

FINNEYTOWN MUSIC PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES
Mon., November 8, 2010; 7:00 P.M.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Bill Fessler, Kimberly Kidd, Jane Elliott, Penny Sauer, Cathy Zimmerly, Angela Murphy, Cheryl Shrider, Dawn Miklavcic, Brenda Dennis, Colleen, Grogan, Sue Burton, Kelley Hickey

SECRETARY'S REPORT: September minutes were approved with the addition of Brenda Dennis in attendance. Cheryl moved; Dawn seconded.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: The year is off to a good start with the Savory Foods orders all turned in. Thanks to Ric and Jenny Towner, assisted by Claire Snyder for coordinating the sale. Totals are under last year's phenomenal numbers but the sale was very successful.

Thanks to Cathy and Jane for helping provide the football team with cookies. The team won their final game of the year, and the cookies might have been a factor.

Penny reminded us that Mike Kennedy received the PTA's Friend of Children Award last spring, which was well deserved because of the many ways he goes above and beyond for the students.

Thanks to acting editor Kelley and to Angela and Cathy for coordinating the efforts of many band parents to prepare the Autumn *Music Notes* for mailing.

We are grateful to Heidi Fallon at the Hilltop for the recent cover article, with photo, about FMPA's luminary sale. Finneytown Civic Association is also actively promoting Light Up Finneytown.

CORRESPONDENCE: none

STAFF AND BOARD REPORTS

Heidi Johnson & Jane Elliott & Dawn Gast (HS and MS Orchestra)

Upcoming events:

Friday, November 12 - Taft Museum Artist-In-Residence this year is a violinist, and she will be coming out to work with the MS Orchestra students from 11-1. Thanks in advance to Dawn Gast, who is putting together a pizza lunch for the students.

Thursday, November 18 - the Elementary Instrumental Program at 7:00pm at the PAC. Dr. Kessler gave me permission to take the strings students during the day for a dress rehearsal and to talk about behavior as a performer and as a member of the audience. We will be in the PAC between 9:30-11:30 if anyone wants to come help!

Thursday, December 2 - the Secondary Campus Instrumental Program at 7:00pm in the PAC.

Monday, December 6 - Members of the Orchestras will be performing for a Senior Citizens group at the Powell Crosley YMCA from 12:10-12:40.

Friday, December 10 - Members of the Orchestras will be performing at the Brunch (in the MP) at Finneytown High School for the Senior Citizens annual Brunch and Concert.

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi M. Johnson
Orchestra Director, Finneytown Schools

Jane reported that Heidi did purchase the 14 violin outfits from Baroque Violin Shop. The Orchestra's "Wedding" concert was held at Northminster Church's Founder's Hall, a good sized room for the 19-member group. Jane provided the group with a dinner and suitable substitutes for white socks. Dawn Gast organized the "bridal party" from among the elementary string students.

Jason McKee, Kimberly Kidd and Sue Burton (HS and MS Chorus)

Choral Report for November 2010 Minutes

- 1) The NKU Honor Choir is November 7-9 and is the reason I can't attend this month's meeting since the rehearsal starts at 7pm. Abby Bolling, Katie Bramble, Ken Bouman, Caleb Burton, Colin Connell, John Cooker, Morgan Danyi, Jeff Grogan, Bree McLaren, Brooke Nichols, Erin Strobl, and Ali Taylor will represent Finneytown this year with students from southwest Ohio, southeast Indiana, and northern Kentucky at the concert at Greaves Concert Hall on Tuesday, November 9th at 7:00pm.
- 2) OMEA District 14 Honor Choir: Dr. Lynda Hasseler of Capital University will lead this year's honor choir accompanied by composer Craig Courtney at the College Theatre at the College of Mount St. Joseph at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, November 12th. Abby Bolling, Tara Keller, Alfred Kimbro, Caroline Michaelson, Kody Sexton, and Megan Zimmerer were all selected to perform with students from across Hamilton and Clermont Counties.
- 3) Kettering Fairmount High School A Cappella Festival: Noteworthy travels to Kettering Fairmont High School this Saturday, November 13th for the annual a cappella festival. They will participate in workshops, a performance clinic, and get to attend a fantastic concert that evening featuring the Kettering groups, Tiffin University's Up in the Air, a one-man band named Mr. Tim, and a group from Boston called Firedrill who recently won a CARA award for Best Pop/Rock Album. The students were very excited and learned a lot last year, so this year should be even better!
- 4) MS Choir students have been placing orders for their polo shirt, and the process seems to be going well this year. Sue has done a fantastic job of keeping track of students' orders and sizing!
- 5) Auditions for this year's production of Anything Goes are November 22rd and 23th. Audition information has been publicized via school announcements and in the choirs over the past week, and audition packets are available outside Mr. Maus's office.
- 6) Chorale has a number of upcoming performance opportunities! They have been invited to perform for the STAR64 holiday choral show this year and will be filming on Friday, November 19th on Fountain Square! They will also sing for Brookdale Place residents on Tuesday, December 7th and for a crowd at Northminster on Thursday, December 16th after exams. I want to thank all of the students for giving of their time to make their community proud!
- 7) OMEA District 14 Junior High Honor Choir: Reading HS will be hosting the MS Honor Choir. Rehearsals are 2/10, 2/25, and 2/26 with the concert the night of 2/26. The conductor is Dr. Eva Floyd, new music education faculty at CCM.
- 8) HS Solo & Ensemble Update: As of today, Elder HS is the only site for this year's S&E on Saturday, February 12th. Student registration fees are \$15 for solos and \$20 for ensembles. Students will need to make arrangements for an accompanist and can check with Brenda Hartman.
- 9) HS Choir Contest: Even though it isn't until March, there is a real concern that District 14 will have a choir contest since no school has volunteered to host. Harrison HS is hosting bands on March 18-19, 2011. If no school in District 14 hosts choirs, we may be forced to go out of district to District 13's event on March 11-12, 2011 at Lebanon Jr. High School.

Immediately after I sent my report, we found out that Harrison will also be hosting choir contest, but it's a bit unusual. District 14 President Dr. Ann Porter says that Harrison has volunteered to host choirs on Saturday, March 19th **only** at the Methodist Church near the school. She has given folks until next Friday to volunteer their facilities.

10) MS Band/Choir/Orchestra Contest will be hosted at the new Mt. Healthy High School May 13-14, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,
Jason McKee
Director of Choirs
Finneytown High School & Middle School

Sue reports that she is still receiving a few straggler polo shirt orders for the middle school choruses.

Rick Canter & Dawn Miklavcic (Music Department and HS Band)

FMPA Meeting Report
11/8/10

I will not be at the meeting on Monday, due to a family commitment.

1) Congratulations to the Marching Band on a fantastic season. The band received a superior rating at the OMEA State Marching Band Finals in Columbus on October 30th. The band will be recognized at the Board of Education meeting on Monday, December 13 at 7:00 PM.

This is the fourth straight year that the band received a Superior Rating at the OMEA State Marching Band Finals, including superior ratings by the Color Guard and Percussion. This year's band has earned numerous awards, including first place at every contest, a superior rating at every contest, best overall awards in general effect and in percussion and the highest score in school history. As a Class B school (based on school enrollment), this year's band successfully placed higher than every Class A, B and C Band they faced. Only seven bands all season scored higher than Finneytown: Kettering, Turpin, Lakota West, Grove City, Beavercreek, Hilliard Darby and Fairfield (by two points at Hamilton). Finneytown has placed first in their class at 17 straight contests, dating back to 2006. I am extremely proud of all of the students- what a season!

Thank you to all of the parents, Finneytown staff, community members, alumni, friends and family that came up to Columbus to support the band. Also, a big thank you to all of our parents that helped throughout the season, especially: Dawn Miklavcic (VP of High School Band) for organizing everything and delegating the many responsibilities and pre-game picnics, Cheryl Shrider and the rest of the uniform crew for their hard work fitting so many students and distributing uniforms, Ron Hartman and the rest of the Pit Crew for doing an amazing job of loading, organizing and transporting all of our equipment, Tony Gast for donating his van for transporting the large keyboard instruments, Stefanie Inman for organizing chaperones, and all of the parents who hosted pre-game picnics and helped with food service before contests- especially Monica Haines for helping get Bucca de Beppo to donate two of our meals.

Thank you to Heidi Johnson for sharing some of her students with us, which helped the strength of our Color Guard and Pit Percussion.

2) There will be a meeting about the splitting of the band for contest season on Tuesday evening, November 9 at 6:00 PM in the Band Room. In short, we must split for a few reasons- the main reason being that OMEA Contest allows no more than 88 members for contest and we have 105. The meeting will discuss why we are splitting and what we are doing to make sure it is a success for all students. We will split for contest and we will do some music together and some music separately for the final concert of the year.

3) The first Whitaker Band and Strings concert of the year will be Thursday, November 18 at 7:00 PM in the PAC.

4) The MS and HS Band and Orchestra Holiday Concert will be on Thursday, December 2nd at 7:00 PM in the PAC.

5) Several of our high school band students are auditioning for the OMEA District 14 Honor Band. High School auditions will take place on Monday, November 15.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Canter
Director of Bands/Music Dept. Chair
Finneytown Local School District

Dawn reports:

- 1) I will be sending out Thank You's to all the FABULOUS volunteers this upcoming weekend.
- 2) This marching band season was amazing. It has been an absolute honor being the 'band mom'!

PS: Band rocks, and Dawn is seeking her "successor."

Mike Kennedy & Angela Murphy (MS Band) :

Angela reported that MS Honor Band auditions are taking place this evening at Princeton HS. ?????
Also, eight Junior High soloists played with the band: Tabitha Adams, Heather Gamble, Maureen Hickey,
Luke Steimle, Molly Brown, Janelle Bouman, Beth Morgan and Alex Brown. ??????

Steve Jones, Marya Rusinak, Kim Fain (Elementary Music) : Not present

Colleen Grogan (Membership): Our membership numbers saw a big increase at the "Meet the Chorus" concert, but we are still about 30 below our totals from last year. We expect another "bump" at December 2's instrumental concert. With that in mind, Colleen is sending a reminder email for faculty to send out before the December 2 concert. As of now, contributions total \$3,961 with \$2150 from Memberships and \$1421 from Patrons and Other. Colleen will send names to Kelley for the December *Music Notes*.

Uniform Report: Cheryl Shrider and Brenda Dennis:

Brenda reports: Round two of concert wear fittings begins this week, for band. There is a very short turnaround time, as their first concert is early in December. I try to limit fitting days to Monday, Wednesday, and Friday so as to not disrupt x period chorus, but due to working nights, just getting to x period is challenging for me. Anyone wanting to join the fun is welcome starting this Wednesday at 7:10 AM. Angela, Jane, and Colleen agreed to help out.

All the red dresses that were backordered are now in, so another round of fitting dresses is also in the near future. In addition, middle school orchestra polo shirt order forms have gone home, as have order forms for MS chorus shirts, thanks to Sue Burton. Those orders will be placed shortly with Hometown Threads.

Last year I think our procedure was to pay for the shirts from the uniform budget, and to replace those funds to uniforms as the students paid for their shirts. This allows for FMPA to purchase the number of shirts needed, and to loan shirts to students who have financial issues purchasing their shirts. Is that acceptable to Cathy and everyone else for this year? Or am I making things over-complicated? Cathy finds this acceptable as long as it is tracked—which Sue will take care of.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Dennis
Concert wear diva

Cheryl reports: Taking care of this year's marching band business...there are many thank you to the awesome uniform crew...I will be sending thank you notes to each one. I know Dawn will be doing this also.

Looking forward to next year...begins now!

1. Revamping the uniform room - working forming a committee with the uniform mom crew and the dads to make it happen. Jessica Hadley will be the NHS student who will head up the painting of the doors (art work on both doors outside - band art work on band side and chorus art work on chorus side) + the organizing the many sheets of music.
2. Tuesday, November 9th meeting with Mr. Volz's community service students who will be revamping the percussion room to discuss making closets for the percussion uniforms to stay in that room and also be locked up.
3. Need to figure out how we can dispose of the old marching band uniforms. I know some will go to Shawn Maus. Do we need to do up a request to the board? Does Rick do that?
4. We are in desperate need to order about 20 uniforms!
 - 6 very large uniforms available - we can alter, but jackets are hard to alter
 - 1 student who needs a larger uniform, but the largest is way too big for her
 - 16 seniors in uniforms leaving
 - 35 8th grade coming up (really 45, but 10 are already in marching band)...I know some will go to private school, but we might have new 8th grade march up

My Opinion is that we order 20 jackets, 20 pants, 25 plumes (some are really old), 10 hat cases, may be a few small & med hats, cowboy hats if we have not ordered them this year. Of course, always garment bags, gloves.

5. We are considering hanging the jacket and pant on the same hanger...thoughts?
6. I have a Freshman parent who has requested to be a trainee next year!!!

Additional notes from meeting: we are in year 8 of a 10+ year uniform life-cycle. Band numbers are larger than ever.

Bill Fessler (Webmaster): Bill is working with Shawn Maus to ensure the links to the new website are working properly (and not going to the old website, for example). Bill explained the need to set up a blog for Penny with administrator privileges, and said he will be adding the names of Cathy's Luminary corporate sponsors to the website.

Anita Ruffin (School Board Representative): not present

TREASURER'S REPORT (Cathy Zimmerly):

November Treasurer Report attached, notes follow.

NOTES TO NOVEMBER TREASURER REPORT:

1. Membership total vs total deposit includes \$25 gift certificate; \$25 donation; \$50 carry over from donation in honor of Emily Ehrle.
2. No check written for cookie dough yet. Once invoice and prize incentives are paid more cash will be moved to savings for maximum earned interest.
3. \$910 from Equipment used to purchase fourteen violin outfits at \$65 each.
4. Scholarship check of \$80 returned because student's teacher moved out of town.
5. \$74.70 from Elementary Music for purchase of 15 recorders. Reimbursed to Steve Jones.
6. Luminaria receipts and expenses not recorded on report; details follow:

BUSINESS:

Luminary Kit Fundraiser (Cathy): Total of 26 luminaria kits have been sold to date.

\$365 in Business Sponsorship. (2 \$25 Woody's Car Wash gift cards will be passed on to Bid n Buy. Kroger's is donating 400 paper bags that will hold entire kit. Cathy has stock of bags that will hold candles and sand that she is donating.)

Expenses: \$117 (2000 luminaria bags, enough for 200 kits)

\$80 (40 bags of sand 200 kits - Uncle Bill's discount)

\$489.60 (4,890 candles – enough for 408 kits)

Goal is to sell at least 400 kits. If so, rough profit would look like:

\$4000 gross;

(\$160 sand, \$234 bags, \$490 candles in expenses (\$884 total): \$884 - \$365 (business sponsorship).

\$4000 - \$519 = \$3481 net (there are some miscellaneous duplicating expenses)

We will be distributing flyers to Brent and Whitaker this week and also selling at Winterfest. If we receive permission from Township we will also sell outside of Taco Bell. Finneytown Civic Association is also publicizing event. We will also be hanging flyers next week around Finneytown to also promote.

Kroger Cards: Kim Fain proposed extending Kroger Card benefits to elementary-aged students for lessons and supplies. The practicality of this proposal will be discussed with Finneytown Secondary PTA's board member who administers the Kroger Card fundraiser.

Newsletter: There will be a December Music Notes with an issue date to be determined.

Next meeting: December 13, at 7:00 P.M. We will not have a regular meeting in December. The date of the scheduled meeting, December 13th, is also the night of the school board meeting (at the Media Center) where the marching band will be honored for their superior rating at state contest, so I know many of you will be there for that. After our portion of the school board meeting, however, we may need to meet to discuss the Luminary kit sale, or even to prepare kits. Penny will let us know when we get closer to that time.

Adjournment at 8:50. Colleen moved; Kim Kidd seconded.

Respectfully submitted by Kelley Hickey, Secretary.