

9/21/09 All Bands Parent Meeting Minutes

- 1) Helen Weary called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm and welcomed everyone. Helen reminded everyone to make sure and sign in as their child would get extra credit for parent attending. She asked any Marching Band parents who had not already taken photos for the directory; please see Sharon Dobeck before the end of the meeting. Helen also announced that Leah Moore had to attend another meeting and would not be here tonight.
- 2) Helen Weary called for Approval of Minutes from August 27, 2009 Band Parent Meeting. All minutes are posted on the band website and emailed to the group prior to each meeting. Motion was made, first Roy Persinko; second, Pat Mahler, vote was taken and unanimously approved.
- 3) Greetings and Overview from the Band Directors - Mike Corrigan and Terry Sakow

Helen introduced Mike Corrigan and Terry Sakow. Mike Corrigan had not been able to attend the last meeting due to eye surgery. She also introduced Mike's wife, Marie Corrigan, who was in audience and mentioned that his son, Matthew, is now a sophomore and plays the trombone in the Marching Band. A big welcome was extended to them.

Mike Corrigan greeted everyone and stated that this is a great experience, there are still a lot of adjustments in both Marching Band and Concert Bands needed.

Marching Band

Mr. Corrigan announced that Dr. Pedroza has helped in getting field striped more often and getting a Lift to view the band. We were also able to secure time at Santa Monica College field, prior to Home football games (4-7pm) to assist in additional practice for tournament show. The first competition will be on field with artificial turf, so practice at SMC will be helpful and it also gives us a chance to videotape the band.

Mr. Corrigan also announced that a new Visual Coordinator, Jeff Sterrett, has come on board to help with the program.

Mr. Corrigan pointed to the bulletin board, which now has a calendar and schedule showing upcoming practices, events, etc. This visual aid will help the kids follow upcoming activities. Mr. Corrigan suggested the schedule can be put on the website also.

Concert Bands

Mr. Corrigan stated the Directors are begging for money. This year we have an over abundance of flutes and are short of French Horns, Trombones and Tubas. We are taking some students aside and asking them to try the French Horn

because we need to balance the bands. We need additional instruments in order to facilitate this transition and to have the instruments available to those students.

Jazz Bands

Mr. Corrigan announced that Jazz Band class sponsored through SMC started today. This Jazz Band class gives two credits at the college. The classes are Monday and Wednesday from 3:30 to 5:30 pm. A second jazz band was added, a different playing level. Mr. Tom Whaley will instruct one group and Mr. Corrigan the other, but they may also switch off. They will also have special guest conductor, Bob Mintzer, one of the top jazz musicians.

Terry Sakow also greeted everyone and added that the bands are playing very well. The Marching Band sounded great at last Saturday's rehearsal.

Mr. Sakow stated that because of future budget issues, the bands need to start getting more community exposure. We need to start playing out in the community more for fundraising support. We need to start looking for community functions where we can play and bring in more funds. The Montana Holiday Walk was suggested; also contacting Judith Meister at Annenburg Beach Club; and Tamara Mugalian said she is related to Danny Elfman, and can contact him. He used to use Marching Band at a July 4th party, but didn't this past summer.

Mr. Sakow also announced that because the school district changed the e-mail address, he may not be getting e-mails. Please note that his new e-mail address is tsakow@smmusd.org. It was announced that all e-mail addresses in the district changed, the first initial was added to the last name.

- 4) Helen Weary announced that Lace Bencivengo has volunteered to coordinate Concert Band business during season.

Lace Bencivengo announced she will work with a group of volunteers and wants to reach out and bring in some concert band parents that may not be currently participating.

- 5) Fundraising

Ellen Rennell announced that she works for a company that does stock film footage. Her company has offered to donate money to the band programs for two filming shoots. One would be Friday 9/25 before the football game at SMC at 4:00 p.m. and would include about 30 to 40 kids in and out of blue band uniform. They need instruments, but will not need to actually play, but pretend to play and follow the beat. This would include Drumline and Tubas, and some other instruments to form a section of a band, plus others for plain clothed spectators.

The second shoot would be Saturday 9/26 for 35-40 kids and will be 6-8 hours from about 9 or 10 a.m. These kids need to bring a few fall outfits for shots set in a fall setting, please wear darker colors. There will be food provided to the kids and a Nurse on duty.

Ellen passed out a copy of a release form and will leave some for Band Directors to help coordinate participants. If anyone is interested, please email Ellen Rennell at ejrunnell@earthlink.net. There will also be e-mails with additional details sent by tomorrow.

Genevieve's Wrapping Paper, Candy, and Gifts: Sell now!

Ellen Rennell reminded everyone that the orders are due by Tuesday, September 29, 2009. If anyone prefers not to sell, you are more than welcome to make a donation, i.e. \$50 in lieu of selling. Ellen also reached out for help in tallying the orders on October 3, 2009 at Ellen's home. Please bring calculators. If orders are made via internet, please note on envelope and turn in. They can be dropped off in band room mailbox.

Horns of Plenty Silent Auction

Ellen Rennell reported that this activity has been tabled. We may look at other activities such as a Progressive dinner or cake auction, such as the one we had at the last Pops Concert, which did much better than we had imagined.

Pajama Pants

Pat Mahler announced Pajama Pants for sale \$20. We are trying to get okay to sell them at the football games and will have a table at Back to School night.

eScrip

Helen Weary announced that Amy Kivnick was unable to attend tonight. But, please register your Rewards Cards! – especially Ralphs, this requires online form. Please refer to website. The instructions are also included in band newsletter.

- 6) District Volunteer Clearance: - Tb tests, background checks, DMV check for drivers

Rachel Deese announced that there are currently 38 cleared volunteers; 18 of which are Level II (overnight) and 4 authorized Drivers. Rachel states volunteers need to be identified at events, for Marching Band, they can wear Blue Band Shirt (cost \$10). However, she is also looking at getting badges with school year. The volunteers need to be cleared each school year, no need for additional TB test (4 years), but they need a Megan's Law check each year. Rachel also reported that she had just found out that the High School may be requiring all volunteers to be Level II, which requires fingerprinting. The fingerprinting is free, through the District Office. For more information contact Jana Emhardt in Catherine Baxter's office.

Level I volunteers require direct supervision by Band Directors, Teachers, or authorized School Employee. However, Level II volunteers can work more independently. You can contact Irene Barrons at (310) 450-8338, x374, or Jana Emhardt for paperwork, x321, see Nurse for TB tests, for those who want to be volunteers and school district for appointment for fingerprinting. Because of the

High School's requirements, we will need to call more on Level II volunteers to participate in Tournaments.

7) Treasurer's Report

Chuck Dobeck states he is still working on piecing together and organizing last year's account information. He has just been told he needs to include Jazz Band also in formulating budget information. The meeting of all treasurers is still pending. We currently have about \$26,000 or \$27,000, but will need to write a check for about \$20,000 by the end of the month for quarterly instruction costs. There was a letter sent out last week asking for donations and they may start coming in. Also, e-scrip is a fundraiser that brings in money without much effort, \$500-\$600 per quarter. Chuck is trying to input all the information into Quick Books program in order to budget and also in a way that will help us see what each fundraising activity costs us and how much we make. This will also help us cut out activities that do not bring in much money for the effort. Once the budgeting plan is established it will make the presentation of income and expenses more clear to all.

One of the parents in the audience, Beatrice Blanco, mentioned that she works for Verizon; she stated that in looking at their website she found out that if employees volunteer in the community the company will donate money. She will look into the process, but suggest that anyone else who may work for a large company may have similar benefits

8) Marching Band Business

Helen Weary reminded everyone about Parades and Competitions Overview Meeting - Thursday, October 8, 2009 at 7pm in the Band Room, with Susie Gunter

Home Football Games

Mike Smith – not here today, but still needs parent volunteers to provide food for Pack Crew

Color Guard - Kyle Miller not here

Keiko Kuyama, reported that the Color Guard had a Color Guard Family Night. Keiko met parents, who are willing to volunteer, but had not stepped forward previously due to language barriers, most are Hispanic and speak limited English. Keiko will try to reach out to those for what ever help they can provide.

Uniforms

Keiko Kuyama wanted to thank everyone who has helped with Football and Competition Uniforms. Our last effort to complete the hemming of the competition uniforms will be this Thursday from 6-8 pm.

Keiko also mentioned that there are some old Color Guard uniforms that cannot be reused; someone suggested putting them on e-bay for sale. She will do that.

Concert Band Dresses (periods 2 and 4)

Keiko will start to take girls out of class on Tuesday for dress fittings. She is concerned that Picture Day for the Concert Bands will be sometime in October and wants the girls to be ready with their dresses. Picture Day requires concert dress. A discussion was made about trying to achieve parity between boys and girls for concert dress attire fees, since girls are loaned concert dresses for free and boys are required to rent tuxes for \$99. It was suggested girls could rent the dress for \$20 to cover cleaning and maintenance, or perhaps both boys and girls pay one equal fee, like \$50, and the fees would cover the rental costs for the entire group.

Mr. Sakow indicated that Elite Tuxedo will be at school for fitting, but he does not have the date yet. Parents can also take student to the Elite Tuxedo on Westwood Blvd. for fitting, but need to tell them student is from Santa Monica High School for the rental price \$99 for the school year.

9) Other Business

Mr. Sakow announced that he wants to set up an after school meeting/workshop to talk to kids and parents about College and Music. It would include discussion of difference between majoring in music and enhancing the college experience with music. This may also include parents who have already gone through the process and their experiences. He will look at the calendar and try to schedule a date in October.

Suggestion was made to Band Directors to set up meeting with Sections Leaders to help with guidance for those who are new in leadership position.

Choir's Supper Serenade overlaps with the first marching band competition on Oct. 24. Mr. Corrigan will discuss with Jeffe Huls and deal with that.

New locked Band Box was mentioned; Roy Persinko offered his assistance to install.

Discussion about feeding the students when we have early rehearsals at SMC before Home football games. Need parents to coordinate Subway sandwiches or pizza. Pat Mahler and Dottie Cramer were corralled since they were offering so many good suggestions. Jan Kravets was mentioned for our usual Albertsons connection. Jan would need to be contacted. Suggested asking families to pay \$5 per student for dinner, and directors would ask for this payment during class.

Meeting adjourned around 9pm.

Minutes submitted by Martha Herrera, Band Secretary.