

Instrumental Music Boosters
Board Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2006

Opening and Welcome - 7:00 P.M.John Sayre
Minutes.....Jill RachBeisel

A brief, informal summary of the highlights of the November meeting was given. A motion was made, a second and a unanimous vote to accept received.

REPORTS:

1. Band Director Report.....Chris Cambell

- A. There was a great turn out for the winter concerts. Everything went smoothly and all the support from the Band Boosters was greatly appreciated. The programs, ticket sales and manning the doors all were terrific.
- B. The Howard High 2006 Musical is in the WWII setting and will be accompanied by the Jazz Ensemble - takes place March 9-11.
- C. The Howard High Concert and Symphonic Bands will be participating in the Howard County Music Festival at Glenelg High School:
 - a. Friday, March 17 @ 2PM- Concert Band
 - b. Saturday, March 18- Symphonic Band
- D. The Annual Music Department Trip planning is underway and going well. A cruise has been planned to be part of the experience and it is going to be a good time!

2. Orchestra Director Report.....Ben Denne

- A. A mid-term exam is being given that will include performance and a written part.
- B. The computer lab is being set up but taking more time than anticipated. The lab should be fully functional by the start of the next school year, and possibly sooner.
- C. The orchestra is working on some really GREAT new music. (Mr. Denne detailed the pieces but the secretary wasn't on the ball to write it all down! You will have to come to the Spring Concert to find out what it is AND hear it!!)
- D. The Orchestra is also playing in the Howard County Festival in March.
- E. Planning for Next Year:

Mr. Denne announced that due to a wide range of skill among the students coming in next year, he will be forming two orchestra groups: A Higher level and lower level to accommodate better instruction for the students. The lower level group will be working on more basic musical skills with appropriate music and the higher level group will be able to take on more challenging music. All students in the current orchestra will be included in the higher level group. However, if a student would prefer to join the lower group so as to have more basic instruction, that would be fine. Incoming students will try out for appropriate placement.

3. Treasurer Report.....Ed Pettus

A. Account balances:

- 1. Checking account.....\$20,187.00
 - a. Uniform sub-account.....\$19,243.00
 - b. Student accounts.....\$11,201.00
- 2. CD Account.....\$17,435.00

B. Barnes and Noble income.....\$210.83

C. Fruit and Cheese income.....\$1,868.00

D. A motion was received and seconded. The report was accepted

4. Fundraising Report.....(For)..Brenda Brewington

A. February 23 is the next Pizzeria Uno's Night

B. Superbowl Pizza sale ends Jan 19th and pick up is Tuesday, Jan 31 at the school

5. ColorGuard Report.....Kathy Burton

Nothing to report. A coach was never found and the group is not actively meeting at this time.

6. Orchestra Report.....(Jill for)..Dan Beisel

Nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS

1. Patron Program- Chris has letter finished and will forward to Lisa for mailing.

2. Student Assessments-

A. Only 22 of 150 students have paid the band assessment. This money is essential in supporting the activities of both bands including bus travel, music etc. It was agreed that Colleen will send out reminders to parents who have not paid.

B. Student Account balances will be posted on the web site by Ed Pettus by a Randomly assigned number.

3. Student participation

The participation of student representatives was again raised and it was agreed that Chris would get student reps. But that they had to be given useful things to do. Ideas were generated and include:

1. Survival Kit- solicit ideas of what the students want in them
2. Ideas for movies on the bus. Movies must be PG-13
3. Chris asked for more ideas

4. Concert Update

A review of the winter concert revealed that:

- a. Kate and Jeff had too much help and future concerts would require fewer volunteers.
- b. There was a problem with people walking in and out of the auditorium and talking throughout the performance as well as bringing in food when specifically asked not to.
- c. A total of 560 tickets were sold across both nights!
- d. Chris and Ben were very pleased.

Next Concerts:

- a. May 9th and 11th
- b. Pre-concert practice will be held on March 14th - no charge
- c. It was suggested to have more trash cans, tear the tickets and Have only one door open to monitor flow of guests more easily.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Trip Planning

1. Spirit Wear will be sold prior to the trip. Chris is looking at an Ensemble shirt that is really neat.
2. 4 buses will be going- 174 students, 16 chaperones plus Chris and Ben
3. Choral may not go due to lack of interest
4. There will be a parent meeting April 25th for all students planning to go on the trip.
5. Trip Date- April 27-30

B. Howard County Food Policy Proposal:

There has been extensive discussions about what food should be permitted on school property. Apparently this has been raised by concerned parents who consider the nutritional value of food in Howard County Schools to be

very poor. While the new policy has been placed on HOLD, when put in place will effect:

1. selling concessions (no hot dogs at football games!)
2. Award banquets- (can't have pot luck dinners- must be catered)
3. No food in classrooms
4. No sugared sodas and No snack foods
5. There will be a clearly limited # of fat and carbs grams permitted.

C. Meeting of the Presidents of Howard County Booster Clubs

1. Howard High Band assessments are in the middle range in the county. There are schools that are much higher (and do no fund raising) and schools much lower (but expect students to pay as they go along.)
2. Howard High is the ONLY Band Booster Club NOT a non-profit with a 501 (c)3. A discussion was held about the pros and cons.
 - i. Pros- liability would be taken away from the members completely, would be eligible for foundation money and alumni could leave us money in their wills!!
 - ii. Cons- current group would have to disband, would require legal fees and lawyers to draw up agreement, would require bi-laws and would then have to file tax returns.

It was agreed that Ed Pettus will investigate further.

D. Middle School Auditions are Underway

1. Chris is beefing up the marching band and will expand the numbers from 65 to about 100. We have the uniforms and the talent.
2. Students from the Concert band will be eligible to try out for Marching Band.
3. Ben will be assessing new students for appropriate level of orchestra.

NEXT MEETING- February 15 at 7PM

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill A RachBeisel

Jill A. RachBeisel, Secretary at Large

