

## Music Parent Meeting Minutes - October 18, 2022

Directors Present: Mark Iwinski, Mary McCarthy

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

Open and Welcome: Melody Taboada started the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanked our parent chaperones that attended BOA.

Secretary's Report: Theresa Aron – "The last meeting minutes from the September 2022 meeting can be found on the [vjamusic.com](http://vjamusic.com) website. I also sent an email with a link to the website to everyone."

Correspondence: No correspondence.

President's Report: Melody Taboada – "The Marching Band Banquet will be on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, Dinner is served at 7pm. Our Fall Craft Show will be held November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Please share the flyer with as many people as possible to help get more shoppers through the door. Last year's craft shows were awesome and we are hoping this year's will be even better. Signage is up and around the community as well. Higher attendance is good for both the crafters and the program in general and helps keep our band fees low. We need a lot of help that weekend, especially for setup on Friday night and cleanup/teardown on Sunday afternoon. Please ask your student to come help as the crafters love when they come help them. Students will receive Community Service Hours as well.

Treasurer's Report: Jen Cunico reporting for Tracy Procajlo – "The Invitational brought in \$32,787.10 in income and expenses were \$16,321.72 making our projected income from the Invitational to be \$16,465.38. We brought in \$84,436.52 in Marching Band fees and so far have spent \$86,880.11. We always budget a loss for this area because we use fundraising to offset the difference. The Fall Craft Show has brought in \$12,400 so far with more to come.

## Director's Report:

Mary McCarthy – “Thank you for attending the awesome choir concert. Congrats to the Marching Band for sweeping all captions at the Lincoln Way competition and good luck at ISU. Conferences this year were offered both in person and online this year and we are looking for feedback from the parents about how it went.” Lynn Meyrick responded “Signup was easy and worked much better than the past.” Jon Stachon responded “I really liked having the in person option.” Camille Vopelak responded “The signup links were really easy to use but some teachers only had an in person option.” Jen Cunico asked “Could we have a bell ring to let parents know when the conference is over?” Melody Taboada responded “Please continue to have both options as it was awesome.” Mary McCarthy then asked a follow up question “Do you prefer conferences take place in the actual classrooms or would you prefer something like the gym where many teachers would be able to be in the same location?” Same responses from the parents above were that they preferred the classroom setting because it offers more privacy.

Mary McCarthy reporting for Chris Moan – “Rehearsing for the Prism concert has begun as well and our VJAccapella Group has also begun their rehearsals. Our Winter Musical will be the Little Shop of Horrors and auditions will be on 11/7 with callbacks on 11/9. It's going to be a great show and a fun one to participate in as well.”

Mark Iwinski – “The Marching Band Parent Show was a lot of fun. Our Bands of America outing was really successful we placed less than one point out of being in finals. The Lincoln Way Competition was great and our Color Guard was exceptional and had the highest score of the day for that caption! We have our ISU show this weekend, which is a complex competition where the judges do not know which class the bands are in. The top 5A and 6A bands along with the next top 5 scoring bands move to finals. There are 13 groups competing in our class so we need to be in the top 7 to move on but we have a well-designed and well received show this year. Our prelims performance time is at 4:52pm. Our Wind Symphony opened up for the Naperville

Winds concert at Wentz Hall on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Our first band concert is next Thursday October 27<sup>th</sup>. Integration rehearsal for Symphonic Band will happen on Tuesday October 25<sup>th</sup> right after school and call time for the concert Thursday will be 5pm. We had many students qualify for ILMEA this year including Billy Beranek, Alexis Fornero, Cassi LoVerde, Alex Procajlo, Tommy Proctor, and Zach Solomon for band as well as Isabella Podewell and Jeremy Faustin for choir, Elena Miller for orchestra, and Christian Acosta for jazz band.”

Melody Taboada also added that Winter Guard and Winter Percussion clinics are also kicking off soon and Mark Iwinski added that Pep Band, Jazz Band, and the Winter Musical are also getting started so it's a very busy time of year.

Fundraising – John Miller – “Wreath emails are going out now. Orders are due on November 8<sup>th</sup> and we could use some help tabulating the orders on the 8<sup>th</sup> as well as with pickup in the late morning on November 18<sup>th</sup>. We are looking into doing a chocolate fundraiser in January or February. Upcoming dining events include Chipotle on 11/16, Lou Malnati's on 12/14, and Burger 21 in Jan (date TBD). Please share these events and help get the word out.

Open Discussion –

Kirk Vopelak asked “Can we do the popcorn fundraiser more than once a year?” John Miller responded “Yes, we might try running that again in late February or early March.”

Melody asked “The Board was wondering if anyone would ever consider donating to help families that are struggling to afford band/music fees?” Jon Stachon – “I like that idea.” Mary McCarthy responded “It would be a free will donation and we would have to find a fair way to disperse the funds.” Camille Vopelak asked “Can we do 50/50 raffles or another basket raffle at concerts to help raise funds for this cause?” Kristen Randall responded “Maybe we could add an option on fundraisers to kick our fundraising credits to the students in need?” Melody responded “Thanks for your ideas, I'm hopeful we can

find ways to support some of these families so that their student can continue to participate in music programs.”

Next Meeting – 11/15 @ 7:30pm in the Choir Room

Motion to Adjourn – Lynn Meyrick and Kirk Vopelak