



## Music Booster Meeting notes 1/13/2026 6:30 pm



**Attendees:** Terry Foster, Anthony Gnutek, Ashley Stryker, Christy O'Dea, Tina Thornrose, Gina Swanson, Devin Moran, Amy Moran, Jill Bradley, Rachel Reger, Reid Bloomfield, Jen Slater, and Arlene Dubiel.

President called meeting to order Participants signed in and the agenda was reviewed.

- Minutes from the 11/18/2025 meeting were reviewed.
- Motion carried and minutes were approved.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT – Treasurer and Co-treasurer Keith Kornatoski and Arlene Dubiel**

- Report in process and will be emailed upon completion. Any checks or deposits that need to be made should be turned in tonight for processing.

### **DIRECTOR REPORTS**

#### **Orchestra Director:** Terry Foster

- New Electric Bass had planned to purchase is no longer available. Looking at another one, but will need additional budget funds approved (new one is \$5000 versus the \$4300 originally approved). Co-Treasurer Arlene asked for the link for the new option to be sent to her and Keith for processing. Budget to fund purchase was approved last meeting, so we can move forward.
- Want to bring in clinician this spring to work with students.
- May need Booster assistance to fund transportation for Roosevelt University Trip, Chamber Orchestra
- New door discussions have stalled. May have to reallocate funds. It's coming down to soundproofing versus fireproofing
- Pops Concert 2/24.
- Spring Orchestra Concert 4/28/2026.

#### **Band Director:** Anthony Gnutek

- Band is in the middle of pep band season for basketball. January has a lot of away games, but this will pick up back at home in February.
- February festival in Batavia 2/14. It's always a good event. May need assistance from Boosters to pay for transportation.
- Winds doing an extra event, Chicago Invitational Music Festival (Music for All sponsors event – largest music in school advocacy group) at John Hersey HS, Arlington Heights: 4/11/2026.
- D300 Solo Ensemble on 2/21.
- Band Pops Concert 2/25.
- Want to bring in clinician this spring to work with students

#### **Choir Director:** Jennifer Parker not present, update from Choir VP Christy

- Choir world is wrapped up in the musical right now. Musical Performances 2/12-2/15. Budget should be good, but will advise Boosters if any additional funding is needed.
- Vocal jazz is able to have some many cool opportunities: 1/15 bringing in Alyssa Allgood from UIC to work with students. Next week Kat Sherman from DePaul will be here working with students.
- IMEC All State preview concert on Sunday January 25th at 7pm in the JHS Auditorium. It is free and everyone is welcome to come and hear us perform our set! ILMEC All State 1/28-1/31. Jacobs group performs during the 3:30pm set at IMEC on January 30th in room 405 in the Civic Center.
- Bella Voce and Bel Canto with the Jenny Lind Ensemble on 3/20.
- Choir pops concert is 2/26.

**Guitar Director:** Chad Bobik not present, update from email

- Battle of the Bands is happening this Friday (1/16) at 6pm. This year has 12 bands from all three high schools. Winners will receive free recording time provided by Waysound Studios.
- Next want to get some sponsorship from local businesses for the event, include merch/swag, and possibly charge admission. Could be a good avenue for fundraising down the road.
- Bill Kidera has been working with parents/students to finalize scheduling for private lessons.
- UIUC Guitar Ensemble - working with the directors of the UIUC Guitar Ensemble to put together an in-school performance/clinic sometime in early March. This is a great program with a highly innovative computer music department (great for those music students who are also passionate about computer programming). More info to come.
- Guitar Pops/Ensemble Concert 2/19 at 7 pm. Rehearsals are currently underway and going very well! This concert will be a departure from Fall programming and will feature music by Francisco Tarrega, Kenny Dorham, Chet Atkins, Jerry Reed, Vito Nicola Paradiso and more. The focus will be on classical guitar literature and technique, Bossa Nova, Improvisation, and American Folk Music.

**VP REPORTS**

**Orchestra VP:** Jen Slater

- No Additional Updates

**Band VP:** Amy Moran

- No Additional Updates

**Choir VP:** Christy O'Dea

- Working on musical coordination.
- Madrigals went well. New set up seemed to work and be received well by audience (dinner group on stage, non-dinner option in auditorium).
- Last of the poinsettias sold at the Choral Concert. Only a couple scraggly ones left.

**Guitar VP:** Ashley Stryker

- Need donation collector and parent volunteers for Battle of the Bands night Friday. 5:30 time for volunteers. VP Jill will be there. Guitar VP Ashley will be there. All high schools participating.
- Some consideration for next year, may have fee for entrance or sponsorships.
- This year has about 4x the number of participants so very excited about the growth and participation rate.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Craft Fair Chair:** Christy O'Dea

- Think have finalized the booth layouts. Will be a little different to fit more people in and reduce aisleways. Going to increase the booth price for next year, around 15% to help compensate for increased janitorial costs of set up and take down. Will be able to have more vendors.
- Nov 7th pre-registration email. Director Gnutek was asked to send calendar request for student performances on that date so that gym is reserved.
- We want to look at limiting type of crafters and having more of a vetting process for them. Will need help doing that. Requesting a co-chair for the event prep activities. Amanda Stryker volunteered to be second chair buddy.
- Official application will go out in April. June-July, we can put on the official district calendar.
- Box lunch for crafters is an opportunity. Plan and offering, but haven't figured that out yet. Will work on that as it gets closer. Will also have concessions available on a limited basis for attendees, along with an area to sit. Would like to have food trucks again, but may have them closer to entrance.

## **Fundraising Chair:** Devin Moran

- Have the last of the money for poinsettias (provided to Co-Treasurer Arlene). \$640 earned would be around the total if all sold. We received them from same supplier, Countryside, for \$10 and we charge \$20 for fundraising.
- We are looking at getting bulbs/flowers from Countryside for a Spring/Easter fundraiser.
- Last year did popcorn and coffee fundraiser. He's persistent. Going to do it again this year. Flyers being provided to Directors Gnutek and Foster, since they were present, and they can share with other directors. Last year made around 1k from this fundraiser.
- Looking for another Disney fundraiser. Probably a sweet and salty one. More info to come.
- Buffalo Wild Wings has a different contact person, so restarting those conversations. Hopefully will have arranged for a dine and share night soon.
- For spring concerts working on a shoe donation collection fundraiser. Gets paid by weight. New or Gently used shoes.
- **Pops Concert Raffle** - Need help for donations for gifts. Chair Devin asked Secretary Rachel for an overview of last year: Explained process for group –
  - raffle that goes all three nights.
  - Parents/Students ask for donations from local businesses. Also received some direct donations parents
  - Accept any amounts. If vendor asks, we suggest min of \$20 - \$25, but can take more or less.
  - We can combine with other options if get smaller amounts. Drawing occurs after the last concert.
  - Co-Treasurer Arlene has a Google Sheet available to keep track of who is talking to specific businesses/vendors so that we aren't double dipping.
  - Crumbl and Tropical Café were the most popular options last year. Also received items from Cane's Chicken, Platt Hill Nursery, Aldi, Rosie O'Hare's, and Butcher on the Block (just to name a few).

## **2026-2027 Board and Chair Positions:** President Reid Bloomfield

- Nominations should be gathered and discussed at the March Booster Meeting (3/10). Then at the 4/14 meeting the boosters will vote on the board.
- Please reach out to parents you feel may be interested (VP Amy has Band parents lined up to replace her role). It would be great to get parents of current or incoming Freshman to get involved, so that there is more longevity to the roles.
- Positions needed include:
  - Volunteer Ambassador
  - Fundraising Chairperson
  - Band Vice-President
  - Board Secretary
  - Board Vice-President
  - Co-Treasurers
  - Craft Fair Co-Chairs (Day Of Duties)

Reminder to all to come to Battle of the Bands on Friday. Next meeting March 10, 2026.

No other business. VP Amy motioned to adjourn. Chair Devin seconded. Motion carried.

**Meeting adjourned 7:24 pm.**