



VICTOR J. ANDREW HIGH SCHOOL
MUSIC PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Music Parent Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2021

- Directors Present: Mark Iwinski (Mr. Moan and Mrs. McCarthy both could not make it)
- Board: Deb Jennings, Nancy Evens, Lauren Garrett, Melody Taboada, Tracy Procajlo, John Miller
- Open and Welcome Deb Jennings, President, started the meeting and introduced everyone on the Board.
- Secretary's Report: The last meeting minutes were from the September 21, 2021 meeting and can be found on the VJAMusic.com website. Tracy Procajlo sent an email with a link to the website to everyone.
- Correspondence: None
- President's Report: Deb Jennings thanked all the volunteers and said we could not operate without the parent support. She thanked parents for the extra water and Gatorade donations. We started out this year with no water and Gatorade so it was in much need. The Fall Craft Fair is November 6th & 7th and we need parent volunteers. Emails were sent out to all families. We have over 90 crafters and will need lots of volunteers and students can volunteer too! The next dining night out is Portillos on October 20th. Some improvements that have been made recently – the trophy case was moved and we have new instrument lockers in the hallway. A new "Music Ambassador" program is being developed and was spearheaded by John Miller. Our music students will help out at the middle schools to encourage kids to stay in the music program. Any Andrew music student needs to fill out an application. The Music parents will buy t-shirts and buy some pizza so the cost is very low. Also, the students will be able to earn service hours.
- Treasurer's Report: Nancy referenced the budget that was distributed. The Invitational numbers are almost final. She also noted some other fundraisers, Stoub family farms raised \$360 and Chipotle raised \$214.
- Director's Report: Mr. Moan was not able to be at the meeting so he sent the following notes for Mr. Iwinski to read: "Hello everyone! I hope you are all well. I'm so sorry that I could not be in attendance tonight--I am currently at my son's choir concert. I'd like to extend a big thank you to Mark for relaying

some info to you. The choirs have begun Holiday Prism Concert preparation. Yes, the plight of the musician at this point in the year is to sing holiday music... prior to Halloween. We're all taking it quite well! We have a fun mix of tunes that we can't wait to present to you. Volunteers from all the choirs will be performing at Tinley's Holiday Market on December 3rd at 6:30PM. Service hours will be granted for participating. It will be great getting back to our community performance opportunities this year. Audition information for our acappella groups went out to all the choirs and the student body today. Those interested can sign up for my help session this Thursday during t-bolt time. All who audition have the option of sending a video submission, or singing in person. Email me with any questions. Auditions for this year's winter musical *Freaky Friday* will take place on November 8th and 9th. We'll begin at 3:15 each day. It will last until around 6, but students are allowed to leave once they have finished their audition."

Mr. Iwinski talked about the ILMEA results. In choir Jeremy Faustin and Isabella Podewell, in band Billy Beranek, Alex Procajlo, Zach Solomon, and Jessica Nogo, and in orchestra Elena Miller, all made ILMEA. The concert will be on November 20th in Elmhurst. All State results will be announced after the festival. Jazz band auditions will start soon. The trophy case has been moved to the other side of the band hall and now has working lights. This season's trophies are on the left side and is already very impressive. This Thursday we will have our Marching Band ISU sendoff performance at 8:30 pm. Saturday is our state competition at ISU with a 7:45 am call time. We will practice at our home field, students will provide their own lunch, then we will load and go. The music parents organization will provide dinner from Avantis. The method that bands make finals has been changed this year. We will need to either win our class (5A) or place in the remaining top 5 in our category. Our performance will be at 4:52pm. There is no guarantee that we will make finals so we need the parents to be as supportive and positive as possible. The 4:52pm performance may be our last for the season. We will be bringing the rain coats on Saturday and taking Coach buses. Thanked everyone for all the support and thanked Kim for all her hard work with the uniforms. The concert bands are going great and will perform on November 9th at 7pm in our Fall preview show. Each band will perform 4 pieces.

Fundraising Report:

John Miller stated that the Century fundraiser was done (4 families still needed to pick up their orders). The Century fundraiser raised over \$9,500 for student accounts. He will get the final list from Century and get the correct funds into the student accounts. The North County Christmas Greens fundraiser has started. 30% of the profits will be given back to the student's accounts. Orders are due November 8th and delivery will be November 20th – we will need volunteers. There will be a popcorn popup fundraiser November 11-15. It is 5 days of sales and 40%-50% of profits will go back to the student's accounts. This fundraiser is all online and all electronic. A Butter Braids fundraiser will be in the fall (Nov 19 – Dec 3),

with a Dec. 17th pickup. There will be possibly another fundraiser for mugs and cups. The goal is to raise as much money before the last Disney payment due date of February 18th. Other possible fundraisers are chocolate, coffee, and Bundt cakes. The fundraising will then slow down for the spring. Spring we will possibly do Ted's Green House around Mother's Day. Our next dining night out will be Portillos in October, Lou Malnati's in November and Gatto's in December. Other ideas are Pops Beef, Culvers and Plush Horse. He will also send out letters for some big donations to help with the Disney trip (it can't hurt)! We also want to do something fun to help raise money for a new school piano.

President 230 Board:

Tony Serratore, the President of the D230 School Board, and a former band parent, came to our meeting and spoke. He appreciates all the help and knows that this organization does not work without the parents. He heard a rumor that the school board was going to eliminate the marching band due to the pandemic. This is NOT true and was never discussed. This program will never go away as long as he is on the board. The art programs are just as important as athletics. If anyone ever has any concerns, please reach out to him. They are currently working on the bus driver shortage. They hoped that this would be over in October but due to the vaccine mandate they have lost more drivers. However, it could be worse! D230 had top priority over some other districts so we are not in as bad of shape as some other districts. He is hoping this is resolved in the 2nd semester. The district is also short of food workers but they have a plan to get more employees. Also, the board has taken steps to resolve the shortage in substitute teachers and are close to meeting their goals. He also congratulated us on the Invitational. We did a fantastic job. It was very well organized and we had great weather. He loved the show! Overall, the participation numbers in schools in sports and extra circular activities is very high, especially in the freshman and sophomore classes. The budget has been balanced again – 16 years in a row! The board has provided the band shell and installed the concrete floor in the shed. He is aware the fieldhouse is on our wish-list, however, space is the issue. We told him about our desire for a new piano and he made a note of it.

Open Discussion:

We do not know when Bob Rogers will adjust the price for the land only Disney package. We currently have 110 students signed up for Disney. We may switch and go to Epcot instead of Animal Kingdom. Please reach out to Bob Rogers with any specific questions. We are still waiting on Disney details because so many changes are still happening. Disney rehearsals will be added to the schedule.

Motion to Adjourn:

Jen Cernak

2nd:

Lauren Garrett