

FMPA Minutes December 9, 2013

Members present –Sue Burton, Renee Keith, Cindy Brown, Cindy Rebman, Brenda Dennis, Sandy Tenhundfeld, Kim Fain, Chelsea Lamping, Carl Phlipot, Mike Kennedy, Jack Fisher, Stephanie Kessler, Dan Deitsch, Penny Sauer, Kevin Berlon, Tyrone Olverson, Heidi Reeb, Jennifer Schmidt, Angela Murphy, Heidi Johnson

Welcome and Introductions – Kevin Berlon – Kevin welcomed to our meeting our Superintendent Tyrone Olverson, Secondary Campus principal Jack Fisher and Whitaker principal Stephanie Kessler.

Secretary's Report – Sue Burton

A motion to approve the November 2013 minutes was made by Brenda, second by Renee, motion passed.

Correspondence – None

Treasurer's Report - Heidi Reeb

After review, Penny moved, seconded by Kevin, to accept the treasurer's report. Motion passed.

President's Report – Kevin Berlon

- + Welcome to our newest FMPA Board member Sandy Tenhundfeld who will be our new Elementary VP
- + FMPA is registered in the event there is Round 2 funding via the Honor Project Trust
- + Updated our profile on GuideStar which is a clearinghouse for non-profit organizations
- + FMPA (Mary jo & Kevin Berlon & Penny Sauer) provided refreshments at the PEM Memorial concert
- + Secured donations of a violin and a clarinet, and worked with Leslie Gamble to obtain additional instruments (alto sax, flute and clarinet)
- +++++increases awareness of need for database of school-owned instruments and funding for repairs

Also: PEM Memorial concert raised over \$20,000 for their scholarship program

Board Reports submitted by meeting time:

MEMBERSHIP - Angela Murphy

HIGH SCHOOL BAND - Carl Phlipot and Jenny Jones

Marching Band:

- Working to summarize marching season - from a volunteer/donations perspective, not necessarily a performance perspective - as part of the newsletter article I'm putting together
- Working to formalize committees needed during marching season and to secure chairs for next year
- Discussing scholarship criteria and process with Carl

FMPA:

- Researching Web platforms with additional tools integrated - such as CRM (Constituent Relationship Management), event management, membership management, etc.
- Believe.in finally launched in the US last week and we are part of the US beta. I need a form with our bank account info filled out by Heidi before our profile will be active on the site. There also needs to be a discussion regarding what sort of campaign we want to kick off with - this needs to happen quickly.

Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend this evenings meeting, but I'm happy to conference in if there is a phone in the room. (Jenny Jones)

MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND - Carl Phlipot and Kim Fain

Middle school marchers are bummed marching season is over. Several middle school students auditioned for Honor Band Monday, Nov 4. Looking forward to the holiday concert! (Kim Fain)

HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA - Mike Kennedy and Cindy Brown

FMPA Orchestra Report Dec. 9th, 2013

High School Orchestra

The High School Orchestra has been preparing for their Dec. 10th concert. I am very proud of our students for their accomplishments thus far in the 2013 school year. They have taken on some challenging music and they are rising to the challenge. Students within the class are being exposed to classical literature; this music medium is a perfect growth point for students that are just beginning their high school playing careers. Please come out and support our fine students during their performance on Tuesday Night Dec. 10th at 7 pm. The High School Orchestra will also be performing for the High School Senior Citizens Breakfast hosted by the secondary campus on Dec. 13th. I would like to thank Mr. Jack Fisher for inviting us to play for this event. Thanks Mr. Fisher!

Middle School Orchestra

Students in the Middle School Orchestra are doing awesome!!! I am so proud of our students in the Orchestra. All students within this ensemble have been a joy to work with and we are making slow and steady progress. Please come out and support our students in the Orchestra on Tuesday Dec. 10th at 7 pm. These students are playing a variety of music and you parents will no doubt be proud of their performance. I would like to thank Kelly Hickey for coming out to our classroom Tuesdays and Thursday to help teach students within the ensemble. She has been a tremendous help to the students and me. Her knowledge and expertise have been a tremendous help to the program. I would also like to thank my High School and Middle School Representatives for all her organizational help and support for the program. They are doing an excellent job, and I really appreciate the extra work Mrs. Schmitt did for the cookie dough sale. I appreciate their efforts for the ensembles. Students within the ensemble are mostly using school own instruments because of financial need.

Whitaker Orchestra

Whitaker Orchestra is off to a great start. Students within this ensemble are using mostly school and donated instruments, because of financial need; I am happy to say that everyone now has an instrument. I would like to thank Kevin Berlon for his efforts in getting donated string

instruments for the ensemble, this will be a huge help for the future. As the program grows and develops the need to repair and supply instruments for students in need is evident. Your support towards this endeavor for the 2014-2015 school year is needed.

High School Musical

I would like to thank Shawn Maus for inviting me to be a part of the pit orchestra this year. Students are energized and excited to start this adventure in the pit. We have had 2 rehearsals thus far and I am excited that we have around 25 student participates in the orchestra. This year Jeff Holmes will be our accompanist for the Pit Orchestra, he is a local worship minister at one of our community churches. He knows several students within the group, so this is a great opportunity to bring in the community members within the student body. I would also like to thank Greg Bouman for his participation on the violin within the Orchestra. Greg has had children involved within the program for the past several years and it is great that he is willing to give his musical ability to benefit the group. Thanks Greg and Jeff!!! My goal was to reduce the amount of professional musicians that we have used in the past and involve more students. This is a challenging musical and will no doubt be raising the musical bar for our students within the program.

Summary

I would like to take a moment and thank all my Building Principals; Jack Fisher, David Kennedy, Megan Rivett, and Stephanie Kessling. The support they show for the staff and students is amazing and I really appreciate Mr. Olveson and Mr. Fisher for allowing me to come back and be a part of the Finneytown community. Working within the classroom with my students is where I am most happy. As we move forward with the Orchestra program I hope to provide a help to the students, staff, and community. Musical growth within Finneytown is a priority and I appreciate the support from the community and administrators.

Respectfully,
Mike Kennedy :aka "MK"

MIDDLE SCHOOL ORCHESTRA - Mike Kennedy and Jennifer Schmidt (see above)

HIGH SCHOOL CHORUS - Chelsea Lamping and Glenda Esslinger

MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORUS - Chelsea Lamping and Sharon Figgs

WHITAKER BAND - Carl Phlipot

Whitaker General Music/Voices of Whitaker Chorus – Heidi Johnson

Heidi reported that the students' behavior at the Nutcracker was very good and she was very pleased with how the field trip went. On Dec. 20 the Voices of Whitaker will be performing at Union Terminal at 11 am.

UNIFORMS

Brenda Dennis & Glenda Esslinger

FMPA Newsletter Report - Renee Keith

The deadline for newsletter articles is tomorrow, Dec. 10, in order to get them in the mail in early Jan. to publicize the Dinner Before the Show.

NEW BUSINESS -

- Savory Sweets – Fall Fundraiser Report:

Letters have gone out to those earning \$\$ in music education accounts by selling more than 20 items in the fall fundraiser. The letter states how the money is to be redeemed, and that this money needs to be used during the 2013-2014 school year.

The remaining cookie dough/popcorn will be for sale next week in the PAC lobby at both the instrumental concert on Tuesday and the choral concert on Thursday.

Respectfully Submitted,
Penny Sauer

- Luminary Fundraiser – Sold 19 kits at the Voices of Whitaker concert. Gearing up for secondary concert sales later this week. Kevin placed information in the St. Vivian's publication and we received some orders online that way.
- Dinner Before the Show – Dan emphasized that he is looking for people to donate/provide "experiences" that others can bid on. Dinner parties, etc. Penny is going to help coordinate entertainment.
- Advocacy – working with the District Administration

Our question for discussion is: How can we best communicate with administration, board, and staff?

Mr. Olverson said we should go to our music teachers first. Any programming discussions should involve Mr. Fisher. Administrators are meeting 12/18 to discuss overall K-12 music. They informed us of some of their current discussion surrounding how to adjust scheduling of music programming to accommodate shared staff between Whitaker and secondary campuses, to decrease staff travel time as a way to increase instructional time.

Mike Kennedy spoke of the need to do the best for all students, need to work together as a team, need for balance.

Mr. Fisher spoke of the downside of e-communication, the lack of nuance, etc. He will take any input but needs to think about the whole picture. He encouraged us to call or come in to talk directly when we have questions.

Dr. Kessler spoke of the barrier and challenge that sharing music staff between buildings presents, and the ways they are working to lessen this.

Kevin asked how the district can incorporate parents into the decision-making process more fully – how can they solicit input from parents in their decision-making process, survey parents, etc.

The discussion was ended in order to adjourn the meeting.

Renee motioned, and Heidi R. seconded, that we adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9 pm. Next meeting is January 13, 2014.