

Attendees: Ric Towner, Sue Burton, Rebecca Page, Marsha Grubbs, Amanda Angert, Denny Tenhundfeld, Tina Wuorinen, Bill Fessler, Heidi Reeb, Maggie Laird, Scott Haarlammert, April Bruder, Laura Carroll, Chris Wolferst

**Secretary's Report – Sue Burton**

Reviewed minutes from October 2017 meeting – Motion by Bill to accept those minutes. Seconded by Den. Motion passed.

Correspondence – Thank you notes written to Fains, Ying Li (bought a ladder for uniform room), and Ralph Goetz (sign cutter for band signs).

**President's Report – Ric Towner**

It's been a good fall - congrats again to marching band and thanks to the amazing investment from staff and parents to make the season happen and to set the students up for success. Cookie dough sale continues to amaze ... great comeback between the initial count and the final count! Well done Chris! Our next Fundraisers are luminary sale and Dinner Before the Show.

Private lessons keep plugging along - we're working on the process to improve parents' "on time payment" and I am hearing really positive comments from parents who have students participating. Quality seems to be very good ... increasing enrollment and simplifying the collection process are improvement opportunities.

Some key items for discussion at our November meeting are:

1. the investments we'll need to make to sustain / continue the band's success. There are some short term additional budget needs and some longer term investments needs.
2. How to still create a special 'trip' experience for students this year with the funds raised and the time and resources families have available.
3. Support needed to improve this year's bid and buy at Dinner Before the Show.

Ric also reports he emailed Tim and Kim Fain to ask what the needs are for the pit for next year, as the Fain open trailer will no longer be available for use as they are moving after graduation.

**Staff Reports:**

**Band & Music Dept. – Mike Kennedy**

MK is not here tonight, is on baby watch as Karen is due on the 26th.

**HS Band - VP Tina Wuorinen**

Marching band is finished for the year and the band had an awesome season! They received a superior rating at State Competition in Dayton on October 29 and they participated in Midstates competition on November 4 at Kings High School where they placed 16th out of 22 bands in attendance. It is a higher level of competition and this is the first time they have ever gone to this kind of competition. They are now working toward the December 14th concert which will be held in the PAC.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped make the marching band season a success. Tim and Kim Fain were in charge of pit, Marsha Grubbs was in charge of uniforms, Jenny Towner and April Bruder were in charge of snacks, and many, many people helped with pit, pulled trailers, chaperoned, brought food, made sandwiches, helped serve and clean up, and many other things to make the football games and contests run smoothly.

THANK YOU to all the directors for all of their hard work also. They gave up time with family and worked countless hours with the students to prepare them for the competitions!

### **MS Band – VP April Bruder**

#### **Orchestra – Stefanie Schneider**

Concert is Dec. 5. Bill asked if there was a separate orchestra/band concert at Whitaker for just the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, he thought he heard something about that. Laura said she would check with staff on that.

#### **Orchestra VP – Heidi Rice**

Upcoming concert on December 5th. Still looking for some more chaperones. I'm confident I'll have everything in place for the concert.

#### **Choirs & music dept. – Laura Carroll**

Chorale will sing at Grace Lutheran church on 11/30. Choir concert all grades and Voices of Whitaker on 12/7 at 7 pm. Chorale is submitting a song for the Q102 contest.

Musical: Once Upon a Mattress, Feb. 15-17, high school only. Feb. 15 is also conferences night, so for Feb. 15 ONLY, the start time is 7:30. For Feb. 16 & 17 it is 7 pm. Auditions are 11/15 & 16.

Laura will be checking academic standing of all auditioning, on 11/17 prior to posting roles.

Some questions arose about Springfield Township's Winterfest. The band is performing but question whether this is for the parade or for a concert. Laura will get clarification and be sure involved parties are notified.

### **HS/MS Choirs – VP Sue Connell**

#### **Elementary Music Staff –**

Whitaker Report – Heidi Johnson

1. The 2017 Flood Report: The clean-up crew from Teasdale Fenton has been working wonders in the basement. Everything that could be saved (especially in the library) is dry and sanitized, and they are going to start putting everything back together this week. I am hoping to be back downstairs after Thanksgiving, but who knows? In the meantime, music "ala carte" travelling from classroom to classroom!

The general music room had about 3-4 inches of water. Fortunately, all of the instruments were off the floor so very little was lost: A few paper resources (that were in a milk crate on the floor) were lost and the rugs had to be thrown away due to the quality of the flood water, but all things considered we were lucky in the music rooms. Many thanks to Steve Jones, who discovered the flood that Monday morning when he arrived at 7am to set up for the Voices of Whitaker rehearsal. He checked the band room and the orchestra room and made sure that everything was off the floor in those rooms so nothing was lost there either.

2. Whitaker honored veterans last Sunday, and students from the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes came to sing songs that we had learned in the patriotic songs unit (October).
3. The 3<sup>rd</sup> graders have started playing recorders! They are very excited.
4. The 4<sup>th</sup> graders loved their field trip downtown to the Aronoff in October to see "Black Violin" perform.
5. 5<sup>th</sup> graders are exploring various timbres of instruments & styles of music.

### Voices of Whitaker – Steve Jones

The 2nd/3rd and 4th/5th Grade Voices of Whitaker choirs are working hard on their selections for the December Choral Concert on the 7th. Music is mostly memorized and we are now in the process of working on our choral sound and word pronunciations.

This week both choirs are recording Christmas songs that will be submitted to the "Q102 Jeff and Jen Christmas Choir Competition". Every choir that enters the completion will have their song played on Q102 on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. The children are VERY excited about this!

BTW...Before I'm asked...

The Voices of Whitaker will be very happy and honored to sing for FMPA's Dinner Before the Show! Also, Thanks to Den for sharing what is happening in the music world at Brent!

### **Elementary Report – VP's Den & Sandy Tenhundfeld**

Steve is prepping the kids for Grandparents day next Tuesday (11/21/17). Parents can see the dress rehearsal on 11/20/17 at 1:00 pm). Sandy is trying to attend.

Sandy is working on collecting up carpet squares for Heidi's room (I heard she loves the colors in the other rooms).

### **Marching Band Uniform Report – Marsha Grubbs**

With the marching season over, the only thing left for me is to launder and organize the uniforms for next year. I'm wanting to wait until after the new year to do this job. Tina Wuorinen is part of an ongoing laundry study, and is trying to get some product to wash the uniforms for us which will be appreciated. :)

### **Concert Uniform Report – Amanda Angert**

Measuring for Concert Band has begun. I'm hoping to have all measurements finished by Thanksgiving Break and any alterations finished soon thereafter.

### **Membership Report – Rebecca Page**

We are up to 45 members so far (numerous FMPA board members have not yet joined this year - if you're not sure if you've joined yet, I'll check my list), and \$2,395.95 total in memberships/donations.

### **Communication Report – Deb Amend**

I have already laid out the format for the December/January Newsletter and am intending to use the notes from tonight and last month to form the information, and, while I will certainly mention band and

its success, also have some approved pictures from the orchestra concert to add some diversity to what is featured.

Facebook page is active. Several more parents have been added as editors so pictures and announcements can be easily placed. I will also put up announcements about cookie dough pick up.

### **Website report – Bill Fessler**

Payschools needs to know we're nonprofit. Bill will send them the info he got from Heidi R. showing this. He will post the luminary flyer when he receives it from Karen Kershner. Question about how many people are paying for private lessons via Payschools – 6 people so far, around \$700 worth of lessons.

### **Private Lessons – Maggie Laird**

I am in the process of another push for students participation in private music lessons now that marching band season is over. In addition to putting another advertisement on our Facebook page, I have drawn up a flier to send home at least to the fifth grade students at Whitaker. What are thoughts about sending it home for 6- 12? I would also like to get something in the next newsletter. The flyer is attached.

We have lost our clarinet/saxophone instructor, but thankfully he has recruited a new instructor who should get started by the week after Thanksgiving at the latest. Seika Fukimoto.

A big thanks to Ric for helping out by emailing a handful of people that have not paid their lessons yet. Responses were encouraging and we expect to have all lessons paid in full by the end of the week. I have also sent out emails to three new families who started lessons in the past week on payment procedures.

Suggestions to Maggie were to see if Dr. Dinan would include private lessons info in one of her next school-wide communications, and to ask Krista Ramsey to put info on the school website in January. Maggie wants to put fliers on the tables for the concerts and has made the flier already. She will also get a copy to Deb to put in the newsletter.

### **School Board representative – Scott Haarlammert**

The video of the flood/door cave-in at the Whitaker basement library shows how a new building could be in order. A GoFundMe page garnered over \$2,000 in 5 days for library rehab/books.

### **Treasurer's Report - Heidi Reeb**

Congratulations go to Lloyd Briski, the top fundraiser for the 59 minute fundraiser this summer.

Treasurer's report ending Nov. 13 was reviewed. Motion to accept the Nov. 13 report was made by Sue, seconded by Tina. Motion passed.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Savory Sweets**

Pick-up help needed on Nov. 16, some volunteered tonight. Student prizes are anything they want from the catalog. Looks like our net income will be about \$14,000.

Top seller sold 61 tubs! Need to put this in the newsletter.

Chris will not be leading this fundraiser next year so we need a new Savory Sweets project leader.

**Luminaries:** Karen Kershner has been busy organizing. She thinks Sue Connell will help get sand, April can help with printing flyers/giving time to the copy room. Karen will do a Sign Up genius for kit assembly, concert sales, and delivery. Date – Sunday Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. I asked Karen to send the promo flyer to Deb for publicity and Bill for website posting when she has it done.

Den will get the new “date” numbers ordered to be stuck on to the banners for hanging.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Discussion of how to best thank Tim and Kim Fain for all their support and help for the band through the years. We will plan something for spring and discuss w/MK a spring award.

Proposal to increase the band budget for this year by \$1,000. Opportunity to discuss questions or concerns, none expressed. Heidi R. suggested we can shift money from the ensemble and lessons category.

### **Dinner Before the Show – April**

- Ric Towner volunteered to emcee the entertainment and coordinate the acts. Suggestions for acts: Rick Kennedy ensemble, Hartman family, Nepali dancers via Kathy Hubbard, Mrs. J-T’s husband, Chris Lee, Scott & Elizabeth Cain juggling, ?Fred Wittenburg performers?
- Heidi Rice & Sue B. will coordinate tickets/door entry.
- Need a desserts and drink chair
- Bid-n-buy – “This basket sponsored by the Reeb family” etc. – turn them into raffle baskets.

**Student trip –** keep on agenda for next month. Suggestions included attending a Drum Corps International competition, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, going to Opening Day parade. Want to put aside some of the money raised into a separate reserve fund. MK may want to table the trip til next school year.

**PEM Memorial concert –** Ric will reach out to John Hutchins for details and will ask for volunteers once details are known.

**Next meeting** - Monday December 11, 2017, in the Senior Lounge. We will pass on the treasurer’s report until January 2018, will put most focus on old and new business rather than board reports.

**Adjournment –** motioned by April and seconded by Maggie that we adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Burton, secretary