

Music Parent Meeting Minutes – October 17, 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.

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

Correspondence: Melody Taboada – We did receive a letter from an attendee of the Invitational and Senior Brunch congratulating the Music Department and Music Parent Association for how well organized and successful the Invitational was.

President's Report: Melody Taboada – Our Fall Craft Show is full which is great. We are looking to see if we can find room to add a few more booths as well. Volunteer signups for this event will come out soon so keep an eye out for that email and sign up right away so you get the shifts/positions you want. Friday is setup and crafter move in and Sunday is crafter move out and cleanup so those are the times we definitely could use the most help. The crafters love when the students are there to help with moving in and out as well so make sure they sign up with Mrs. Balestri as well. Sandy Murray has been helping out and doing a great job with the advertising portion of this event and is asking if you could all please share this event on all your social media channels and tell your friends and family. We do have some yard signs that will go out soon too. We were wondering if any of you here have any ideas how we can get help covering openings

in our volunteer positions. There are many positions big and small and some are more involved than others so it can be as much or as little as you'd like it to be.

Treasurer's Report: Tracy Procajlo – So far we have collected \$21,000 from booth fees for the Fall Craft Show which puts us in a great position going into that event. All Invitational expenses have been paid out, currently our profit from that event is around \$33,500. We do still have a few schools that haven't paid their fees so that number should still go up a little bit. Marching Band is wrapping up and we're currently looking at a loss of around \$15,000 which is covered by our Invitational and Craft Show profits. We originally budgeted a loss of \$24,000 but due to some great organization and planning skills we have saved a bunch of money and are coming in under that which is great. We also use the Invitational and Craft Show profits to fund our musicals, winter guard, winter percussion, scholarships, and much more which is why these events are so important for the success of our music department as a whole.

Director's Report:

Ms. Baker – I just have two quick announcements. First, the Fall Play is coming up this weekend with performances on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Secondly, the band and choir room renovations should be completed by the next meeting date which is great.

Mr. Iwinski – Last time we met it was right after our Invitational and we have since had 2 very successful outings and added some nice new hardware to our collection. Despite bus hiccups our Romeoville outing ended up being a great turnout. Lincoln Way was a great competition as there were tough groups to compete against. We scored very well and came within 1 point of Lockport. Smaller groups sometimes have a more difficult task since it's easier to spot issues and must play and march much cleaner than the larger groups. This week we are focusing

on being more comfortable with the performance so the students can have a little more fun with it. Our performance time at ISU is 4:52pm and we will have to move as quickly as possible entering and exiting the field. We will compete in Class 5A and the top 7 groups in 5A and 6A move on to finals along with 8 groups from Class 1A-4A. We've got a great show so it's very hopeful we will make finals but if not we had a fun show and a great season and should be proud. Our first concert of the year is next Thursday. We will have a Symphonic Band integration rehearsal on Monday after school until 4:30. Call time for that concert is 5pm. Our Wind Symphony performed beautifully last week at Wentz Hall. Congratulations to our ILMEA Festival participants: In Band, Sophia Cescato and Abby Cunico on flute, Anna Bellarmino, Cassi LoVerde, and Alexis Fornero on clarinet, Sydney Procajlo on alto sax, Sophia Fontana on tenor sax, Tommy Proctor on bari sax, Lucas Cordova on trumpet, and Sophia Loftus on percussion. In chorus, we have Luke Jett. In jazz band we have Lucas Cordova on trumpet and Ashton Zopf on jazz trombone. In orchestra we have Veeksha Karra on violin and Dash Wilson on Oboe. This represents a very large talented vibrant group of students representing our program this year. It's been a great couple of weeks and as always I'm grateful for your support.

Ms. Baker for Mr. Moan – Good evening everyone, I'm so sorry I cannot be there for tonight's meeting. Info for VJAccapella will go out this Thursday. Our Chorale will be attending the SWSC festival. All students should bring money for a lunch stop at Portillo's. Prism preparations have begun as well. Congrats to Luke Jett for being accepted for the ILMEA Festival on the choral side of things as well as to all our band students. We will be having a student teacher helping out in choir as well as band, Mr. Caleb Klima.

Fundraising – Melody Taboada – Fannie May went well, we will plan to do that one again in December. Next time we hope to be able to call in orders and have it picked up which will be much

more convenient. Our next dining night is at Noodles and Company on Harlem Ave this Thursday from 4-8 and on November 10th we will have our social outing for parents at Bourbon Smokehouse in New Lenox (time TBD).

Theresa Aron – Our wreath fundraiser has started, orders are due on 11/6 with pickup in the late morning/early afternoon of 11/18. Butterbraids will run 11/10-12/1 with pickup on 12/15.

Open Discussion –

Jon Stachon asked if we have a date for the guard show yet as he would like to donate bread for concessions again. Those dates are April 6th and 7th and thanks for always helping out with these events.

Next Meeting – November 14th, 2023

Motion to Adjourn – Amy Leistra and Jackie Nelson