

PLAINFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND BOOSTERS

OCTOBER 21, 2008

In attendance: Jeff Sager, Heather Reddout, Karlee VanKley, Marybeth Miller, Michelle Burgess, Robert Page, Charlene Krueger, Lisa Wohead, Brent Rathgeb, Lindsey Rathgeb, Sharon Long, Anette McCammon, Valerie Page, Cheryl Schmuhl, Jeanine Marco

Meeting called to order 6:06 PM

We decided in the interest of time to skip introductions.

September minutes read. Move to accept: Marybeth Miller, Aye's have it. Minutes accepted at 6:14 PM

Suggestion made to provide minutes to directors beforehand, and we can vote on them immediately at the meeting, and thus make it unnecessary to read them in their entirety.

Treasurer Report at 6:15 PM:

Charlene knows that the 2nd account in question is closed. She has done 2 reconciles and there are no problems. However, she does not understand the previous Excel reports- the numbers are not very close.

We have information up to August 1st for each school and what has been spent.

Charlene wants to start from scratch to see where carryover funds are reflected. We can start the balance at August 30 and go from there. She wants to make sure that the report reflects what's actually there.

Jeff says that the carryover should have been what was in the account at the beginning of the year. Carryover funds are the cushion, but is there some sort of allocation per school. This budget is based on what is coming in with new and projected numbers, but not on what's really there.

Funds Carryover justification:

There is discussion on whether to carryover funds each year. Usually there is a big carryover, which is problematic for our ability to file exempt, and we must file the long form. We may have to take funds out of the account so as not to cause trouble with our not for profit status. However, we do want to carry over funds for big ticket items. There is a question of how much we need for startup at the beginning of the year and if each school has a different carryover amount or is it a set amount for each school.

We need a process in place for when each school needs to save for more expensive items, such as uniforms or instruments.

It is suggested that maybe we don't have uniforms and instead have polo shirts and other clothing to give a uniform look. However, these are district owned uniforms and they should be the ones to replace them. Replacing uniforms with concert attire may be more useful. District and Booster funds can work together sometimes. We can give a certain amount, and the District may agree to a certain amount. The District has a program for replacement of uniforms, but what they replace seems to be limited, for example, Darcie got 2 new pairs of pants.

Elementary directors received an e-mail from Susan Blatz about the \$450 repair budget per school. They were told they are not going to get that this year due to budget restraints.

Jeff was told that a small budget was worked out for bands, but is never got down to the directors even though it is claimed that the money is there. We need to know where the band fees go at registration and if they are given to the school or allocated at district level.

So for large purchases, such as instruments, we need to decide if we carryover funds at school level, or vote on something as a group. Perhaps we can reduce the money to each school and create a fund for large items. A carryover fund may be better than line item for each school. Then we need to determine who needs what and when so we can plan for the big items. We need to spend off money in the spring and leave some carry over funds to get us through the beginning of the year until funds start coming in. The flip side is things we budget for are raised by the Boosters this year, and if we don't spend it, those who raised it don't get to take advantage of it.

Karley says she needs to buy a Baritone Sax, and if she bought it now, there would be no money left for contest fees and other costs for the rest of the year. It is more than 1/2 of the booster budget.

There is a question of if we can pay for part of the instrument now, or do annual payments instead of monthly, or perhaps we can get a group rate. Then we don't have to do carry over. Whatever is left can go for items.

District Money:

There is a problem that the amount of District money given to schools in that the number they are giving us is not really matching with directors' experience. We don't know where these numbers have come from. There seem to be communication issues about funds and expenses.

The five year plan isn't really offered some times. For example, Timber Ridge sometimes gets something and sometimes not.

Treasurer Position Change:

Charlene states that she will no longer be continuing in the position of co-Treasurer and will be transferring everything to Sharon. For now, continue to send check requests to Charlene. Annette mentions that she has a parent who may be willing to help with the treasurer position.

Cookie Dough:

So far everything has gone smoothly. Timber Ridge and Drauden Point sales are up, but Aux Sable is down. We don't have to place the order until the 30th. We need a spreadsheet of how many picks for prizes each school gets. The prizes for the top 3 sellers in each school are \$100, \$75, and \$50 in the form of checks. Other students get to pick a prize for every 5 boxes of cookie dough sold. In the past we e-mailed the top sellers to the treasurer. This year send them to Jeff and he will consolidate the list. The checks to the top sellers will be available at dough pick-up. We also need candy for prizes. There is no candy left over from last year. We need to get a box each of M and M' and Skittles from Costco or Sams. We need to make sure we will have enough candy for the picks. Any leftovers we can sell at the Solo and Ensemble festival. We might be able to use t-shirts for prizes too and perhaps give the students a choice between the shirts and candy. We need to find out from Jeanette Soebbing what shirts are available. We will have the Band Booster shop there too. Jeannine Marco has the signs for pickup parking, the Band Booster sign, and the cookie signs.

Website update:

There was an outage for a couple of days, so we moved over to GoDaddy hosting a little early. Jacquee is still putting things up. Send anything for the website to Jeff and he will send it on to Jacquee.

Band Booster Shop Status:

Jeanette Soebbing has the new numbers, but is not present due to a concert this evening.

Executive portion of meeting adjourned at 6: 59 PM

GENERAL MEETING:

Call to order at 6:59 PM

Director's Reports:

Charles Reed:

Charles Reed has 80 band students, 12 are horns. They are learning the first 5 notes, and sounding great. Their first concert is December 16th.

Kennedy:

Our first concert was last week with roughly 150 kids performing. All bands performed well and I was generally happy with the concert. This also marked the last event for our student teacher, Mr. Koszarek. We had now moved on to Plainfield East.

The candy sale went well at Kennedy. While participation was not what I was hoping for, we did a bit over \$8000 in sales.

(Kennedy report continued)

Jazz Band has started. Auditions took place in early October and students are now practicing Mondays and Wednesdays. We also have a Jazz Ensemble on Fridays for students who did not make the jazz band.

We had five students audition for the IMEA district band this year. While all five represented Kennedy and Plainfield well, we had one student who made the honor band. Her name is Alyssa Hibben, she plays the clarinet.

Heritage Grove:

Jazz band Auditions are this week-rehearsals start next week.

Students did well on cookie dough sales. Top seller was 21 boxes. If they did not participate, some did buy out. 3rd option given was to do twice the required amount on candy in the spring.

6th grade will be playing concerts for their peers during band periods in the next couple of weeks- negotiating a full school assembly for all the bands to play.

Heritage Grove 8th grade had their debut performance on October 7th at the HGMS Family Fun Night. This was a "demonstration concert" where we showed how we rehearse etc.

(Directors, please do not get all excited about this idea....it really stinks and the parents hate it) We actually did out Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa songs at this concert as certain sentiment at Heritage Grove continues to grow and prohibit holidays at holiday time. And I do have an actual Kwanzaa piece- see me if you are interested.

I am not here because I am pretty sure that Val gave me cooties and i had a little pukey session after school- in between set auditions for jazz!! Wahoo. However, I will be at school tomorrow.

Drauden Point:

Jazz band has started.

Cookie dough sale went well- top seller at 39 boxes.

8th graders had a great time at the PSHS football game on October 3rd.

Cookie Dough top sellers:

Tied for first- Carol Anne Muncaster and Jessyca Hess

3rd place- Jordan Tirado

Ira Jones:

Cookie dough fund raiser seemed to go well. Top seller was 49 boxes.

Jazz band auditions had to be extended to 3 days because of the large turnout of kids. We have 30 members and have already had 2 very successful rehearsals. There is much potential for this group.

(Ira Jones report continued)

Had 1 student make IMEA (Cassie Schmuhl 6th grade horn player.) That festival is on November 8th at Waubonsie valley High School. The same day as Cooper's second 1st Birthday Party.

The rest of the groups are just plugging away at their and music trying to prepare for the November 19th Concert!

Cookie Dough Top Sellers:

1st place: Alaina Cribaro

2nd place: Lucas Helgeson

3rd place: Sofia Quezada

Timber Ridge:

Survived the Homecoming Parade with only one casualty, a mellophone mouthpiece that found its way down a sewer.

Performance tonight (October 21): Sounds of the Stadium, at PHS-CC along with IT, @ 7:00 PM

Cookie Dough Sales total: collected over \$15,000.

Jazz Band starts this week. We have two groups, a large "lab" band with varied instrumentation and a smaller Combo of veteran players. The groups will meet separately and together three days a week.

Completed auditions for Symphonic and Concert bands, our two 7/8th grade groups. They start in their new seating tomorrow.

Cadet Bands will be refigured into two full instrumentation groups on Monday when the new quarter starts. Currently they are rehearsing as all WW with Mallets and all Brass.

Solo and Ensemble information will go home soon.

Next performance will be for all concert groups on Tuesday, Dec. 9.

Meadowview and Thomas Jefferson (Bob Page):

All is going well. New students still adding this week.

We are making progress with students that are in band.

Aux Sable:

We had a great performance with Drauden Point at PSHS.

Getting ready for the 6th grade concert on October 19 and a joint band/choir concert on Dec.3rd.

Cookie Dough was not as great as last year (\$6000 compared to \$9000) and no big numbers sold.

Ridge:

Full band this week. The kids are excited.

Walkers Grove:

nothing new

Central and Creekside:

Have had full band since beginning of the year.

They are learning Star Wars (the kids idea)

Concert with choir at Creekside on Dec 18th.

Central has their concert Dec. 15th.

New Business:

Member Stickers:

Michelle Burgess has made a spreadsheet of members and who has their sticker. Jeanette Soebbing has the stickers- e-mail her for them.

Members:

Jeff thinks that next year we can create a template and each teacher can do a spreadsheet, then Jeff can consolidate them to give to the Events Coordinator to help directors track members in their bands.

Not all schools know who boosters members are, and the list is still not complete. We need a list so we can call on volunteers or send a notice with students asking parent members for help.

Cookie dough volunteers:

We will have two shifts running during cookie dough pickup. Shifts start from 8-10:30 AM, then 10:30 until the end. The shifts are variable, according to when parents can help.

Set up is like Market Day pickup. We make a horseshoe shape with the tables, so parents come in one door and go out another. It's easier to check the orders as they leave.

Fifth grade directors can probably help as well.

Other events:

Jeff sent a document to directors on how things worked last year and who is responsible for what and who to contact for events. Things can be tweaked as we go. We just need an idea of how things will go.

Other items:

Robert Page received a donated flute and case. The flute needs to be overhauled, which will cost about \$250. Do we have the money or should we wait for spring?

We will wait until more directors are present to discuss that, but perhaps we can ask the public for donations of old instruments or ask for old ones we can sell. This is a topic that can be covered at a later meeting.

Move to adjourn by Robert Page, seconded by Annette McCammon. Aye's have it. Meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM