

Music Parent Meeting Minutes – February 13, 2024

- Directors Present: Kristy Baker, Mark Iwinski, Chris Moan
- Board Members Present: Melody Taboada, Jen Cunico, Theresa Aron, Tracy Procajlo, Ellen Peterson, Nancy Evens

Open and Welcome: Melody Taboada started the meeting by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

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 – No correspondence.

President's Report: Melody Taboada – We'd like to welcome Ellen Peterson to the Board as the Secretary position, and Nancy Evens will be taking over the Fundraising role for the remainder of this school year.

Treasurer's Report: Tracy Procajlo – "If you look at the Miscellaneous Revenue Sale of Used Goods we brought in \$4,500 thanks to Alan Barone selling some old equipment. We also received \$760 from Music Booster Memberships which is great. The Fall Craft Show made \$33,600 and I've already deposited \$22,000 for the Spring Craft Show and Beth Soderlund just handed me a few more crafter checks so we're off to a great start. If you look at the Miscellaneous Expenses we decided that since we are having a great year financially that we wanted to give back to all of our groups. We bought dinner for the Winter Musical students, new walkie talkies, new keyboards for Winter Percussion, new music stands for the concert band students, new wheels for some ailing instruments, new speaker for Winter Guard, and donated towards the choir trip to Nashville. Winter Guard and Winter Percussion fees are mostly paid in full. Expenditures we still need to pay include the Spring Musical and Scholarships."

Director's Report:

Ms. Baker – First off I'd like to announce that Mr. Iwinski is a finalist for Illinois State University's College of Education Teacher of the Year which is very exciting. Please take a moment to fill out the 5 Essentials survey if you have not already done so. Your feedback is very valuable and much appreciated. Parent Teacher Conferences will be an entirely virtual event for the Spring, and will be held on 3/5 from 12-7. The feedback we received from parents last year was that virtual was preferred and allowed flexibility that more parents could participate from work. Sign ups for those will happen the last week of February.

Mr. Iwinski – Our students had an amazing day last Friday at Olivet Nazarene University. The students had a great time and received great feedback and our student helpers represented the program well. Wind Symphony is getting music going for our concert at the CSO on March 20th. Jazz band is in full swing (pun intended) and moving through music quickly. Up next is the Prairie State Jazz Festival followed by our Jazz Concert here at VJA and opening for the Brass Tracks Band. Marching Band Camp was pushed back one week this year and will be held August 4-10. This is usually the week we take our trip to Indy to watch DCI so we're trying to build that event into the week to make it part of the camp experience. The Marching Band competition schedule is out but we have not determined which events we will attend. We might end our season at University of Illinois the week after the ISU competition. Looking forward to another great season after our amazing season last fall.

Mr. Moan – Approximately 20 of our choir students are going to Memphis Tennessee, leaving bright and early Saturday morning and returning on Monday. Choir is doing a great job working on literature for our Spring Concerts. Bel Canto and Chorale competed at the Joliet West Chorale Festival last weekend and did an amazing job. For the 2nd year in a row our bass section brought home the Best Bass Section Award. Our Winter Musical Chorus Line was a tough show but our students took it head on and did a wonderful job with some truly

emotional performances. Auditions for our Spring Musical Mean Girls will begin right after President's Day and our Winter Guard and Winter Percussion students will be able to participate if they so choose due to the later performance dates being in May this year.

Melody for Kassie Pierson and Alan Barone – Winter Guard placed 2nd in their first competition of the season with their complicated fun show. Their next competition is this weekend at Schaumburg if you'd like to come out and cheer them on. Winter Percussion also started the season strong with a 1st place in their first competition and will compete in Plainfield Illinois for a rare local show. We appreciate all of our parent volunteers as it's a huge undertaking and a different than Marching Band so thank you all so much for your help.

Fundraising – Our Spring Craft Show booths are already full which is amazing. Thank you to Sandy Murray for the awesome social media posts, she has done a great job promoting the event and now we all need to help bring in people to shop so please share with your family and friends. Sandy could also use some help with placing signs, if anyone is willing please let us know. Chip Brauer will be taking over for Beth once her student graduates. The Double Good popcorn fundraiser sold around \$13,000 so the students that participated earned \$6,500 for their individual student accounts. It's such an easy and fast fundraiser and the popcorn sells itself. Ted's Greenhouse emails will be going out next week and we've decided to give almost 100% of the profit (minus delivery fees) back to the participating students so they can start building up funds for next year's Disney trip. Our dining nights have been very successful as well thanks to Kristen Randall. The Crumbl Cookie event brought in \$236 and the Bourbon Smokehouse event made around \$200 as well so thank you to Kristen and all the parents that participated we appreciate your help.

Open Discussion – No questions or comments made.

Next Meeting – March 19th 2024

Motion to Adjourn – Jackie Nelson and Camille Vopelak