

Attendees: Den Tenhundfeld, Sue Connell, Brad Delaney, Mike Kennedy, Laura Carroll, Stefanie Schneider, Heidi Rice, Chris Wolferst, Heidi Reeb, Joanna Eberhardt, Maggie Laird, April Bruder, Tina Wuorinen, Bill Fessler, Heidi Johnson, Ric Towner

Secretary's Report – given by Sue Connell

A motion to approve the February and March 2017 minutes via email was made by Sue C. and seconded by Ric. Sue Burton is ill tonight and doesn't have Feb. minutes available for approval tonight. The motion passed.

Correspondence – none.

Due to the April meeting date falling during spring break week, there will be no April meeting.

President's Report – Ric Towner

Looking forward to seeing you all Monday night at our March meeting - sounds like Chorale performed well last night and we're excited to hear the band this afternoon. Here's the planned agenda. Please note the Old and New Business topics and let me know if there are other topics you would like to see added. I've included a current board membership list at the end of the email for our New Business discussion. I am planning on returning for another year if you'll have me (and Jen!). Please send out reports ahead of the meeting if possible.

Ric shared his conversation w/Superintendent Noe re: budget. Budget not finished, goal to fund as this year. We are done fundraising for the year, and we met our budget! Will focus on planning fundraising for next year.

Staff Reports:

Band & Music Dept. – Mike Kennedy

Successful contest! Symphonic Band receive a superior rating. Opportunity to go to state - discussion of conflict of dates & poss. alternative dates.

Upcoming "Music in Our Schools month" band/orchestra/choral concert Thursday 3/23.

Ensemble lessons going well – brass/woodwind/percussion

Upcoming contests – string and vocal soloist contests

HS Band - VP Tina Wuorinen

The Symphonic Band went to large group contest on Saturday (March 11) and got a superior rating! They will be going to state competition later this spring.

Their next concert will be the Music in Our Schools Concert on Thursday, March 23.

We served over 236 people at the Dinner Before the Show on February 17. We collected 166 adult tickets, 32 student tickets, and 38 complimentary tickets. Thanks to LaRosa's for donating and even cooking the food for us. A thank you note was sent to the store in care of Alex, the manager that we worked with.

The first marching band payment was due February 24 and the second one is due March 31.

MS Band – VP April Bruder

Orchestra – Stefanie Schneider

MS orchestra and band combined performance March 23

HS orchestra and band also combined performance March 23

Both orchestras have been playing pieces w/increased difficulty as is band.

Orchestra VP – Heidi Rice

Choirs – Laura Carroll

Chorale competed in OMEA contest Friday, received an “excellent” rating (2).

Upcoming choir concert May 16th – Broadway Pops concert theme. Voices of Whitaker to perform first half. 7-12 choirs perform a piece together including American Sign Language.

HS/MS Choirs – VP Sue Connell

Elementary Music Staff – Heidi Johnson

March came in like a LION at Whitaker! As most of you know: On Wednesday, March 1st our school was closed due to flooding, primarily downstairs. The drain at the bottom of the ramp into the basement could not contain the amount of water rushing down the ramp, so the rain came under the door & into the Media Center, the General Music room, & the Strings room. That morning there was an inch of water covering the floor of all 3 rooms. (The Band room did not get wet at all.....)

Thanks to:

Nick Tippenhauer - he was there at 6:15am & sent out the alarm & went downstairs to get the one string bass that was on the floor in my room up off the floor

Lisa Tenbarge - the students and teachers were allowed to stay home, but she was at school all day moving dehumidifiers & furniture, making calls, figuring out how we could still have school on Thursday, working with Mrs. Noe, etc. (and to Jim Skoog, who also helped)

Terri Noe - she was supervising the clean up, getting the people needed to make sure the area would be clean, safe & ready for students & teachers when the rooms are ready

The Finneytown Maintenance & Custodial Staff - who did most of the physical lifting (including moving every piece of shelving, instruments, cabinets, desks from the music room so they could remove the carpet), cleaning, painting the music room floor, etc., etc., etc.....

I hope I didn't forget anyone; it has definitely been a team effort. In the meantime, orchestra and band met in the cafeteria & locker rooms underneath the carpeted steps, and general music was taught in individual classrooms. The good news is that no string instruments or general music instruments were lost!! Most of them were up on shelving, and the others were salvaged before the worst of the water hit. I did lose quite a few papers that were in 2 milk crates on the floor by my desk (I was sorting through them to file or throw away--I just ended up throwing them all away), and a couple of power strips, and of course all of the floor carpeting, but overall we are in great shape. Band & Orchestra were already back in their rooms last Thursday. Most of the shelving & instruments were moved back into the general music room on Friday; now we are waiting for the new carpets to arrive and we'll be back in our room. Unfortunately, the media center will take a little longer--all of our stuff was in the media center while they removed the carpet & painted the floor.

The other big news: Superintendent Noe announced that the 6th grade classes will be moving to the Secondary Campus & the 2nd grade classes will be moving to Whitaker next year. Please check the Finneytown website for the dates & times of meetings coming up to discuss the changes. How that affects the special areas teachers has yet to be determined. Stay tuned. (P.S. I have requested that I be allowed to stay at Whitaker full-time).

Other than that: The 5th & 6th grade Orchestra classes are working on their music for the May 11 concert at the PAC with the Secondary Campus Orchestras.

3rd grade music program (at Whitaker, during the school day) will probably be Wednesday, May 24.

4th graders have been learning about the instruments that are available to play in 5th grade--looking forward to recruiting for next year soon!

Faith Diehl has been working w/students for May 16th concert.

Elementary Report – VP's Den & Sandy Tenhundfeld

Uniform Report – Tina shared, discussion re: having 2 teams for uniforms, one for marching band and another for concert wear. Heidi Rice reached out to Amanda Angert and she is interested in serving. Stressed need for students to keep their names on/with uniforms/dresses. Discussed ways to help w/this as it is a major dissatisfier.

Membership Report – Joanna Eberhardt

We added one patron and one alumnus this month so we are up to 70 members. We reached 80 members last year, so I would like to step it up between now and the end of the year. I would love to have a table set up for the concert next week - and maybe have a laptop there for folks to join online. If our March Music Notes will be ready this might be an occasion to have hard copies available for all in attendance and point out that members get one EVERY month. Is making hard copies in the budget? Heidi Reeb will show Joanna how to use the Clovergo (Square) for credit card purchases.

I am looking for a replacement for next year.

Communication Report – Deb Amend

The March newsletter is out for approval (and needs only the Word from the President and updated member list).

I am still working on the best frequency and information. Moving forward, I would like next year to move the newsletter to every 2 months:

July/August -- focus on Band and upcoming fundraisers

September/October -- focus on teachers and orchestra

Nov/December -- focus on upcoming fundraisers and choral department

January/February -- Dinner before the Show and Musical

March/April -- Contests and a photo gallery of the Musical

May/June -- Wrap up for the year and promote open positions in FMPA

Vertical Response also has some 1 graphic news alert emails that we may want to use for quick reminders for big events (like DBS), etc. for next year.

Also, I was thinking that if parents on the committee at events and can snap pictures and send me any good ones, it would be very helpful. I can get them approved by MK before posting or using in the newsletter. I'm having a hard time finding pictures that don't have my kids in them!

The Facebook page is averaging about 300 views per post, with posts with pictures by far out performing. We have 148 people following the page.

I will not be at the meeting tonight (Monday nights are hard for us since Rob works late) as I have to assist Aly with her practicing.

Website report – Bill Fessler

Unable to make Google Doc workable. Would like to move key documents to Google Drive.

Treasurer's Report - Heidi Reeb

Laura Beverly is now collecting for private lessons.

Treasurer's report ending March 12, 2017 reviewed. (I don't see that we ever motioned/approved the treasurer's report this month – ed.)

School board representative report – Scott Haarlammert

OLD BUSINESS

Private Lesson Plan – Maggie Laird – The second session ended the last week of February for private lessons. The third session is underway and well and the first week of May.

We currently have 23 students taking private lessons. The breakdown is as follows-

10 percussion

3 voice

3 string

3 low brass

4 clarinet/ saxophone

There are 10 students who have unpaid balances. I have emailed six of these students parents explaining the payment procedure and how much they owe. The other four have not been emailed yet as I am still waiting on the instructors to let me know how many lessons they have attended.

Communication with some of the instructors continues to be cumbersome.

Two of the instructors will be mailed their February checks this week. I'm still waiting on the other instructors to let me know how many lessons they have taught.

I will send parent emails out again right after spring break with Final payment procedures and how much people owe.

As always I am open to suggestions on how to run this in a smoother fashion next year.

Discussion re: \$2500 budgeted for after school lesson program, currently none has been spent. Per Maggie there is approx. \$1200 in unpaid lessons. Trying to get a handle on which parents owe what, which teachers need to be paid how much. Lesson cancellations on short or no notice with failure of some teachers to submit hours for payment makes it difficult to track. Discussed use of a pre-paid punch card system to keep track of lessons which have been given.

Discussed using budgeted 2500 in the following manner:

- 115 move to admin cost to cover cost of Clovergo credit card payment system
- 1500 move to Marching band budget for next year which would increase 2017-18 to 11000
- leaving 885 to defray unpaid lessons this year.

Motion by Dan to reduce afterschool lessons to 1000 for next year and increase marching band budget to 11,000. Seconded by Tina, motion approved.

Dinner Before the Show – lessons learned/planning for next year:

We served over 236 people at the Dinner Before the Show on February 17. We collected 166 adult tickets, 32 student tickets, and 38 complimentary tickets. Thanks to LaRosa's for donating and even cooking the food for us. A thank you note was sent to the store in care of Alex, the manager that we worked with. (Per Tina).

Dan was concerned the food was not good – no meatballs, no sauce from LaRosa's this year. Need to be clearer with our expectations.

Discussed ways to increase alumni participation – 3% level. School needs to launch an alumni association.

Thank you to parent jazz band.

Letterhead for Thank You to large donors.

NEW BUSINESS

FMPA Board recruiting for 2017-18 and beyond

Current possibilities:

	2016-17	2017-18
President	Ric Towner	Ric Towner
Secretary	Sue Burton	Sue Burton
Treasurer	Heidi Reeb	Heidi Reeb
Assistant Treasurer	Laura Beverly	Laura Beverly
HS Orchestra	Heidi Rice	Heidi Rice
MS Orchestra	Heidi Rice	Heidi Rice
HS Band	Tina Wourinen	Tina Wourinen
MS Band	April Bruder	April Bruder
HS Chorus	Sue Connell	Sue Connell
MS Chorus	Open	Open
Elementary Rep	Den & Sandy Tenhundfeld	Den & Sandy Tenhundfeld
Communications	Deb Amend	Deb Amend
Uniforms	Marsha Grubbs	Amanda Angert?
Uniform Assistant	Open	Open
Membership	Joanna Eberhardt	Open
Web site	Bill Fessler	Bill Fessler
Private Lessons Coordinator	Maggie Laird	Maggie Laird
Bid and Buy Project Leader	Dan Deitsch	April Bruder
59 Min Fund Raiser Project Leader	Ric Towner	Ric Towner
Savory Sweets Project Leader	Chris Wolfert	Chris Wolfert

Due to spring break week, a motion was made by Ric to cancel our April meeting. Seconded by Den, motion approved. Ric will meet with MK re: budgeting items for next year.

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

Next meeting is Monday, May 8, at 7 pm in MP conference room.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Burton, secretary, as scribed by Sue Connell