

FMPA 2019 Minutes – 10/14/19

In attendance – Maggie Laird, Amanda Angert, Tina Wuorinen, Laura Engleman, Marsha Grubbs, Bill Fessler, Rebecca Page, Heidi Reeb, Jamie Vogelsang & Laura Beverly

Meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm.

Secretary's Report – Maggie Laird

Tina W made a motion to approve the September minutes, Amanda A seconded the motion. All approved.

President's Report – April Bruder

We're gearing up for another fantastic performance at the Mason contest tonight. We're so proud of the band's success. They, along with the directors and countless volunteers are giving all they've got. If you know someone who's given more hours than we can count, please send them a message of gratitude. There's so much going on behind the scenes, we all too often take for granted what is being accomplished and no one around here likes to toot their own horn! It's imperative we show appreciation and acknowledge what everyone is giving! Our agenda will be our typical run down. I am waiting to hear back from the shoe folks for our next steps, but we have secured a storage location! Please come with your ideas on the luminary changes that were discussed earlier. That will be here before we know it! It may be necessary to have a sub committee meet outside of our regular FMPA meeting to make decisions and share ideas. Lots of positivity about the school. An organization has heard of our band making great success on a small budget. People notice the hard work and drive of the students. When Michael Kennedy says we are amazing, he truly means it. Fridays may not be the best day for counting cookie dough money. Orders are still coming in. We are still taking orders through Wednesday. Looking forward concert season in December.

Band – Michael Kennedy (not in attendance)

Heidi R commented on Michael Kennedy's email about the consistent success of the marching band.

Jamie V reread the email for all, (read email below) -

“Congratulations Marching Wildcats!

The Marching Wildcats had a big weekend. Our students hard work every week is paying off. For the Third contest in a row we were awarded reserve grand champion and 1st place in class 4 A, best music, best visual, and best general effect. Beating large school districts such as Worthington Kilbourne, Fairfield High School, Walnut Hills, and Oak Hills. The response of praise for our students success in marching band is now expanding to a greater level and is reaching outside of the tri-state. The students hard work is highlighting the Finneytown school district on a consistent basis.

Winning class 4 A consistently and beating open class large bands is very difficult to do on a regular basis. Our students just amaze me as a teacher; their work ethic is inspiring. They believe that they can achieve anything with team work. Our parents were a loud and proud presence at Mason this past weekend. The thundering prideful cheers our parents shouted for the kids was inspiring and gave the students a sense of energy and belonging to a special community. The Finneytown School District is special and that fact has been reiterated by so many parents and musicians from other communities. The Finneytown Band students are special and their success has come from learning to work together. Hard work pays off and our kids have learned that from their participation in marching band.

Feel proud of these kids, they are doing something special this year!

-MK “

Orchestra/ Choir – Stefanie Kennedy (not in attendance)

Concert planned for this Wednesday is cancelled. There will be an orchestra concert in December. No X period band or orchestra on Wednesday due to PSAT.

Elementary Music – Laura Engleman

The Voices of Whitaker choirs have been singing since mid September. Both choirs are already starting to get their music learned for the December Choral Concert. The positive energy that these young students have is amazing. They like singing and learning together toward a common goal. Our youngest singers are getting used to reading choral music. They're definitely up to the challenge! On Tuesday, October 29th Whitaker is having a community event - "Whitaker Pays Tribute to Veterans & First Responders". The 3rd & 4th grade students have been learning patriotic songs in music class and will present a short concert at 7:00pm in the cafeteria. The event starts at 6:30 with a chance to visit with firefighters (they'll have one of their fire engines there), police, and veterans. The halls will be decorated with pictures of veterans and maps of where they have served. Kona Ice will be there at 6:30 as well as other community groups such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and local veterans performing the "Missing at the Table" ceremony. The Finneytown community is invited to come and help us honor these brave men and women! On Wednesday, Oct. 30 the 4th grade classes and the gifted classes (grades 3-5) will board busses provided by ArtLinks to attend an 11:00am concert by the Kentucky Symphony at 7 Hills Church in Florence, KY! This is part of the audience etiquette unit for 4th grade. The tickets are free, the busses are free, and the students get an opportunity to attend a live concert by an symphony orchestra! They will get to hear "The Sorceror's Apprentice" by Paul Dukas and music by John Williams for the movie "Harry Potter and the Sorceror's Stone". The concert will feature the various instruments of the symphony orchestra.

HS Orchestra – Tina Wuorinen

The first Orchestra Concert will be Wed, Dec 4, at 7 PM. There will not be X-period orchestra this Wed because of the PSAT testing schedule.

Uniforms – Marsha Grubbs

Uniforms are showing wear. We are looking at the band marching for Winterfest Parade the first Saturday of December, 12/7. Marsha will talk to Mr. Kennedy about fitting alternates in November. This is the ninth season for the band using these uniforms. I believe that they still look good from the stands, though they are definitely showing their age. We have to ask the students to be gentle with the zippers on the jackets (the zippers can be difficult) as we need these to last for this season and next. We have 9 students who need a small hat but we only have 6 small hats--so we use window weather-stripping and add that to the inside of some medium hats so that they will fit (and hopefully not fall off during their performance). The hats were not replaced when we last got new uniforms and those must be replaced in 1 1/2 years--some of the straps are breaking, and I replace them with straps from hats that are not being used. We have had the hats for 19 years. We are on a 10 year cycle of ordering new uniforms, next ordering will be spring of 2021.

Membership – Rebecca Page

We currently have 36 Members/Donors, for a total of \$1,500.00, as well as 4 donors to the Kelley Hickey Memorial Orchestra Camp Scholarship Fund, for a total of \$70.00. As always, I will be in the lobby for all concerts during the school year (accepting memberships by cash, check, or credit card), as I was at all school back-to-school celebrations/open houses and the Homecoming Tailgate/Community Celebration. I will bring membership forms and the CloverGo to all meetings, if any board members who have yet to join would like to do so at the meetings.

Communications – Rebecca Page

The deadline for submissions for the upcoming October/November Music Notes e-newsletter is Friday, October 25. If anyone has any photos, videos, web links, highlights of student music achievements (in or out of school), fundraisers, sponsors' logos, scheduled events, bios, or anything else they'd like me to include, please send them! If anyone is able to get inclusions to me earlier than 10/25, that would be even better, but the 25th is the deadline.

Website – Bill Fessler

If you have anything for the website, please send it to Bill.

Private Lessons – Kathy Revelle

Private Lessons are now being taught in Brass, Strings and Flute/Clarinet/Saxophone. As usual many of the Percussion lessons will begin after Marching Band Season. Student numbers are low, so I would like to send out another information sheet to parents. I hope this can be done electronically to secondary campus families. I will follow u on this when I am back in town. Stephanie did a wonderful job of finding us a new strings instructor. Unfortunately, we recently found out that last year's voice instructor is not longer available. Stephanie is working on identifying a good voice teacher for the 2019/20 school year.

Marching Band – Amanda Angert

The marching band still snagged 1st place in their class (AAAA) and Reserve Grand Champion (aka 2nd place) overall at the Mason contest this past Saturday! These kids put in the hours and I'm always a super proud (band) mom! The band will perform during halftime at the football game this Friday, followed by a contest in Centerville on Saturday (they perform at 7:15). We have a "double header" on November 1st and 2nd. If you see a band kid around school, be sure to give them a high five! They have definitely earned it

Board of Education Report – Steve Stuhlreyer

No report.

Treasurer's Report – Report ending 10/14/19, Heidi Reeb

Review of the report. See attached report. Discussion of aging electronics and the need to buy new vs the possibility of repair. Heidi has filed with the state of Ohio that FMPA is a charitable organization. Discussion of shoes and color guard flow throughs not being paid up.

Marsh G approves that we approve the Treasurer es report, Jamie V seconded. All approved.

Laura B has suggested that having 2 people recounting the money the next day after cookie dough tallying and counting. Also suggested going to the bank when they open; it is helpful to the tellers.

Jaime V - Discussion of tires being low on trailer. People driving trailers should check tires before leaving.

Old Business –

Sandy T to take on uniforms for concert band.

DBTS - There is a January show on 1/24. We need to get our donations a bit sooner than usual for DBTS. Jan Angert will not be able to do as much for DBTS this year. Looking for a person to go to area businesses to secure donations for baskets.

Shoe Fundraiser – all of our information has been submitted to the company. They will send a box to get the shoe donation program started. April B needs to alert Mr. Kennedy that the box is coming. April B has connected with Renee Heath of Wildcat Serve about using that space to store shoes after the holidays. Amanda A suggested having neighborhood captains to have storage tubs on their porch to collect shoes. Amanda A, Laura B, Heidi R, Tina W to be captains. More information to come. Also, different support groups and principals to help get information out. 12/2-2/2.

Cookie Dough – Nov. 12 is the cookie dough delivery day. We will need volunteers that day to help sort, etc.

New Business –

Luminaries – Discussion of revamping the luminary sale/ program. It is too much work & resources for little return. Discussion of decorating and lighting up index cards for the concert, like a “Holiday Gram.” This would replace luminaries. Putting the light behind the index card so the light shines through the card. Maybe the index card could be in the shape of a snowflake, perhaps with a picture. Must be nice, something that parents will want to keep, but we also need to make money. These would need to be up for December events/ concerts, including PEM. We are looking to do a fundraiser in the spring. Even with our current and upcoming fundraisers, we will fall short. We need to have reserves for unexpected costs. Discussion of Pie Peddler fundraiser in spring. Possibility of Yankee Candle fundraiser? Maybe a spring crafter fair; talk to Diane Longbons for ideas. Mattress sale? Wildcat card? Marsha brought up doing concerts with Aramark, Bengals, cyclones & music concerts. Talk to Marsha or April about working concerts.

Day of Giving – Tuesday after Thanksgiving, 12/3. Some companies have matching programs.

Please support our football team on Friday.

The next meeting will be Monday, November 11, 2019.

Jamie V motioned to adjourn the meeting, Bell F seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm.