

Western Brown Band Boosters

Meeting Notes – August 6, 2009

Attendees: Dan Beusterien, Anna Beusterien, Lynn Arnold, Tony Arnold, Sandy Kelly, Kim Blair, Elizabeth Macdonald, Marla Humphries, Missy Willoughby, P Caudill. I may have missed some who did not sign sheet or I could not make out – will make sure everyone prints next time.

Finance Update

- Effective 7/26/2009, Theresa Yockey resigned as treasurer. New Co-Treasurer Sandy Kelly was named to join Lynn Arnold, who was Co-Treasurer with Theresa and will continue to serve as Co-Treasurer with Sandy.
- We are still waiting to receive the funds from the Ford fundraiser. The check is sent to Mr. Kratzer to distribute so we may not receive this until after school starts.
- A suggestion was made that in addition to paying the BOA fee to stay in Indianapolis, students should have paid their band fees as well. Money should go to fees first and once paid, they can pay the additional to stay for BOA. If we cannot institute this year, it should definitely be done next year. Someone said they thought they saw this noted on the website. I looked and did not see it.
- Sandy and Lynn sent a letter out for us to review to communicate to parents/students who still owe band fees from last year or have not paid their fees this year. The letters should be handed out to students on Aug. 7.
- It was also discussed that we need to make a stronger effort to communicate with parents up front much earlier in the year when student signs up for band and signs contract, perhaps through a required parent meeting. The importance of fees and schedule for paying fees would be discussed. We could also use this meeting to communicate the importance of parent involvement in the booster meetings and other activities. While we don't want the inability to pay to keep students from marching band, we need to determine which students need help versus which ones can pay but have not.
- According to the packet that is handed out when students join marching band, fees are to be paid in full by 7/31, prior to band camp because this money is used for instructors brought in for band camp as well as any additional uniform needs. However we have a large amount of fees outstanding which is causing financial stress on meeting our obligations.
- Unpaid fee totals are as follows:

Non-Returning Band Members (2008 fees) - \$1294.93

Non Returning Color guard (2008 fees) - \$1343.66

2009 Band Member Fees - \$5637.71

2009. Color guard Fees- \$1173.50

Current Band Members still owing 2008 fees - \$627.66

- Question was raised as to whether or not any band fees paid are refunded if student quits the marching band. We do not think this is in the current contract. Practice in the past has been to refund all except the 50.00 commitment fee. However since items are purchased and instruction is based on number of students, we would like to incorporate into the contract a refund policy something to the effect of - If student gives notice prior to the beginning of band camp that they are leaving, we will refund 50% of any fees paid above the commitment fee. If they do not give notice or leave after band camp, fees paid are not refunded.

Reed Updates

- Mr. Reed was not in attendance. He is with band members who went to see the DCI show. New updated lists of band students with parent names, email addresses, and phone numbers were handed out. New count seems to be around 47 kids including color guard.

Band Camp

- Uniform sizing has been done. Mr. Reed is ordering any new shoes needed.
- Black pants, white shirts, and black suspenders are being acquired as cheaply as possible for the drum line and Pit. Jen is working on getting the color guard uniforms together and/or ordered.
- Anna is coordinating getting snacks for kids during camp. She has reached out for help from other parents and has it under control.
- Marla and/or Kim will coordinate getting Larosa Pizza using buddy cards for supper on the Thursday night second week of camp. We will ask the kids to get \$3.00 to Miranda by Wednesday for the Pizza. We have leftover pop and water to serve them.
- T-shirt sizes have been collected and Dan will order shirts on Monday. T-shirts are included in the band fees. Parents at the meeting had the opportunity to buy additional shirts for \$5.00. They will also take orders at the parent preview for parents there who want them. Sweatshirts orders will be taken in the near future as well.
- Dan, Anna, and Marla are working to finalize names for sponsors for the invitational and/or other help provided by businesses for names that should be on the back of the t-shirts as sponsors. These need to be known by Monday for the t-shirt order. They should also receive one shirt depending on level of support.

Fundraiser Update

- The car wash planned in Butterbees parking lot was canceled due to rain. We would need to confirm new dates in order to have it. We discussed having it the Saturday before school starts – Aug 22. I captured the suggestion but not if someone was going to follow up and check on date??
- March-a-thon – We will be doing a march-a-thon some Thursday during practice most likely in September. It will be on a designated route through Mount Orab. The Kids will be collecting money from residents and businesses. Money raised will go toward band fees of the kids participating. If band fees are paid, it can go toward student BOA trip fee. Scott to pick date.
- Pepsi booths at the fair will again be a huge fundraiser for us. Dan will ask for volunteers during Parent Preview at the end of band camp and will then email it out to fill the slots.
- Idea was brought up to see if we can get some future support from Wal-Mart since they are planning to open in our community. Kim will check into process for requesting this.

WB Band Invitational

- We anticipate hosting around 15 bands at our invitational. Please mark October 17 on your calendar and plan to help. We will need all hands on deck to make it a successful event!

- We will most likely have 1-2 additional meeting in Sept-Oct just for Invitational planning.
- We will need a nurse on site. Tony and Lynn will check with one they know and get back to us on outcome. Dan mentioned having an ambulance on site like they do at football games but we think that may be too expensive and may not be needed if we can get a nurse to volunteer.
- Note is made that we want to set up some separate lines for just pop to route the concession stand lines more effectively.

Misc

- **Reminder for Scott from last meeting** -- Dr. Tim Leadership Workshop - This is at Centerville HS on Tuesday August 18 from 1:00-3:30. Cost is 35.00. It is recommended for juniors and seniors but younger may go at band director's discretion. Scott will bring up during band camp to determine interest.
- We discussed the practice that has been established of giving senior marching band members a scholarship of \$200.00 .We need to discuss in the future if this is something we can still support given financial situation. It was suggested to limit the amount or limit this to students who are going into music in college. We need to revisit this at some point for a decision.
- Setty is planning to be here on the last Friday of band camp to take band photos. We discussed whether or not uniforms, particularly for guard will be ready. Elizabeth Macdonald advised that she is sure they could arrange to come at a later date. This was the day arranged by Tim Cook – most likely because they are taking other sports photos that day at the school. **Mr. Reed needs to decide and have date changed if needed.**