

Hammond High School Music Boosters
2.06.24 Meeting Minutes

PRESENT AT MEETING: Jennifer Walton, Stephen Dunlap, Ron Vance, Brook Walton, Rachel Smith, Elizabeth Reinhardt, Malcom Washington, Gordon Alston, Sai Vallurupalli, Doug Paul, Jen and Tom Renekevans, Chritine Dietrich

OPENING: Call to order at 7:03 p.m.

REVIEW MINUTES: Rachel Smith moved to approve the January meeting minutes; Gordon Alston seconded the motion; motion carries with unanimous vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Alston reported that the checking account ended the month with a balance of \$8,653.08. The reserve fund ended with a balance of \$8,108.03. The Student Balance account ended the month with a balance of \$1,807.51. CD account balance is \$10,081.35. Student funds for both chocolate fundraisers can be moved over to the student balance account when final numbers are provided.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: No new members joined in the past month.

BAND DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mr. Dunlap reported that the Band is doing well and is excited to be working on their assessment music. At this time, they are waiting for their official assessment time. On March 6 and 7 Hammond High will host a portion of the Howard County Middle School Assessments. Boosters has the opportunity to operate a "Snack Bar," as a fundraiser, which would require parent volunteers for shopping and hosting. Jen Renkevans and Rachel Smith have volunteered to assist.

ORCHESTRA DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mrs. Reinhardt reported that Orchestra is also eagerly preparing for assessments while awaiting the official date and time. The Spring Trip is still on hold while the Central Office is trying to sort out the issues with the travel company. A go/ no-go decision will be made by the end of the week.

CHOIR DIRECTORS REPORT: Mr. Washington reported that the Choirs are hard at work preparing for their Choral assessment. Assessment will be held on March 18 at River Hill, time TBD. Chamber Choir will participate in a Master Class next week at Wilde Lake High School. The Clinician is a Hammond High Alumni.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chocolate Sales – Mr. Dunlap reported that the spring sale was smaller than the Fall (which is typical). Overall chocolate sales have not reached pre-pandemic numbers for both the fall and spring sales. The group discussed new fundraising ideas to consider for next year and will hold a discussion, later in the year, to confirm 2024-2025 plans.

Restaurant Nights – Boosters received a check from Ledo Pizza for \$100 (of which \$65 was an extra donation). Upcoming schedule includes February 6 – Chipotle; March 5 - Corner Stable; April – Chick-fil-A; May – Crazy Mason.

A Little Night of Music – Group is still looking for additional volunteers to assist with the planning and execution of the evening. The following volunteers have been identified:

Meal – Christine Dietrich (happy to use event to train a new volunteer)

Decorations – Mrs. Neidermyer, Mrs. Renkevans

Auction Items – Mr. Alston

Music/Lighting – Mr. Dunlap

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Website/Advertisement – Mr. Washington will create flyer; Mr. Paul will update the website and social.

The group discussed a timeline for reaching out to donors and sponsors for the Silent Auction and Raffle. It was recommended that Tino's be approached for catering again this year. The group discussed an idea to get parents from each of the three ensembles to donate items for a raffle basket for Little Night of Music. Mr. Vance will reach out to look for additional volunteers and will set up a dedicated planning meeting.

Bank Payment Processing Options – Group felt that the new option was more expensive than the current process and not worth shifting to a new platform. There was also concern about using another platform, which is not as prevalent in the marketplace.

NEW BUSINESS:

Oh! What A Cake Fundraising Opportunity – Owner would like to engage more with the community and approached Hammond Boosters as a potential pilot program for a new fundraising plan. Basic premise is to have students sell \$25 gift cards, with the student earning \$5. The group discussed idea and provided feedback and questions on the proposed process. The group will consider and discuss more as an idea for next school year.

Booster Gala Basket – Mr. Dunlap will take the lead to pull together a music themed basket including donated tickets to local concert series and wine.

Scholarship Committee – Boosters is still in need of volunteers to help with the program and review. Last year's committee can provide feedback on the application form. Rachel Smith offered to backfill if no new volunteer's surface.

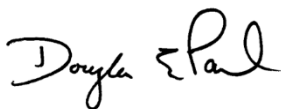
Next Year's Board Members and Committee Chairs – Ron Vance proposed that we begin to actively plan and recruit volunteers for next year, to allow for a couple of months of overlap before the end of the year.

2024-2025 Budget Discussion – Ron Vance indicated there have been some preliminary conversations across the Music Booster programs to provide support and feedback to proposed cuts to the overall music budget for next school year.

NEXT MEETING: Ron Vance will send a Doodle poll to secure a date in early March.

CLOSE MEETING: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas Paul". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and 'P'.

Douglas Paul
Secretary, Hammond Music Boosters