

Boosters Meeting Minutes - December 15, 2008

Meeting called to order by Karen Fox at 7:05 pm.

Handouts on table: Agenda; Treasurer's Report - December 15; November 24, 2008 Booster Meeting minutes; Pizza Uno flyer.

President's introduction - Karen Fox:

- Paula Adler not available for tonight's meeting. Karen covered review of November meeting minutes. Chris Herbst will take tonight's minutes.
- Karen welcomed parents of 4 new 8th students.

Secretary's Report - Karen Fox for Paula Adler:

- Reviewed minutes from November 24, 2008 meeting. Motion to accept minutes: Mary Kay Owles. 2nd: Marisa Lenz.

Treasurer's Report - Chris Herbst:

- Chris indicated that not much spend activity has occurred from the last meeting occurred.
- Approximately \$--- was spent, primarily on equipment for the band.
- Motion to accept report: Jon Shain. 2nd: Amy Algazi.

Band Director - Frank Mazzeo:

- London trip -
 - Approved by the School Board.
 - Investigating potential of concert with a London High School for and with the high school.
- 8th grade recruitment -
 - Initial letters sent to 8th graders. Expect up to approximately 43 new members.
 - There will be another 10 potential 8th grade students contacted.
 - Color guard candidates - Direct mailing sent home providing color guard program overview to potential color guard members. Mr. Mazzeo and his staff attended a recruiting program night and spoke with the students about the program.
- Marching Band 2009-10 -
 - Staff has come up with a theme for next year's marching band season. Working on new ideas.
- Music camp and indoor drum line and color guard -
 - As a result of a potential large incoming freshman class, consideration is being given to a 3 day music camp for new students.
 - Indoor drum line and indoor color guard clinics have already started; 8th grade students are welcomed to participate.
- PCJB and PLJB -
 - Commitment for March 19th for Wayne Berjeron to come and play with the jazz band and to conduct a Master Class with band members. Wayne would also solo with PCJB. We are very fortunate to have this opportunity.
 - PCJB and the LAB band are now up and running. Julie Bailey is the jazz band liaison.

- Contact Julie for any jazz band-related questions
- PMEA District tryouts -
 - Mr. Mazzeo commended 21 Pennsbury band members who made districts. Additionally, a number of other students were within 5 points of making it.
- Senior Soloist award -
 - Ben Lupinacci is the winner of our Senior Soloist competition.
- Smart Music room - We now have a panel of 6 people working in the smart music room.
- Inaugural parade - We were not asked to march in the Inaugural parade, but an opportunity may still exist for other activities. Mr. Mazzeo is following up.

London trip - additional update - Dave Willard:

- As Mr. Mazzeo indicated, the trip was approved by the school board. Students were excited to find out about the approval.
- Meeting for 8th grade and other new band members -
 - January 8th meeting will be held in the PHS East auditorium at 7pm.
 - The band staff and the E-Board have been reaching out to 8th grade parents inviting them to the January 8th meeting. Will help them get acquainted with our organization and get started on fundraising.
- There are approximately 95 students in 8th grade; roughly half are interested in joining the marching band (between 35-44). This leaves the remainder to understand why they are not joining the band. Dave indicated that in 9 of the last 13 years that he has been part of the organization, the band is the smallest it has ever been. At one time it was over 200 and now we stand at around 125 band and color guard members.
- Mr. Mazzeo continues to reach out. The E-Board is also reaching out by calling 8th grade families directly, direct mailings to homes, and setting up tables at the middle school concerts (representation by E-Board reps and band members).
- Dave requested that the whole booster organization reach out to families who may be interested in either the band or color guard and that a grass roots effort could pay off.
- We are looking to recruit more 8th graders as well as other current high school students. New 8th grade band parents agreed that the personal invitation means more and were happy to have received the phone calls they did from the E-Board.
- Benchmarks –
 - Not yet clear on what these benchmark payments will be. Benchmarks will be spread out.
 - Contract is still in review; number of students going on the trip is not yet fully known.
 - Still thinking that the original price of \$----- is likely appropriate.
 - This trip is much different then Hong Kong as we

- receive a final price and an itinerary.
- o Questions from Booster parents -
 - o FX rate to be locked in? Response: The FX rate is locked in when payment is made in full. Tickets will not be purchased until we have paid in full.
 - o Companion trip available? Response: A companion trip is likely going to be available. The price will be about the same as the price for students. Will be influenced by numbers of students and parents who plan to attend the trip; the more that attend, the lower the price will likely be.
 - o Companion trip same as trip for students? Response: Families would be present for all of the performances by the band; the rest of the trip would be separate in that parents would do all the same things as the band, but on a different schedule.
 - o Companion trip limited to parents of band members? Response: No - not limited. Any relative or other interested party can join in.
 - o Parade route? Response: The parade route is a historic route. Attended by many. Crowd is very enthusiastic. The route will narrow at the end so that only 3 students will be able to walk side by side.

Fundraising - Stan Gursky:

- o Yankee candle update - Flyer in for the spring which is not yet available to the general public as a concession from the mistake made on the last order.
- o Uno night – flyer at back table. Please attempt to attend this fundraiser. Hand out flyers to friends, neighbors.
- o Walkathon - first will be March 21, 2009.
- o M&M candy sales - Stan asked the group to take M&M's tonight and sell them so that we could are able to get some new variety of candy.
- o 8th grade parents - will hold short meeting after tonight's larger meeting for startup on fundraising information.
- o Golf outing - Stan reminded the group that the golf outing can be a great holiday gift to those golfers in the community..

President's update - Karen Fox:

- o "Street Beat" newsletter will be posted to the web site. If you have articles, please submit to Jeff Herbst by end of this week.
- o Winter concert -
 - o January 21; reception to follow.
 - o Concert band and symphonic winds.
 - o Karen reminded the group that the Booster organization supports all of the school's bands. Please join to see the talent and enjoy the music.
 - o Karen also requested assistance to organize the reception indicating that this is a 'one and done' type of job that is appreciated by everyone. Please contact her after the meeting if you are

- interested.
- o County band auditions - coming up in January. Band members trying out should have their music.
- o Pennsbury Jazz Festival -
 - o March 19
 - o Come experience quality jazz. There will be a soloist at the concert that will be paid for by the Boosters from the leadership budget line item.
- o Next Booster meetings - Will be held in January and February on the 2nd Monday of each month.
- o First London trip benchmark payment - likely be due in February.
- o March TBA event - A booster member noticed that in March the TBA is scheduled on the same day as the SAT's. Karen suggested that jazz band members may want to consider scheduling to take the SAT on another date other than in March.
- o Thanks and recognition go to -
 - o Hong Kong pictures - To Dave and Nancy Willard for their hard work and effort to get the pictures from Hong Kong framed and distributed to all the elementary schools.
 - o Band Buddies - To Deb Alleva (past president). Deb is a great resource for new families. Karen indicated that Band Buddies will be making contact with new families shortly.
- o Gate - We now have plaid pants for sale in the back. We sold out before the end of the season and we were able to place a new order. Price = \$20.
- o Website for all band announcements → www.pennsburybands.org. This is the best means of communication to reach families and band members so please check the website regularly.
- o Band hotline - 215-949-1510. Numbers is also located on band website.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:00 pm: Deb Alleva; 2nd - Shelley Puchatz.

Respectfully
submitted,
Paula Adler,
Booster
Secretary
(notes
taken by
Chris
Herbst)