

Music Boosters September General Meeting Minutes

9/17/2024 7pm

[Action Items in Blue](#)

Attendance: Carrie Jenkins, Ann Wacha, George Jackson, Melanie Adams, Elizabeth Kwak, Cheryl Embree, Charity Scott, Julie-anne Romano, John Zwarich, Jen Zwarich, Joe Hohn, Carrie Hall, Cora Lehman, Heather Tom, Joanne Hohn, Dubby Black, (2 Parents in Google Meet)

Quorum met

Introductions of Officers and attendees

Directors Reports:

Carrie Hall, Choir Director (sole director in attendance)

- Year started off well. Teaching Choir, piano and new class AP Music Theory
- Many Choir activities already taken place- Summer Retreat, 9th Grade Orientation & Back to School Night
- New Idea this year: Potluck Dinner & Choir Concert Preview- Oct 15. More casual event for students and families to build community. She will reach out if she needs Boosters help with the event.
**Boosters meeting scheduled for same night- [change meeting time to 6pm](#) **
- Spring Choir Trip to Philadelphia and Hershey Park- planning meeting will happen 9/25

Presidents Messages - Carrie Jenkins

- Boutonnieres for MB Senior Night- Oct 10th. Elizabeth de Guilio offered to make them
- Senior Photos- In the past this has only been done for marching band, should this be opened up as an option for the whole music dept? Ms. Hall showed interest but had a few logistical questions- where to display? Who pays? Should include guitar.
 - [Need to follow up with other directors](#)
 - [Maybe do a parent survey to gauge interest in the idea?](#)
 - -Timing of photographs for choir & orchestra could be in the Spring- this takes pressure off of trying to squeeze in during busy marching band season
 - -Budget is tight, can't really afford to hire professional photography- what options do we have? Jen Z. reached out to

photography class at Howard, Mr. Hanson. Timing didn't work out for this fall. A couple student photographers were suggested- Brady Scott? (Charity's son)

- [Need Head count of all Seniors in Music Dept](#)
- -Liz Kwak & Michelle Johnson (parent volunteer photographers) have been working on editing 1st attempt at 2024 MB Senior photos. Retakes will happen Saturday morning before the Homecoming parade.

Board Vacancies

Carrie announced the following vacancies and asked for help.

- VP- Jen Soler stepping down- Dubby (2nd VP) may step in fully
- Band Liaison- Liz R. stepping down? Dubby is currently covering this role as well.

General Fundraising

- Mattress Fundraiser scheduled for 11/24. It brings in solid funds, budgeted \$3K income for this year. Dubby offered to organize this. [We should plan to have Mattress people come to a Boosters meeting.](#)
- Spring Fundraiser Ideas- Call for volunteers to organize an event Bingo or Trivia Night? Planning should begin soon as many halls book up.
- Patrons Program Idea- Boosters has done this in the past with success, Carrie proposed bringing it back. This approach may help with Orchestra and Choir support for Boosters. We may have issues of how to acknowledge donors with paper programs being phased out. Is this as effective with electronic concert programs? Possible projected shout-outs at concerts to acknowledge patrons? Ms. Hall raised concerns about elitism. Joanne said that we need to find ways to engage the Orchestra more to show how we are supporting them. It has been a challenge to collaborate with Mr. Morris as communication is minimal. The Patron Program idea was shelved until next year.
- Idea proposed that we do a [survey to ask parents about Boosters involvement](#) and support.

Budget

- George Jackson is treasurer with Julie-anne Romano assisting. Proposed budget handed out. [Headers should be incomes and expenses](#), instead of budgeted & budgeted (confusing), George will correct.

Concert Admission should be Concert Donations

- Brief discussion about Booster payment options- Venmo best- no fee, Paypal takes %, Square is very difficult to process. Question about whether we could use Zelle. - Phone number needs to be associated with account- may be an issue. May be able to set a Google number?
- Run through of General Boosters Budget
- Ms. Hall mentioned she only gets \$330 per year from HCPSS, so discretionary funds she receives from Boosters helps her tremendously. She pays for accompanists, sheet music purchases, and clinicians.

Question came up about whether HCPSS pays for buses to assessments. Ms. Hall will look into this.

- General Boosters Budget APPROVED by voice vote
- Marching Band budget approval moved to end of meeting because it will require more discussion

Concert Attire - Charity Scott

- All concert attire in bags, not all the same bag styles. All alterations done. Kings Dry Cleaning- gave us a deal on hemming- \$10/pants. John Z. may add them as a patron and send them a plaque.
- A lot of kids (69%) still need to pay for concert attire and/or associated fees.
- Need to send stand alone email. Charity will make lists of students who need to pay and get them to directors.
- Suggestion for Concert Night Sign-ups- Volunteer who can sew on buttons and tie ties.

Budget - Marching Band

Run through- concerns:

- \$1000 income from Corporate sponsors should be removed b/c it was accounted for in General Budget
- Parent t-shirts income should be removed b/c they are included in Spiritwear
- Parent asked about Middle School Night & Food Support funds- covers pizza, snacks, etc that are not donated by parents
- Staff Compensation has put huge pressure on the budget We budgeted \$7K, Dr. Frisch asked for \$5K MORE, Boosters agreed to \$3K more for a total of \$10K, but expenses are up to \$10,300 at this point. Budget set for \$13K.

- Transportation costs may go up as well, we don't have numbers for costs to competitions. May have to carpool to Guilford Park since it is close.
 - Options for balancing budget:
 - 1) Prop Construction revised down from \$1000 to \$200
 - 2) Uniform Capital Fund Contribution will have to decrease from historic averages - budgeted down to \$3000 from \$3935
 - 3) Will likely need Spring Fundraiser- Spring MB Carwash?
- George and Julie-anne made adjustments to balance the budget.

Marching Band Budget APPROVED by voice vote

Restaurant Nights- Joanne Hohn

October 17- Honeygrow

November 4- Coal Fire

January 23- Texas Roadhouse

Meeting Adjourned at 9:07pm