025. If you don't want to do the event, say Ay. If you do want to do a separate standalone event, say Nay. Motion carried. A separate event will not be held this season.

Ideas discussed:

1. Pops concerts will go back to being fundraising events for us. Season starts 2/20.
2. Director Gnutek - Used to get 20 gift basket donations. Cake stand sales (Nothing Bundt Cakes). Director Parker indicated yes, but they upped their price to \$7 instead of \$5 so students didn't like it as much. Only got \$400 from the event versus the \$1000 did previously.
3. Crumbl do they come out? They have fundraisers, but would have to see if they come out.
4. Donut place comes out "Do Right donuts" They come out at night, but believe come out from a distance. DoRight donuts percentage varies on how much they have to do. 20% if they bring and handle, school just provides tables. Percentage goes higher if they just do delivery of the donuts or if we pick them up
5. Director Gnutek suggested "popcorn at the pops." Put the program on the popcorn bag. Sell bag for \$1. Not sure how people would feel about popcorn being eaten in newly carpeted theater – but seats aren't any different. We have popcorn machines don't we? VP Devona confirms we have two.
6. School may donate spirit wear to be raffled. Also Parking Pass could be raffled.
7. Director Parker would donate season pass to next year's shows (all shows).
8. 50/50 requires permit because money being raffled. If doing gift baskets, don't need a permit (not gambling, just items). We can do a 50/50 at the pops concerts, would need to go to the village for the permit.
9. Retirement community at the Oaks – if we can sell our pops concert attendance there.
10. VP Devona – Go into Trader Joe's with a letter and they'll give you a bunch of stuff.
11. VP Bradley – offered to go bug people, if given a letter. Mentioned Club Pilates, Massage Envy, etc.
12. Director Parker can expand it to the city if we want to be bougie. She said just got donations for something else for Geoffrey Ballet gave tickets. W in Chicago gave one night's stay.
13. Other Suggested places: Picklehaus. Platt Hill. VP Bradley will send a list of people she's contacting so we don't double dip. VP Moran stated she would help put baskets together if we got merchandise.
14. Can do for all three cumulative pot or for each night, send out info after the musical. Director Parker stated should say "Pop Series" and include all three events. If we raffle items can put in ticket, don't need to be present to win, tickets will be called after last Pops event.

Director Gnutek asked that we send out an update to craft fair friends that the date is going to be the 8th, due to Halloween. We'll specify that we aren't taking money/reservations yet, but want to give a heads up to past participants to reserve the date. Some people have been doing for a long time. President Dubiel confirms we can send out a message. We can't register anyone until June, but we can give a heads up to pencil in date.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS – President Dubiel

Doors – we finally have a meeting scheduled. This has been on the table for a while and we are finally making progress. Looks like it's going to be 7k per door (ballpark). Challenge with construction: school construction can replace doors but can't do all the necessary work (for example, framing, brickwork, etc.). That will need to be done by someone else and it will drive up costs. We are looking to get solid numbers by March and make sure we can cover everything in the budget.

Directors all agree that it's frustrating that students can't really practice. **Only really two rooms that are viable for the entire music department.** Want to be able to encourage students to practice and they can't because classes are going, lessons are going, or rooms are signed out already. If we can get this done, it is going to help everyone. Director Bobik said flanking over the top is a real issue because sound comes right over. Director Gnutek advised that Director Foster said school would pay for carpeting and tile of room, which will help.

Any other topics? Reminder to all to come to Battle of the Bands on Friday.

Next meeting March 11, 2025. Closed meeting 7:35 pm.