

Members present: Sue Burton, Angela Murphy, Jennifer Schmidt, Penny Sauer, Colleen Grogan, Laurie Matzko, Beth Hofferber, Glenda Esslinger, Marsha Grubbs, Renee Keith, Heidi Reeb, Sharon Figgs, Brenda Dennis, Heidi Johnson

Secretary's Report:

- October minutes additions included the MB uniform report inadvertently left out, and names of those who moved to adjourn. Motion to accept corrected October minutes made by Glenda, second by Angela. Motion passed.
- Correspondence: None this month.

President's Report: Penny had no report this month.

Orchestra & Music Department Report:

1. Yesterday four 6th grade students performed at the Whitaker Veterans Day celebration and did a great job! They are: Colin McLaren, Violin; Seal Russell, Cello; Amanda Gast, Electric Bass; and Cooper Burton, Piano. I heard today that the event raised over \$1,100 for Honor Flights for Veterans.

2. Middle School Orchestra News:

Congratulations to the following MS Orchestra students who have been selected to participate in the 2013 OMEA District 14 JH/MS Honor Orchestra:

Joshua Dees, 1st violin
Enoch Brookins, 2nd violin
Heather Gast & Bekah Blais, violas
Katie Bishop, cello
Jack Ryan, bass

They will prepare their parts in advance, then participate in a festival weekend with a guest conductor at Princeton High School Jan. 18-19 (Martin Luther King weekend) and present a concert on Saturday, Jan. 19 in the afternoon. This opportunity also gives these students a chance to work in a symphonic orchestra setting (with woodwinds, brass, & percussion).

MS Orchestra will perform in the Secondary Campus Instrumental Concert on Dec. 4th AND at the Brunch for Senior Citizens to be held during school on the morning of Friday, Dec. 14th (followed by the concert in the PAC presented by the choirs).

3. FUSION news:

The bad news: Unfortunately, our guitar player was expelled just before the October concert,

and we are still looking for a permanent drummer to work with the group.

The good news!: Our next gig is Saturday, Dec. 1st at 1:15pm at Union Terminal in the Rotunda. We will perform a 1/2 hour of holiday music for all to enjoy.

Next--the school concert performance on Tuesday evening, Dec. 4th in the P.A.C. at the Secondary Campus Instrumental Concert.

In addition--FUSION will go to Whitaker to perform for the Whitaker student body sometime before the Christmas Holiday!

THE INCREDIBLY WONDERFUL NEWS!! Alfred Music Publishers and Trans-Siberian Orchestra offered a special deal this year---buy one of their arrangements between certain dates and receive FOUR FREE TICKETS to their touring show this year!!! So this Saturday, Nov. 17th three lucky FUSION students will be accompanying me to see their show! I have told the students there will be a lottery drawing, since there doesn't seem to be any other fair way to choose who can go....(we will be leaving Finneytown at 6:30pm, returning around 11:00pm, I think).

4. Elementary Strings news:

Finally, all of the new 4th grade students have instruments and are learning Mary Had A Little Lamb this week! It has taken some work to acquire all the instruments needed, but the kids are really excited.

Concert is Tuesday, Dec. 11th --

BAND will start at 6:30pm; STRINGS portion will start at 7:15pm.

We are doing this again this year to help alleviate the crowding problem in the audience seating AND starting earlier than the usual 7pm time so that the younger students are not out so late on a school night. (this may also give the parents more time to take them to Graeters!)

5. MUSICAL: This year the musical will be Bye Bye Birdie! Feb. 28, March 1 - 2

Auditions will be held the week after Thanksgiving break--packets will be available by tomorrow

Stage Director: Shawn Maus

Vocal Director & Pit Director during shows: Beth Hofferber

Pit Orchestra Rehearsal Director & playing in the pit: Heidi Johnson

Choreographer: Haley Cator

Technical Director: Mike Morgan

Producer: Heidi Johnson - I will need lots of help!

Costumes: Committee, led by Heidi--but I need lots of help!

***I have talked with Penny about the budget for the musical--we are in need of extra funds to make this show happen! Mr. Fisher is loaning some money out of his principal's budget that will need to be repaid after the show, but we are requesting additional funds from FMPA.

6. The Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra CONCERT Orchestra (used to be Blue Ash Youth Symphony) will be performing on our stage in the PAC on Sunday, December 16. I will send out more information later about the performance time, etc.

7. On a personal note: the dance dept. of the School for the Creative and Performing Arts is presenting their annual performances of The Nutcracker ballet Dec. 6 - 9. These students do an incredible job, and it's well worth the price of admission (which is cheaper than Cincinnati Ballet's, I think). Of course, I am a little prejudiced since my daughter Eve is one of the dancers..... :)

Heidi M. Johnson
Orchestra Director, Finneytown Schools

HS/MS Orchestra VP's have nothing to report.

Choral report:

Here's my report for the choirs:

→ THANKS TO ALL THE FMPA PARENTS FOR THEIR HELP WITH THE FALL CONCERT and DRESS REHEARSAL THE DAY BEFORE. The concert went quite well – lots of very positive feedback from students, parents, and administration! The combined piece with ALL 166 choir members on stage to end the concert seemed to be a BIG HIT!

→ **UPCOMING WINTER CONCERT: THURSDAY DECEMBER 13 @ 7:00 p.m. Parent chaperones needed.**

→ **Dress Rehearsal WEDNESDAY 12/13 -- EARLY RELEASE DAY...We WILL rehearse immediately after school, from 1-3 p.m.**

Parent volunteers to help monitor the students in the PAC. (Students can go out to lunch after the rehearsal if they want.)

→ **"KIRSTIN'S KLOSET"** -- we got a good response at the FALL CONCERT (about \$150 and 25+ PJs donated... the girls bought more PJs with the \$\$ to bring the total number of pajamas donated to Cincinnati Children's Hospital to over 50 pair. Our goal for the DECEMBER CONCERT is OVER 100 pair of pajamas. Many people said they hadn't heard about it BEFORE the Fall Concert, so we need to get the word out. The girls have started

a facebook page, and we're hoping FMPA and other parent groups will help spread the word as well. See publicity blurb below:

Finneytown Secondary Campus Vocal Music Department will present their WINTER CONCERT on THURSDAY DECEMBER 13 @ 7:00 p.m. There is no admission charge for this concert, but we are collecting donations of children's 2-piece, button-front pajamas to be donated to "Kirstin's Kloset" – a charity started by two sisters who sing here in our Finneytown choirs. "Kirstin's Kloset" contributes children's pajamas to Cincinnati Children's Hospital to try to make a child's hospital stay a little more comfortable. New pajamas (with tags, please) and/or monetary donations welcome at the door!

→ **Please congratulate this year's NKU Honor Choir participants:**

- Allison Gast - Julia McDannold - Jocelyn Parks - Amber Boardman - Becca Huff
- Ian Esslinger - Jacob Stevens - Sam Osterwisch

The concert is TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13 @ 7:00pm at NKU Greaves Concert Hall.

Parking on campus.

→ LOTS of holiday singing opportunities and events that a variety of choral groups will be involved with. In addition to our WINTER CONCERT (DECEMBER 13), we will have groups singing at Brookdale, The Grove, Northminster Presbyterian Church. Also, choirs will sing the day after our concert on Dec 14 at the Senior Citizen Breakfast at the school.

Sunday 12/2 3 p.m. Springfield Township Showcase Finneytown Secondary Campus – PAC

Thursday 12/6 6 p.m. Brookdale Place – Open House Brookdale Place (9101 Winton Road)

Thursday 12/13 7 p.m. Finneytown Choral Concert Finneytown Secondary Campus – PAC

Friday 12/14 10:00 a.m. Senior Citizen Breakfast Finneytown Secondary Campus – PAC

Thursday 12/20 NOON Northminster Luncheon Northminster Presbyterian Church (703 Compton Road)

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Hofferber

Beth will check with Dan Deitsch and Shawn re: publicity in Hilltop and Enquirer for Kirstin's Kloset. She also said that a parent's workplace, Quest Logistics, is featuring Kirstin's Kloset as their January charity of the month.

HS/MS choir VP's have nothing additional to report.

Band report: Carl is ill today, but he reports that the high school concert band is up and running. Students are preparing for their concert on Dec. 4th.

Congratulations to middle school honor band members – Belinda Baty on clarinet and Allie Towner on percussion.

Penny – kudos to all on how marching band season went. Thank you to all who made it work, especially Smokers who are awesome, uniform ladies who are wonderful, and of course our spectacular directors who rolled with everything that came their way.

No report from VP's Kellie or Kim.

Elementary Music: Laurie – high seller was excited and stunned. Questions re: contacting chaperones for elem. Concerts. Heidi will send her parent contact list & Laurie will check w/other directors as well.

Membership: New memberships put total now at 71, 30 patrons, 13 alumni. 2 of the memberships came in online through our new system. Suggestion for Angela to put names of all members in the program (not just patrons) – perhaps asterisk those who are patrons, etc. (or dollar and cents signs if they give big!! ☺)

Marching Band Uniforms:

Marsha thought Glenda would take over in the future, but Glenda thought she was just always going to be an assistant. So Marsha will need to have another assistant for next year who can “apprentice” to take over in 2014 season. The students have done a better job returning socks and gloves after they knew they would be fined if they didn't. 2 outstanding small collections remain.

Marsha Grubbs

Concert Uniforms: Fittings for band tuxes and skirts should be complete before Thanksgiving break--many thanks to Marsha Grubbs and Glenda Esslinger for joining me in X period and helping move things along.

In October I reported tux jacket and trouser purchases. One pair of trousers was backordered. I checked on the status last week and learned that UniformWarehouse, located in New Jersey, was in the path of Superstorm Sandy, and only resumed operations Nov. 7. I'll be in contact with the company to determine when we may expect the backorder to be shipped.

Brenda Dennis
Other Uniforms chair

Newsletter. Next newsletter will be in late Jan so be thinking about what's needed. Dinner Before the Show article and please think of other items.

Two more band members in CYWE – add Heather Gamble 10th flute and Chris O'Connell 12th clarinet.
CCC Bel Canto addition – Beth Morgan

Website: Online portal is up and running. Bill's training session w/those who need access to the site specifics went well. Thanks Bill!!!!

School Board Rep: Alan Robertson will retire on Jan. 31. The bond levy passed with a good margin. Reupholstering PAC chairs will be included in the list of improvements funded by the levy.

Treasurer's Report: YTD memberships close to \$3500 due to online memberships and some to deposit. Our cookie dough profit is \$14,604, out of which will come incentive money for students. We were charged \$149.20 by the bank to handle all the checks turned in for dough orders. Heidi will ask how to avoid that in the future.

Luminaria \$80 purchased already via payschools. About a week's delay in processing that way. Flow through question: Take one MS orchestra shirt out of "other uniforms" budget. Also: Color guard shoes - \$25 still owed, propose to take it from "other marching band" expenses. Heidi will check w/Mr. Philipot on this. MB shoe order is getting worked out w/Buddy Rogers.

Discussion/clarification of various line items. Motion to approve the treasurer's report made by Angela, second by Colleen. Motion passed.

New Business:

- Cookie Dough delivery – Thurs. 11/15 9am truck arrives. 8 people in AM would be great to get orders processed early, sorted by noon-1 pm. ANYONE WHO CAN HELP from 9 or 9:30-noon would be spectacular. Help needed all day but enough help in the morning makes a big difference. Penny will call Penny Mefford about afternoon Whitaker announcements for Weds. and Thurs., and teachers email lists. Penny will ask about robocalls. Reminder banner in music rooms. Heidi will ask custodians to borrow dollies.
- Light Up Finneytown –Sunday Dec. 16 at 7 pm. Sue took names of those willing to sell at holiday concerts. We will also send home order info in elem. Thursday folders, etc. Will check w/Towners if they or anyone have a nice photo of Pineglen lit up to use for publicity.
- Heidi J. – the musical needs more funding on top of what is in the drama account already. After discussion, Renee motioned that we donate \$500 from our FMPA reserves to the musical account for "Bye Bye Birdie". Second by Angela. Motion passed.

- PEM scholarship event – This scholarship benefits students who plan to study fine arts in college. This year there will be some special announcement or connection with the Who during the event. Two people are needed to staff the hot chocolate/coffee table we provide as a support for the event. Marsha can do so, possibly Angela or Renee.

Motion to adjourn made by Angela and seconded by Sharon. Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.