



VICTOR J. ANDREW HIGH SCHOOL
MUSIC PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Music Parent Meeting Minutes

April 26, 2022

- Directors Present: Mark Iwinski, Mary McCarthy, Kassie Pierson
- Board: Deb Jennings, Nancy Evens, Deb Jennings, Lauren Garrett, Melody Taboada, Tracy Procajlo, John Miller
- Open and Welcome: Deb Jennings started the meeting and welcomed everyone attending.
- Secretary's Report: Tracy Procajlo - The last meeting minutes were from the March 29th, 2022 meeting and can be found on the VJAMusic.com website. She sent an email with a link to the website to everyone.
- Correspondence: None
- President's Report: Deb Jennings – We have been very busy. The District 230 Showcase at Wentz was a great night. Thanks to all our chaperones. We had a dining night at Which Wich. On April 6th we had our Freshman Open House. Melody helped recruit guard members. We are looking forward to our new band and guard members next year. The Hersey Band Festival went well. Thanks to Joe for driving the truck. We will send another reminder about uniforms that need to be returned. We had our Savers Drive – thanks to John and everyone that helped out. Other events were the Winter Guard & Percussion Community Show and Shrek the Musical. Thanks to all the parents and crew that made it all happen. 6 Senior scholarships were approved and will be awarded on May 11 at Senior Night. We will need new volunteers for the 2022-23 year. This is Deb's last President's Report. She started on the board in 2019. So much happened since then. She is very proud to be part of the Music Parents Board.
- Lauren Garrett – This is her final meeting as a board member. She was VP and in charge of concessions. She is proud to have been a part of it.
- Treasurer's Report: Nancy Evens – She is just about to finalize the numbers for Winter Guard and Winter Percussion. Savers raised \$550, Panera Bread raised \$35 and Which Wich raised \$125. The next dining night is Oberweis in May.

Director's Report:

Mary McCarthy – There is a long list of what the kids have done this year and we are not even finished! She spoke about the Incendio Saxophone Trio's accomplishments. Congratulations to the graduates and is so grateful for allowing these kids to have music in their lives. She thanked Deb and Lauren for their amazing job they did on the board. Scholarship night is May 11, and the final performances are May 17 & 19. May 21 is graduation and will have the band and choir perform.

Chris Moan – “*Shrek: The Musical* was a great success! The cast, crew and pit all did tremendous jobs wrangling in a challenging show with many moving parts. Thanks to those who were able to come and get freaky with us! Congrats to Winter Percussion on a remarkable season and a beautifully nuanced show! The choirs continue to rehearse in preparation for our concert on May 19th at 7PM in the PAC. We'll feature some senior solos and awards, VJA Cappella, and a couple fun surprises to boot. Chorister call time will be at 5:45 that evening. Students are asked to wear their concert blacks. The Andrew Chorale will be featured singing at Senior Scholarship Night on May 11th at 7PM. It's always a pleasure enhancing school events with a musical offering. A sign-up form has been released through Google Classroom to all the choirs to see who would like to volunteer for the graduation choir. I'd love to wrap it up by the end of the week. If your kids have Saturday, May 21st free, please encourage them to sign up so our awesome seniors get a great, big musical send off! Many thanks to this music parent board and all the parents. It has been a great year of music making, travel, and competition.”

Alan Barone – “We had a great season traveling and competing again! The students were very well behaved and represented VJA with class everywhere we went! Thank you to all of the parents who selflessly volunteered to load, drive trucks, and chaperone on our trips. None of this is possible with them. The support shown by not only Mr. Iwinski and Mr. Moan but the VJA administration was awesome. We worked through conflicts, shared space and did so with the students benefit in mind. After WGI 2020 was canceled and the 2021 Virtual season, we had a lot of work to do to rebuild both the culture and excitement around the activity. Our student leaders did an amazing job driving this effort and I'm proud to say that we are in a great place wrapping up the 2022 season. Competitively, we ended up in 5th place with a score of 94.525 but the highlight of the trip was seeing the students faces coming off of the floor after a great Finals performance. They worked so hard this season creating balance and maintaining their drive for something that all but five of them had never experienced. It was a great season, one my favorite and I'm really proud of what they accomplished!”

Kassie Pierson – The Winter Guard year ended on a very good note. They improved at every performance and ended the year with a 78.94. The experience was quite moving. The kids were very well behaved and she thanked all the wonderful parents.

Mark Iwinski – He heard from another school that our WP & WG kids were very well behaved. The Wentz Hall performance went great and the kids had an amazing experience. We are now back to our highest level of performance. The Sax Trio is going to the Midwest Clinic which is the pinnacle of achievements. Congrats to Alex Procajlo, Zach Solomon, Emma Phillips and Bryan Polacek, their coach. The Wind Symphony will perform with the Hindsley Band on April 27th and at SuperState on May 7 at Krannert at U of I. Friday, May 13th will be the Marching Band Kickoff meeting. There are also the last concerts of the year on May 17 and May 19. May 23 will be percussion auditions. Lastly there will be a Memorial Day Service performance on Monday, May 30 at 9am.

Fundraising Report:

John Miller – Ted’s Greenhouse delivery will be May 7th at 7am. We will want to wrap it all up by 11am and will need volunteers. The Invitational program ad letter will be going out soon. Cost will be \$1200 for a full page. They will keep the parent shout-outs at the same price. More fundraisers for the fall are in the works. John thanked the directors for an incredible job this year and shifting back to “normal”.

Open Discussion:

Theresa Aron is organizing a raffle during the band and choir concerts. They will raffle off the baskets that were donated by the vendors at the craft shows.

The Band Position Nominations are in and the new board for next year is: John Miller – staying as Fundraising Head; Nancy Evens – VP 1; Tracy Procajlo – Treasurer; Melody Taboada – President; Jennifer Cunico – VP 2; and Theresa Aron – Secretary.

Congratulations to Mary McCarthy for her Leadership Award and Chris Moan for his Golden Bolt Award.

Melody Taboada spoke and thanked Deb for her amazing job getting the program back on track. A few other parents spoke and stated that the experience in the music program helped change their kid’s lives for the better.

The next meeting will be in the fall.

Motion to Adjourn:

Melody Taboada

2nd:

Lynette Lake