

FMPA Minutes August 8, 2011

Members present: Colleen Grogan, Jason McKee, Rick Canter, Brenda Dennis, Lori Kleiman, Glenda Esslinger, Kim Fain, Angela Murphy, Renee Keith, Joan Gordon, Penny Sauer, Marsha Grubbs, Cheryl Shrider, Heidi Johnson.

President's Report: Penny welcomed all to the first meeting of the school year. She introduced Marsha Grubbs who will be working with Cheryl and Brenda with band uniform fittings/alterations.

Events of the summer:

- New banner made for FMPA by Bob Heinold
- Fundraisers: Brentwood Swim Club Concession sale. Made \$55 on this. Ohio Military band concert at the Grove. At the concert, we sold baked goods. We made \$84 gross, but had to buy a health license for \$30 for that event – netted \$55.45.
- Penny sold Finneytown cowbells at the band concert at the end of Band Camp. She had prepared 48, sold 46! \$194 gross, \$134 net profit from this effort.
- We also have blue/red/silver beads to be sold at games, leftover from an Eagle Scout project. Many thought these would be a big hit especially with younger kids.

Band report: Rick Canter:

1) Many thank you's for a very hot but very successful Band Camp!

Kellie and Jeff Smoker- Kellie was here all week this week working. Both Kellie and Jeff worked together to organize all of the chaperones, evening activities, food, and the most amazing band camp experience for these students. You name it- they did it. Kellie is the queen of getting deals on food, discounts, and getting people involved. One of the best parts about Band Camp this year was how the community got involved in the activities. You really felt like you were part of a very special thing.

The various evening activities were put together by our AMAZING senior class. Our Band President, Phil Reinhart and our Vice President, Katie Bramble along with several other senior band members put together some amazing evening activities.

Cheryl Shrider, for a LONG list of things- she, Marsha Grubbs and many other parents took care of the delivery of the new marching band uniforms and fitting the students. She painted all of the doors in the band and choir room, cleaned and reorganized the band room, supervised the painting of the back of the band room, and put up some amazing bulletin boards and other decorations in honor of band camp.

Thank you to Penny Sauer for being one of our clinicians.

Thank you to the crew of parents that decorated the senior bus for their evening out to Newport on the Levee on Wednesday evening. They had appetizers for the seniors and a red carpet leading up into the bus.

- 2) We have a new look to the band room- the back cabinets have been removed to make room for more band members. Thank you to Lindsay Salters and Sarah Floyd for painting the back of the band room. We will be receiving storage shelves from the Whitaker basement soon to help the organization of the room. We now have an instrument storage room (the room just off of the Media Center).
- 3) We will have a meeting for all Marching Band members and Chorale members regarding the Disney trip on Monday, August 29th at 6:00 pm in the Band Room.
- 4) We are beginning to hear about All-State. So far, we have only heard about alternates- we have three alternates: Kara Sauer, Kristi Cowan and Janelle Bouman. As I hear more, I will pass along the information.
- 5) I'm very excited about the new schedule for Whitaker, allowing for Jason to come teach 6th Grade Choir and for the 6th Grade Band to have band 4 days a week. This has been needed for a while and I'm excited about the potential for growth in our young musicians!!!

Thanks to Kim for setting up signs for summer lessons. Summer lessons went well.

Excited about a great year!

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Canter

Secretary's report:

Penny asked for corrections to the June minutes. There were none. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Glenda Esslinger, seconded by Kim Fain. Motion passed.

Correspondence: There was a thank you note from Zach Stump for the Senior scholarship that he received.

Choral report: Jason McKee

- 1) 2012 All-State Choir Members: Abby Bolling and Philip Colegrove have been selected to participate in this year's OMEA All-State Choir! In addition, Caroline Michaelson has been named as an alternate, which is also a tremendous honor! The OMEA conference will be held in Columbus from February 16-18, 2012.

2) LeAnne Galioto, Finneytown Chorale alum, has started a private voice studio from her home. Interested students and parents should contact me for her information.

3) I have a heavy course load this year, but I'm very excited! I will be directing 7 choral ensembles: 6th Grade Voices of Whitaker, the 3 middle school choruses, and the 3 high school choruses. Brenda Hartman will be working 12 hours a week this year, and so it will be critical to have her working with the younger choruses most of the time.

4) The Finneytown Chorale will be combining with the Lakota West Chorale and the Taylor Senior Choir on Saturday, December 3rd to perform the Christmas section of Handel's Messiah. The performance time and venue are yet to be determined, but the purpose of the concert is to raise money for charity. More details to come.

5) The Finneytown Chorale will travel to Orlando with the Marching Band in February.

6) Special music will be greatly curtailed this year due to the length of combined middle school and high school concerts. Student auditions will be assessed on a rubric that will be shared with all students, and I am hoping to have a variety of solos and ensembles. I will be looking into the possibility of having a senior showcase of some kind in May rather than having so many on the Choral Festival. Initial concerns are whether or not it will be well attended in an already busy May schedule.

7) A very busy year ahead, but it's going to be great!
Respectfully submitted,
Jason McKee

Jason shared a potential graduate research project that he would like to do as part of his Master's degree work using a Smart Board in the classroom – is it just a novelty or a useful tool for teaching musical concepts? The cost of a board would run about \$4000. There was discussion of possible funding sources. Finneytown Foundation might be a possibility.

We don't know yet how many students we will have in total attending All-State. We usually pay half the fees as an encouragement to these students, without their having to apply for it. There was a motion to use Memorial Scholarship money for these scholarships, up to \$800. If more money is needed, we will revisit the issue. Kim Fain made the motion; seconded by Cheryl Shrider. Passed.

Related digression in discussion: The Finneytown Foundation wants a representative from the various support organizations to attend their meetings. The new President of the Foundation suggested that these organizations might want to come up with a wish list, and Foundation would get donations from Finneytown alums who would like to give for specific items needed by teachers. It would be a good idea for us to have a rep. there, and for teachers to develop a wish list. We could share this job, doesn't have to be the same person all the time.

Orchestra Report: Heidi Johnson

Heidi is gearing up for Fusion. She went to an Eclectic Strings workshop in Philadelphia and learned a lot about not just for the high school level, but across the curriculum. Summer lessons have gone well.

Elementary Music: Kim Fain has Kroger cards. They cost \$10 and have \$10 credit on them.

MS Band: Lori Kleiman

Lori expressed that she wasn't really sure what she was supposed to do. Penny described the general jobs of all the VP's, and will re-send out job descriptions to make sure all know what we are supposed to be doing. Penny suggested that VP's send out an email to their teacher, reminding them of their availability to help out. VP's are important in helping to kick off the cookie dough sale and are needed to get chaperones for concerts and other events.

Uniforms: – Cheryl Shrider, Brenda Dennis:

Marching Band Uniform Report:

Wow - NEW UNIFORMS!!!!!! Our students are going to rate the best lookin' in the State!

Marsha Grubbs, Lillie Healy, Ruth Ann Schwartz, Claire Snyder have been diligently working on getting the pants tried on each student to be hemmed to their height. The pants apparently did not come hemmed and they are \$3.50 per pant to be hemmed by company.....no way..the team can do it! Penny Sauer, Marsha Grubbs, Lillie Healy, Linda Carlsson, Angela Murphy, Claire Snyder, Emily Clausing, and Darlene Bryant (Haley Hatfield's grandmother) will save the day. Next phase after finishing up with the pant fittings, will be trying on their uniforms for the first time to see if their jacket is fit correctly for them, fitting them with their cuffs (new piece this year) and assure their head did not grow or shrink and their hat fits. The new plumes are really sharp and looking forward to the nice crisp look to our "old" hats.

It has been an amazing venture let me say. Thank you to Lillie Healy, Marsha Grubbs, Ruth Ann Schwartz for assisting in the moving of the old uniforms, moving Rick's music, and cleaning out the uniform room. Also thank you to Tim Fain for his talents in moving the racks/shelves around in the uniform room so we can have better organization. Art Schwartz will be making hat shelves for easy access to our marching band hats and Mr. Dickerson will be building a new plume box for our larger fancy black plumes. Thank you to Robbie Schwartz, Ruth Ann Schwartz, Caroline Michaelson and Erin Strobl for saving me when the uniforms came in large boxes tall to the ceiling (I felt) in the MP and as I stood there in many wonder how I would get these uniforms to the band room??

Looking forward to an AMAZING :) year and my last :(.

Added notes from Cheryl: Marsha is awesome – she knows how to sew! 50 pairs of pants to hem at her house. They are modifying the uniforms since all the pants came in the same length. More hats

must be ordered. Percussion will wear regular band hats instead of cowboy hats. Mr. Schwartz will build a hat closet for us. Angela Murphy and Clair Snyder are also sewers and a great help.

Color guard is getting their own closet, with full length mirrors.

Color guard costumes: UC student & friend of Becky Stegman's made a pattern from the uniform color guard will be wearing this year, Brenda will be making up the difference between uniforms Doug Davis (guard advisor) has obtained, and what we need.

We are still working on getting rid of old uniforms.

Penny asked if the money for new red dresses last year came from reserves. Brenda said no, that it came from the uniform budget without drawing on the reserve.

We will need to address the issue of MS polos, perhaps buying them instead of having individuals purchasing them.

Membership: Angela Murphy

We have no new memberships! She will be working on the presentation board for open houses, as well as getting the brochure ready for the big summer mailing project coming up on Friday (see below).

Newsletter: Renee Keith

Thanks to all the people who submitted articles for the newsletter. The summer newsletter was the last in the series for advertisers, so they will need to be recruited again for the next school year's issues. There will now be 4 issues per year instead of 5. The latest issue was submitted to the copy center today with 1100 copies requested. The copies for Whitaker families will be sent home in Thursday folders.

Summer mailing: Envelopes will be stuffed for the summer mailing of several organizations, including FMPA on August 12 at 9:00 am, here in the media center. Finneytown Foundation, PTA and Boosters have been contacted for help and to have their mailings here on Friday and people to help stuff envelopes.

Website: Penny Sauer for Bill Fessler

We need to send Bill anything new for the website. Renee needs to send the e-version of the newsletter, and Angela can send a membership form and information to post.

School Board Representative:

Anita Ruffin came to the Grove to help sell goodies for FMPA. Thanks Anita!

Treasurer's Report: Penny Sauer for Cathy Zimmerly

Final report for 2010/11. We came in a little under our predicted income. The expenses look much larger because of the \$18,000 spent for band uniforms. We also overspent the budget for Awards. It turns out that a large number of Finneytown F's had been moved to Cottonwood, and since Rick didn't know where those letters had gone, he had to order more. Those letters were just returned today. As a result, we now have a multiyear supply of letters.

Flow throughs: The \$30 health license fee for the Grove event was listed.

Because we are down below \$10000 in our savings, we pay \$10/month for the account. Memberships will help build this back up – so join up soon! A short discussion followed about the fact that we have checking and savings at two different banks. It might be possible to avoid the \$10 charge by having both accounts at the same bank. Penny will discuss this with Cathy.

Motion to accept this report by Angela Murphy and seconded by Kim Fain. The motion passed.

2011/12 Treasurer's Report: At this point, we have only about half of the \$6000 shown available as the rest is in reserves. Send summer mailing receipts to Cathy, but we will get reimbursed for some of it from the other organizations involved. Motion to accept this report made by Glenda Esslinger and seconded by Brenda Dennis. The motion passed.

We sang Happy Birthday to Heidi!

New Business

Open houses: Whitaker's Open House is Monday Aug 22 at 5:30 pm. Angela will be there with a display table and membership information and forms. Kim will be there with Kroger cards. Teachers will put together a flyer with information about the details of Band, Chorus and Orchestra participation for the Whitaker table.

Secondary Open House is Wednesday Aug 24 at 5:30 pm. There is no Activity Fair this year. We will have a table in the lobby of the high school during the Open house.

Other business:

FMPA Polo shirts: The original source for these is not working out, so we will look for someone else to produce these for us. Penny will report back to us.

Angela suggested that FMPA send a card to the Shelton/Archambeault family after the death of Rebecca. She had had a seizure in February and died last week. The family has asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be given to the PICU at Children's Hospital. Angela will collect money and send it from FMPA members.

A motion to adjourn was made by Cheryl Shrider and seconded by Kim Fain. The motion passed.

Minutes taken by Colleen Grogan in Sue Burton's absence.

