



Parent Meeting

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

Call to Order

Band Director, Jon Brown, called the meeting to order at approximately 6:10 pm.

Sign In

(See Sign In Sheet attached)

Reading of Previous Minutes

Automatically waived since this is the first meeting under this structure.

Board Member Reports

- Chaperones (Dawn Brockhoff)
 - No report. Dawn was not present.

- **Percussion (Christian Lau, James Jordan)**
 - No report.
 - Mr. Willis mentioned that the Steel Band was invited to the Great City Schools Conference and that went over very well. They received a subsequent invitation for an event at the ELC on Wednesday, December 14 at the ELC. (This was arranged by Scott Evans at the District.)

- **Guard (Irma Connelly, Alexsa Shever)**
 - Irma noted that rehearsals are taking place, and auditions were today.
 - Mr. Brown has upcoming performance dates and these will be shared by Thursday.
 - Irma mentioned the need for a flatbed (to pull around the school) and a trailer. They have raised some money. Jasmin has an unlicensed Trailer she is willing to donate. Jasmin will get with Mr. Brown to follow the necessary OCPS vehicle inspection procedure and registration.
 - Mr. Willis encouraged everyone in attendance to attend at least one of the upcoming Winter Guard Performances.
 - Alexsa expressed thanks for the support of the Guard's fundraiser.

- **Fundraising (Dr. Amy Wright, Marc Yoder)**
 - Marc asked if it would be feasible to get a trio of kids from the Band to play at Publix. We would need to bring a folding table, and a TV to show the performance video. Mr. Brown agreed and Marc will secure some dates.
 - Marc will use the OCPS school-zoned map to decide on the store locations.
 - Ivan asked if the Band has access to Cashapp or Zelle. Mr. Brown noted that there are two payment systems that the Band has access to - School pay (used for concessions and internal stuff) and the OCPS Foundation (more flexibility).

- **Hospitality (Kat Sutherland)**
 - Plans are underway for the upcoming Dance after the Band Concert. The DJ is booked. There will be a charge of \$10 per person. The Winter Concert is on December 6, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm; and the dance will take place from 8:00 to 10:00 pm.
 - The Prism Concert is scheduled for December 10 at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$15.00 and are available for purchase on **Teachtix.com/uhs**. Mr. Brown informed that ticket sale from the Prism Concert fund the scholarships given at Contio in April.
 - *[Prism Concert – more information to be forthcoming. Need to keep it under 35 groups so some groups are not able to perform].*
- **Health & Safety (Jasmine Caldwell, Dawn Brockhoff)**
 - Jasmine is working with Nikki to update the forms for next year making them pdf fillable with responses going directly to the band website. This is to ensure that all the information is collected.
 - Mr. Brown suggested that we start thinking about incoming freshmen getting the required EKG and all other students will need new physicals. We need to ensure that new parents have that information. We will discuss more at the January meeting. Trena will check with Dr. Patel regarding providing EKG free of charge.
 - Mr. Brown would like to hear from new parents about anything they wish they knew at the beginning of the year. Please email your comments to Samary Hill – samaryhill10@gmail.com
- Communications (Tracy Lau, Trena DeMarco)
 - No report.
- Member at Large (Liz Dehalt)
 - No report. Liz was not present.

Committee Reports

- Concessions Coordinator (Gabriel Pedrero, Kerri Cathcart)
 - No report.
 - Mr. Willis noted that the FFCC University on March 11 would involve concession sales.

New Business

- **Marching Band debrief**
 - *Mr. Brown:* The season did not end the way we wanted due to equipment failure. Despite that, it was a successful year. Our students did well in the competitions. The kids for the most part have moved on from the disappointment.
 - **Communication** was a cause for concern. It appears that everyone is not on the same page. Mr. Brown will send out the remind app sign-up.

Other thoughts:

- Is there a volunteer cap? For in-person events, 1 chaperone per 10 students; some events are limited to the number of passes received from hosting site; on field trips to another school, we bring the number of people that we need. If you didn't make the cut-off and you still want to go, and there are seats on the bus, we wouldn't turn you away.
- The volunteer sign-up system is designed to make sure we have enough people, not to limit chaperones. There are a few events where we have a cutoff.
- Chaperone guidance is needed. Many are clueless as to what we need help with at certain times when on assignment.
- Trena suggested that Ivan record some training videos and interview Marlene Martin.
- Mr. Brown suggests having a core team of chaperones, and then requesting other volunteers, especially for the football games. We should get people who have chaperoned before and know what they are doing but we also need to bring in freshman parents.
- Marc would like to work on streamlining the loading and unloading of the vehicle for all the scaffolding. He noted that in any volunteer organization, it is 20% of the people do 80% of the work. We could capture a video of experiences and share it with other parents to encourage them to volunteer.
- Mr. Brown suggested that we could also have a few parents share their experiences at Open House. Ivan accepted the challenge to interview some parents.
- Mr. Willis suggested sending out a google survey for all parents – what went well this year? What can we do better?
- James Jordan suggested making a web app to capture all that we are discussing. He also suggested that we put all in a book and sell the book, donating the proceeds to the band.
- Eric noted that as a freshman parent he saw where his son started; cried at every game and competition, and overall it was a great experience. He expressed thanks! Eric also noted that one thing that was instrumental for him was the Remind App.
- Mr. Brown asked if any parent could translate notices in Spanish.
- Christian asked if we could bring back the concessions credit of \$5 for anyone who volunteers at the concession stand.
- Mr. Willis mentioned that they are considering purchasing a portable AC unit for the concession stand.

• New Articles of Operation

Members were asked to review the draft and make any suggested edits.

<https://uhsband.com/parents/lounge/Articles%20of%20Operation.pdf>

Other discussion:

- By way of information, Mr. Brown explained that the Foundation money is held with the ELC. Band Directors have a check request process and the Foundation mail them a check. These funds roll over from year to year. School pay, on the other hand, has strict regulations. School pay should be used during the school year.
- Samary will get more information on access to the Orange County auctions on trucks and equipment.

- Marc has contact with a Driver who drives for Oviedo, Cypress Creek, and Timbercreek. When we get a trailer, we might be able to work with him as he has other drivers he employs.
- Eric mentioned again that the Band Director consider reaching out to UCF for their hand-me-down instruments.
- **Formation of an Official Fundraising Committee**
 - There being no objection, Marc Yoder will serve as Fundraising Chair.
 - Mr. Brown is putting together a big ticket checklist – box truck, trailer, instruments; audio mixer; etc.
- **Need an event manager for FFCC University on March 11, 2023**
 - Making sure all the volunteer positions are filled - Liz DeHalt
 - Nurse Stations
 - Hospitality for the Judges

Open Floor

- Open discussion from any band parent (especially on what can we improve for next marching season)
- Jasmine: People on First Aid should not have additional chaperone duties.
- Marc: How many kids are in Marching Band? 134. If it is up to Mr. Brown it would be 175. Have we taken the Band to perform for our Feeder middle schools? Mr. Brown responded that most of the time the Principals have not been super amenable.
- The Jazz Band has gone on a middle school tour. Logistically it is quite a feat.
- Kat: Suggest that we perform for the **Elementary school**. The Principal of Cypress Springs is open to the idea. The Band performed at Legacy Middle school after their band concert.
- The Band has also hosted Pre-MPA with Union Park and Legacy Middle schools.
- Mr. Brown mentioned that anyone who has contact with the Principals should ask them to reach out to Principal Ott to invite the band. That goes over well.
- Samary & Karen: Orlando Magic and Solar Bears allow performers and fundraisers. Samary and Karen will reach out to find contact persons.

Announcements

- Winter Guard Auditions (today, Thursday)
- Winter Concert (December 6) - email to be sent with the details
- Disney invited us to January Marathons - the actual dates are to be determined
- Mr. Brown was nominated Manilow Teacher's Award - Winner gets \$5K for new instruments. Votes are by fan favorites and the voting period is from December 6 to 28, 2022.

Set Date for Next Meeting

January 10, 2022, 6:00 pm

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 pm.