

Attendees: Sue Burton, Joanna Eberhardt, Heidi Rice, Chris Wolferst, Tina Wuorinen, Den Tenhundfeld, Maggie Laird, Jenny Towner, Bill Fessler, Veronica and Andy Bishop, Heidi Johnson, Heidi Reeb, Sue Connell

Secretary's Report – Sue Burton

A motion to approve the September minutes was made by Tina and seconded by Bill. The motion passed.

Correspondence – none.

President's Report – Ric Towner (in absentia)

Thanks to everyone who participated in the homecoming parade – it was fun walking together though I recognize that some would prefer a riding experience next year 😊 We'll put on future agenda whether it's time to update our banner and FMPA wear but I liked handing out the membership forms with performance schedules this year and will continue to work to conserve my candy better. Great job with the newsletter Deb – I think the short, more frequent electronic format is great and that featuring the staff was a super idea.

Nice work Den and music staff promoting business sponsorships and getting some cool decals made for the band trailers. Another improvement that we'll keep building on next year.

Cookie dough is on so we let's create as much buzz as we can to encourage participation and sales. I worked the split the pot at the football game last night (made \$89 for FMPA!) and some of the booster parents in the concession stand asked how they could get some cookie dough. Chrissy – what do you think of sending an email to the other support groups and administrators with a link to the cookie dough email telling them that if they'd like to purchase some dough to email the link and we'll have a student contact them?

Awesome job by Maggie getting the private lessons program ready to launch. Maggie is recruiting volunteers to be chaperone's while lessons are underway and they need to have background checks. I recommend that FMPA pay for the volunteer checks – at least for this first year. Please make a motion to this effect and approve (provided you agree!). We will have to pay for this from reserves. Building a quality private lessons program could be the most important thing we do for the future of the program – it think it's worth every penny.

Lots of change happening at the school and lot's of challenges – I'm optimistic about the overall direction. I think the music programs and the bands performance this year provides a great picture of what the district can achieve when we're working together. The contest at Loveland was inspiring – our diverse group of committed, hard working students wowed the crowd and almost won the entire contest. And they are going to keep getting better. Our little melting pot of a community can do great stuff when teachers, administrators and parents are working together and at the risk of being a bit over the top ... our country needs examples like this right now! Thanks for all you're each doing and thanks teaching team for the investment your're making. We appreciate you.

Couple final things: Nickie McCollum withdrew from the board due to schedule issues but still wants to help out wherever she can. I need to get working on an assistant treasurer to support and learn from Heidi. Any ideas on a good candidate please let me know. Sorry I'm going to miss the choir concert on Tuesday! The music staff let me know that they will not be at the board meeting Monday so that they can have a night off with family - I fully understand and support that decision. I will follow up with Mike this month on whether there is still a potential need for volunteer classroom support for Whitaker band.

Thanks for all you do - Ric

Staff reports –

Band & Music Dept. – Mike Kennedy

Staff were not present at tonight's meeting

HS Band - VP Tina Wuorinen

The marching band has been very busy with football games and band competitions. They have one more football game left, which is senior night, on October 21st. The band qualified for state at the Loveland competition on October 1st! They have 2 more competitions before state and are making changes and improvements to the show. Everyone has had their picture taken for the band composite and the pictures that were ordered have been handed out. The senior banners have been hung at the football games and there have been favorable comments. The first group of hoodies that were ordered have been delivered and more are being ordered early next week. Waiting to hear what the final date/time will be for State competition.

MS Band – VP April Bruder

Orchestra – Stefanie Schneider

Orchestra VP – Heidi Rice

7th grade orch. will begin at 7 pm for the concert. We believe chaperones are adequately lined up.

Choirs – Laura Carroll

HS Choirs – VP Sue Connell

Sue C. in discussions w/Laura about chaperone details for this week's concert.

MS Choirs –

Elementary Music Staff – Heidi Johnson

Heidi let us know she and Steve Jones have not been on this year's email thread thus far. We will also add Faith Diehl, new VOW director. Voices of Whitaker is going well – will be performing at the Veteran's Day event at Whitaker 11/6. Also invited to sing at a NKU basketball game early January before we are officially back in school yet. Unsure if this will happen at this point. Voices may also sing at Brookdale retirement home in Jan or Feb.

Whitaker band and strings has a concert on Dec. 21 at Whitaker cafeteria, 7 pm.

Heidi J will tell Faith of the tradition of VOW singing at Dinner Before the Show and what that entails.

Elementary Report – VP's Den & Sandy Tenhundfeld

Den spent Tuesday and Thursday with the Whitaker kids talking about the cookie dough fund raiser. All the kids were excited about the IPAD Mini which they could have a chance of winning, especially when they heard a Whitaker student won last year! Their eyes lit up when they heard

about some of the gift cards the FMPA offers for prizes! Hoping for as much success this year as last in sales! Will probably need assistance on the 20th and 21st for picking up and verification of money, due to mine and Sandy's work schedules. So any assistance with order pick up would be greatly appreciated!

Voices of Whitaker is large. On cookie dough kick-off day he stayed in between classes and saw the issue/need for more adult help in band.

Uniform Report – Marsha Grubbs

Membership Report – Joanna Eberhardt

Current membership: 53

Total dues received: \$2220.00 minus payschools fees

I think the Orch/Choir concert this week will help boost visibility of the FMPA. Should I set up a table in the lobby? Will anyone be selling cookie dough there?

Last question: Will we be able to get into the MP for the meeting? Last time, we relied on the staff to let us in and they won't be there tomorrow. AfterProm committee had to meet outside a couple of weeks ago - this is an on going issue.

Communication Report – Deb Amend

There is not much to report for communication. I am planning on focusing the October Newsletter on the Orchestra. It will also contain Cookie Dough Sale info, as well as Private Lesson info. If there is anything else that should be covered in it, please email me this week. My target date is next Friday (14th, I think).

Veronica Bishop offered that she can post on the FT Alumni facebook page, which has 1,700 members. She may not be able to share others' posts, but she is willing to post FMPA stuff if we get it to her. The Friends of Finneytown facebook page is different, and operated by Jim Behr.

Also a request that we get out some communication on fb, etc. that we are a part of the Amazon Smile program. Heidi R. will send out info on how this works – we get a percentage of sales when people use this program.

Website report – Bill Fessler

All should be up to date per Bill.

Treasurer's Report - Heidi Reeb

Ensemble and private lessons payments are starting to come in.

Motion to approve the treasurer's report ending October 10, 2016 made by Den, second by Bill.

Motion passed.

Heidi really needs an assistant treasurer – said this person could start by just being in charge of the finances surrounding the private and ensemble lessons – collect, deposit, track – lots of detailed record-keeping.

School board representative report – Cindy Rebman

OLD BUSINESS

Private Lesson Plan – Maggie Laird

The start has been a bit slow-moving. We have learned a bunch:

- Some think prices are high for private lessons (we know different).
- Started ensemble and private at same time, kind of stepped on our own feet as parents opted for ensemble bcs. so much less expensive.
- People and kids are busy.
- Some instructors are lagging in communication.
- Someone was to have a 4 pm lesson today, but nobody showed. They are changing things around last minute.
- Payment explanation has been given many ways, but is still confusing to folks.
- Feedback on ensemble time – kids ARE allowed to do less than every single session.
- SignUp genius for volunteers is half way done.
- Need an email list of all FMPA members
- NEED MORE CHAPERONE VOLUNTEERS

Motion to have FMPA pay the cost of background checks for chaperones out of the after-school lesson program line item of our budget. Motion made by Sue, second by Den. Motion passed.

Savory Sweets Cookie Dough – Savory Sweets Fall Fundraiser: The cookie dough sale has begun! Parent reps went to the music classes last week to kick off the sale. Students were given a Savory Sweets brochure, order form, and a flyer with details specific to the FMPA sale. Extra brochures and order forms are in the Whitaker and Secondary Campus offices.

The Neighborhood Blitz scheduled for Sunday, October 9th, as it was originally planned was canceled. Students were still encouraged to form groups and go out and sell, but it was not an FMPA organized event. We did still plan a few incentives to motivate the students. We designated "mystery houses" throughout Finneytown where students were given prize vouchers. Students will turn those in this afternoon (Monday, October 10th) and be entered into a raffle for \$50.

A mid-sale email will go out to parents later this week reminding them of the order due date and explaining details of pick-up and delivery.

Class Reps will collect orders and money next Thursday and Friday (October 20th,21st). Details of that process will go out to them later this week too.

Saturday, October 22nd, starting at 10:00, I will double check orders and count money. Any board members that are available are requested to be at my house (7892 Pinemeadow Lane) to help! Coffee and breakfast snacks will be provided!

The plan is to use the PAC Stage this year – folks will still come into the lobby for pickup, we will get the order and run it out to them from the stage.

Business fundraiser initiative – \$1500 so far, Honerlaw & J. Gumbos adding. Promo is on MB trailer, in concert programs, eventually on electronic sign.

NEW BUSINESS

Question about senior banners: Heidi R. already paid for the large banners of senior marching band members. The money came out of marching band expense budget as directed by MK.

Early in our meeting tonight we discussed who can staff the lobby for this week's concert, for memberships and cookie dough. Sue will make an announcement during the program about FMPA.

Veronica and Andy Bishop came tonight to promote the Finneytown Holiday Market on Sat. Nov. 12 at Whitaker elementary. They would like us to join the Market with luminary information for sales. 10am-4 pm on 11/12, have 30 vendors, need customers.

Adjournment – motioned by Den, and Maggie seconded, that we adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

Next meeting is Monday, November 14, 2016 at 7 pm in MP conference room.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Burton, secretary