

## Music Parent Meeting Minutes – September 26, 2023

Directors Present: Kristy Baker, Mark Iwinski

Directors Absent: Chris Moan

Board Members Present: Melody Taboada, Jen Cunico, Theresa Aron, Tracy Procajlo, Nancy Evens

Open and Welcome: Melody Taboada started the meeting by welcoming everyone. I just wanted to start out by saying that the Invitational was a huge success, we couldn't have done it without all our awesome parent volunteers so thank you so much. The Marching Band Banquet will be on 10/27, a Google Form will be coming out soon so keep an eye out for that. We would love everyone to join us. Your student is free as that is covered in their fees. Additional adults and kids will cost \$35 each. Our Fall Craft Show is coming up the weekend of November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> so please put those dates on your calendars. Thanks to Beth for all you do to make this a successful event. We will need all hands on deck again for this event, especially Friday night when our crafters move in and set up their booths. The crafters really appreciate when the students help them carry in their things Friday night and Sunday late afternoon as it's a huge help so have your students look for signups. We will have a Community Show on 10/7, please invite your family and friends and let's pack the stands for our Marching Thunderbolts.

Secretary's Report: Nancy Evens – “The meeting minutes from last month's meeting can be found on the [vjamusic.com](http://vjamusic.com) website. Please feel free to take a look and let us know if you have any questions.”

Correspondence: None at this time

President's Report: Melody Taboada – To add on to the Invitational, if you see our school maintenance workers please thank them for everything they do as we couldn't have done the Invitational without their help and hard work. Also thanks to Ms Baker for hanging out with

us all day and helping out wherever needed, we appreciate you and all you do for our music programs.

Treasurer's Report: Tracy Procajlo – Our final Invitational totals aren't in yet, but the numbers look very promising. Concessions and ticket sales were higher than ever. We still have a few schools that haven't paid their participation fees so that will help too. We recently collected \$2,000 from the sale of old timpani drums, \$490 from Music Parent Memberships collected during school registration, and around \$200 from our Savers fundraiser. Marching Band fees have all been collected so that income is complete, and expenses that still need to be paid include staff payments and student meals.

Director's Report:

Kristy Baker – As a first time Invitational attendee I was amazed at the final product. Congrats on a successful event! Parent/Teacher Conferences are coming up on 10/10. Signups will be available soon and include the option for both in person and virtual appointments. On 10/12 we have PSAT testing as well so keep an eye out for more info.

Mr. Iwinski – We had a very successful outing at Stagg as represented by all the new awards here on the table. Our own band would've placed in the top 4 at our Invitational which is a great indication that we should have a strong show for the rest of the season. This weekend we have an early outing to Romeoville followed by dinner and an evening rehearsal. After discussing with staff it was decided that it would be a better use of time to pull out from the Providence competition and instead have a rehearsal and Community Show. We will follow that up by finishing up our season with the Lincoln Way and ISU competitions. ISU is a prelims/finals competition. The top 8 bands in 1A-4A classes and the top 7 bands in 5A and 6A classes advance to finals competition. The judges do not know which bands are in which classes. We are in the last block of performances which is usually preferred. We have a long history of making finals and we have a great show so it should be a great day. Our Wind Symphony will be opening for the Naperville Winds at Wentz Concert Hall on

10/12. ILMEA audition videos are due by midnight on 10/4. Our first concert of the year is on 10/26 at 7pm.

Mr. Iwinski for Mr. Moan – The Freshman Play is coming up this Thursday and Friday. The Freshman Play is a great way to introduce students to the theater program and is a completely student led and driven performance which makes it unique. The first concert is next Thursday, 10/5 at 7:30pm. Choral ILMEA auditions are due the same date as band auditions. Many of our talented singers performed the National Anthem at our Invitational as well which was great.

Fundraising – Melody Taboada – We have 30 seniors graduating this year and many of their parents are highly involved in various volunteer positions which means we will need new parents to take over. Our biggest need is the Craft Show Coordinator position, but there are many other spots needed as well so if you or someone you know are interested in getting more involved please let us know as we would love you to shadow the current coordinators. We also need a Fundraising Coordinator to help with various fundraising opportunities. The Band and Choir are hoping to go to Disney for Spring Break 2025 so fundraising will be ramping up to help parents cover those fees. Our next fundraiser will be Butter Braids, that info will be coming soon but it will start in November and pick up will be mid-December. We are looking into doing either Double Good Popcorn or pizza setups or both in February. We are also looking into a sponsorship fundraiser where you can choose to sponsor a new music stand or walkie talkie since many of our current ones are very old and need to be replaced.

Kristin Randall – We have Noodles and Company scheduled for 10/19 from 4-8pm and Fannie May in Palos Heights on 10/14 and 10/15. We are hoping to schedule an outing at Bourbon Smokehouse in New Lenox sometime in November as well.

Open Discussion –

It was asked how much funding the school provides towards the Marching Band program. The school funds a few of our staff

members, mostly Mr. Iwinski, Alan, and Kassie. They also provide our bus transportation, truck rentals, fuel, instruments and repairs, and trailer maintenance and repairs as well as other expenses so we are very fortunate that our school is supportive of what we do here in our Music Department.

It was asked what Class we are in for ISU and how is that determined? That's where things get complicated because there is no real set system for classifying bands in Illinois, but there are some dedicated Band Directors including Mr Iwinski that are trying to organize a system to alleviate these issues. Currently classification is typically based off school size. In the local area we are considered 2A, but have been 3A in the past.

Next Meeting – October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Motion to Adjourn – Lynn Meyrick and Beth Soderlund