

Music Parent Meeting Minutes - August 23, 2022

Directors Present: Mark Iwinski, Mary McCarthy, Chris Moan, Kassie Pierson

Board: Melody Taboada, Jen Cunico, Nancy Evens, Tracy Procajlo, Theresa Aron, John Miller

Open and Welcome: Melody Taboada started the meeting and welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new school year.

Secretary's Report: Theresa Aron – “The last meeting minutes from the April 26th, 2022 meeting and can be found on the vjamusic.com website. I also sent an email with a link to the website to everyone.”

Correspondence: Thank you cards from last year's scholarship winners: Jess Noga, Brendan Jennings, Lulu Juma, Aayan Mirza, Nathan Howell, and Elaine Andrews.

President's Report: Melody Taboada – “Band Camp ran very smoothly this year. I'd like to thank Jen Cunico for the amazing job she did organizing dinners for camp. The DCI trip went very well, the majority of the band attended and had a great time. We will continue planning for the Invitational directly following the conclusion of this meeting tonight.”

Treasurer's Report: Tracy Procajlo – “I am working on switching to a new accounting system so unfortunately I don't have a budget report for you yet but will have it ready for the next meeting. We're doing a good job staying within our budget so far and Jen saved us around \$5,000 in the food budget for camp. Hotel rooms for BOA have been booked as well.”

Director's Report:

Mary McCarthy – “The school year is off to a great start. Last year was amazing as well despite the circumstances but I'm looking forward to an even better year this year. I am grateful for

all the new students that will get to enjoy all the musical experiences this year. 8/31 is our Back to School Night and I hope you can all make it out to this informative event. We will be restarting the Music Department Weekly Newsletter soon, this is a very valuable resource full of important information for all of our music families so be sure to check it out every week.”

Chris Moan – “Students are ready for a brand new year of music. The choral handbook was emailed out to parents and students earlier today, please take a look at all the important information in there. Many of our choral festivals are going to return this year including the intra-district festival with our sister schools and the Joliet West Festival so we are very excited to see these events return.”

Mark Iwinski – “Summer Marching Band has been going good despite the hot weather that’s been thrown at us. The overall vibe within the group is very good, the students are hungry and ready to hit the competitive circuit. Emails containing itineraries for each competition will be sent out about 5-7 days prior to each show so keep an eye on your email. We have 16 bands (17 including VJA) visiting us for the VJA Invitational coming up on 9/17 which is awesome. We will be attending our first BOA competition since 2019 in Kentucky at the end of September. We will stay in Kentucky for 2 nights. We plan to depart Friday afternoon, perform Saturday, and return Sunday. Please invite your family and friends out for our 2 community shows on 9/3 and 10/8, the students enjoy looking for familiar faces in the crowd. Thank you to the prop crew for sharing your time and talents. Wind Symphony has been chosen for several events this year including the WIU Showcase of Bands in February and the Music For All National Festival at the end of March. We hope to have a parent meeting for our Wind Symphony families soon to discuss the schedule and costs. Our Saxophone Trio has also been invited to perform at the Midwest Clinic and the Chamber Ensembles at the Music For All National Festival. The band handbook went out via email recently, please take a look and

read through it. Please bookmark the band calendar and check if often for changes throughout the year.”

Fundraising – Melody Taboada for John Miller – Our Double Good Popcorn fundraiser will start at 8am this Saturday and run through 8am on 8/31. This is a very easy and quick 4 day fundraiser that is 100% online and your music student will receive 50% of sales into their student accounts.

Open Discussion – none

Next Meeting – 9/20 @ 7:30pm in the Choir Room

Motion to Adjourn – Camille Vopelak and Lynn Meyrick