

Attendees: Sue Burton, Cindy Rebman, Lisa Tenbarge, Kevin Berlon, Jennifer Schmidt, Stefanie Schneider, Laura Carroll, Brad Delaney, Heidi Reeb, Sandy Tenhundfeld, Denny Tenhundfeld, Tina Wuorinen, Glenda Esslinger, Brenda Dennis, Angela Murphy, Dan Deitsch, Bill Fessler, Heidi Johnson, Janet Cain, Steve Jones

Welcome and Introductions – Kevin and principal Lisa Tenbarge welcomed us to Whitaker for our meeting tonight.

Secretary's Report – Sue Burton

A motion to approve the January 2015 minutes was made by Angela and seconded by Glenda. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

Correspondence – since our January meeting, a donation of \$30 collected from members was sent to the American Diabetes Association in memory of Karen Kennedy's father.

Treasurer's Report - Heidi Reeb

After review and update from Heidi R., Cindy R. moved, seconded by Bill, to accept the February 9, 2015 treasurer's report. Motion passed.

President's Report – Kevin Berlon

- The issue of the bad check for cookie dough has been resolved
- Comedy Caravan – sales very slow, please pass the word and help out if you are able. Specific needs for help were communicated to us.
- Fundraising/communication update – Kevin hopes to improve in getting FMPA info out.

Principal Update – Lisa Tenbarge

Whitaker's population has increased and may do so again next year. This year there are 6 sections of both 3rd & 5th grades, meaning for 4th & 6th next year, and next year's 3rd grade may also need 6 sections. Space requirements have necessitated the following changes for next year:

- The library will move downstairs
- The general music, orchestra, and band rooms will move to newly renovated spaces in the old kitchen/serving lane downstairs.

Mike Morgan is working on sound issues downstairs. Recent improvements include reconfigured parking lot to drain away from basement, ceiling, floor, and window updates, pulled up mildewed carpet. Will be adding a water alarm & sump pump.

5th & 6th graders will choose orchestra, band, or general music.

Instruments are kept with the kids in their classroom/hallway rather than in the basement rooms, so they are getting taken home more often for practicing.

The schedule will stay on a 6 day rotation. One special added was library/media/tech.

All those in attendance then went down into the basement to tour the facilities to see where all the music classes are being & will be held.

Membership - Angela Murphy

Uniforms - Brenda Dennis & Glenda Esslinger

FMPA Newsletter/Communications – OPEN POSITION

Website - Bill Fessler –

Activated Payshools products for Dinner before the show.

Will update website this weekend with info folks have provided at this point.

Music Department update – Mike Kennedy, chair

Band – Mike Kennedy and Brad Delaney with VP's Tina Wuorinen and Deb Amend

Tina's Report - HS Band

We had a meeting about Marching Band for 2015-2016 on January 22 in the band room. We will be going to Camp Crescendo again this summer, as there is going to be too much maintenance going on to hold it at the secondary campus. The cost is being reduced to \$200 because of Mr. Kennedy writing the music for the band show and Mr. Delaney writing the drill. The theme of the show is "The Child of the Mississippi". There will be 2 weeks of pre camp, July 6-9 and July 13-16. Band Camp will be July 19-24 followed by 2 weeks of post camp on July 27-30 and August 3-7. There will be a Post Camp Show at 6:30 PM on August 7th. Students were reminded to let Mr. Kennedy know if they have conflicts with any of these dates. Payments for Band Camp can be made in 4 installments, with the first one due last Friday, February 6th. Handbooks were handed out at the meeting with all of the information.

Brad reports that 24 kids have made band camp payments, 6 have paid in full.

Mike's report –

Solo and Ensemble

I would like to congratulate the following Band, Choir, and Orchestra students for participating in Solo and Ensemble at St. Xavier High School on Saturday Jan. 31st, 2015. All Secondary Campus Music Participants are listed below with their accomplishments. Students are judged on a rating system of 1 (superior), 2 (excellent), 3 (good), 4 (fair), and 5 (poor). I am so proud of these students and their accomplishments!

- * Ian Sloan (Bass Trombone Solo): Rating of 2 Excellent
- * Allisa Wuorinen: (Clarinet Solo): Rating of 1 Superior
- * Allison Towner (Piano Solo): Rating of 1 Superior
- * Trombone Quartet: (Sam Osterwisch, Ian Sloan, and Sarah Fessler, Alexander Eberhardt):

Rating of 1 Superior

- * James Fain: (Snare Drum Solo): Rating of 2 Excellent
- * Sarah Fessler (Trombone Solo): Rating of 1 Superior
- * Matthew Dauterman (B flat Clarinet): Rating of 2 Excellent
- * Allison Towner (Snare drum solo): Rating of 1 Superior
- * Molly Brown (violin solo): Rating of 2 Excellent
- * To'Lisa Hinkston (Tenor Vocal Solo): Rating of 1 Superior
- * Selena Munger (Soprano Vocal Solo): Rating of 2 Excellent
- * Jackie Zimmer (Soprano Vocal Solo): Rating of 2 Excellent
- * Alexia Bonds (Soprano Vocal Solo): Rating of 2 Excellent
- * Vocal Ensemble (Selena Munger, Nisha Nahallege, Kayla Flugeman, Simona Reid, Alexia

Bonds, Lily Hursh, and Jackie Zimmer) Rating of III Good

Upcoming Concerts

High School Orchestra Students will be participating in State Large Group Contest on Feb. 21st, 2015. They have a concert at 7 pm in the PAC on Feb. 18th. Please come out to support our awesome students in the orchestra. Any High School Band Student who attends the concert and has Miss Schneider sign their program will receive one free test pass on their next playing test in band. They will also be able to miss the first x-period after the Springs Arts Fair, which is April 24th.

Please mark your calendar for March 13th and 14th for the Choir's performance at O.M.E.A regional contest. Please come out and support these students.

High School Band Students will be performing at Regional Large Group Contest on March 13th or 14th (we are waiting on our performance times). High School Band has a preview concert on March 12th, 2015 @ 7pm. Please come out and support these wonderful students.

Extra Rehearsal Time for X-Period Band

Mr. David Kennedy is Awesome!!!

I really appreciate Mr. David Kennedy for helping us gain our rehearsal time back for x-period due to the state testing schedule. Dave has been extremely supportive of the arts. Thanks Dave!

Students will be rehearsing during their Wildcat Bell on 2/19 and 2/26. We will also be holding a rehearsal during bells 4-7 on 3/6!

Donations

We have received \$2,200.00 in donations from two different individuals that support the arts within the community and one from outside of the community. These funds are to be used for funding students who can not afford band camp. We have had several students request scholarships already and these needs have been met. Please understand that these needs for scholarships will continue to develop over the course of the next few months. If you know of anyone who would want to help out, please let me know and I will walk them through the process. The funds received so far have been deposited within the board accounts.

FMPA Pie Sale

I am waiting on Kevin to organize this pie sale, however we have been contacted by the representative and I have passed along the information to Kevin Berlon. Let me know when this event is organized and make sure that there is a fund raising form filled out and is approved before we begin the sale.

Middle School Solo and Ensemble

Solo and Ensemble is a wonderful opportunity for students to display their musical talents for a certified O.M.E.A judge. Students can take an individual solo or they can participate in an ensemble of 3 to 4 people. Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Delaney will help students pick an appropriate

piece of music that will be challenging and educational. Once the students have been given a piece of music, they will need to fill out the bottom solo and ensemble registration form. Student who participate can shift their practice time for the next 2 months to their solo and ensemble music (they can fill out their Monday Sheets for what they need to accomplish for their ensemble or solo). Solo and Ensemble is held at Madeira Middle School; directions and other important information about scales will be attached to this sheet. Students are required to perform at least 2 major scales before they play their solo. Ensembles will not be required to perform scales. All soloists will need an accompanist, the fee is \$30.00 and checks will need to be made out to Jeff Holmes.

- * Solos are \$17.00 and ensembles are \$22.00, all checks made payable to FMPA.
- * Event takes place on April 18th, 2015 (exact performance times will be released when they send our school performance schedules. Expect these about a 1 week prior to the event)
- * Soloists can contact Jeff Holmes (our solo accompanist) at 513-884-4828. Jeff's fee is \$30.00, this includes one rehearsal before the event. This rehearsal will take place during band class.
- * If you choose to use a different accompanist you will need to make sure you include the first and last name of the accompanist in the information you give to me.
- * Deadline for solo and ensemble is Feb.18th at 3:15 pm. Please make sure all items are included (Check, Registration Form, and an original copy of the music for the accompanist and the Judge)

(Please See the Attached Page for Registration)

Solo and Ensemble Registration

*Please make all Checks are made payable to FMPA, all accompanist fees will need to be made to Jeff Holmes, FMPA will not collect accompanist fees.

Student Name: _____

Title: _____

Composer: _____

Arranger: _____

Accompanist Name: _____ (Jeff Holmes is available for hire)

Amount Enclosed: _____

I am requesting a solo and ensemble scholarship due to a financial hardship. The amount I am requesting is _____.

*Please note that all registration forms will need to be put into the envelope marked "Solo and Ensemble" outside of the office door.

Whitaker Bands

Our 5th and 6th graders are off to an amazing start on their concert music! Our 6th grade band will be performing 2 pieces on the concert, Skyburst and Trash Cancerto; and our 5th grade band will

be performing selections from the book and 1 piece, Silver Skies.

The 5th and 6th grade bands will be performing at the Spring Arts Fair on April 19th. The specific performance time is TBD and will be announced as soon as the time is solidified.

Orchestra – Stefanie Schneider with VP’s Cindy Brown and Jennifer Schmidt & OPEN MS VP position

FSC PTA Grant

-We received \$615 from the FSC PTA Grant to use towards the purchase of 1.5 music stand racks!

Orchestra Contest Concert

- Featuring HS Orch + solos/ensembles, MS and elementary students included
- Being held Wednesday February 19 at 7 pm in the PAC
- Our State Orchestra performance is Saturday February 21st at 11:25 am at Kettering HS in Kettering, OH.
- We do need chaperones who can help with both events.

HS Solo and Ensemble: Congratulations to Molly Brown for receiving an Excellent rating at HS S&E contest.

-MS S&E will be happening Saturday April 18th; I’ll have more information for those students soon.

Pit Orchestra: It’s going well! Everyone’s put in a lot of effort and their practicing has paid off! I’m excited for the Musical at the end of February!

Whitaker:

The Spring Arts Fair is coming up on Sunday April 19th!

Choirs – Laura Carroll with VP Glenda Esslinger & OPEN MS VP position

Elementary music – VP Sandy Tenhundfeld

The Whitaker Bands and Orchestras did an awesome job on their December concerts. It was also very hard for us to get chaperones. It didn’t help having so much sickness right before Christmas. They will be performing again in the spring at the Fine Arts Fair.

Voices also had a awesome December concert at school. They followed this up with a trip to Union Terminal to sing and see the trains.

Voices will also be performing at the Fine Arts Fair.

All of the music groups were down a few more kids than normal at the concerts due to the sickness going around.

Den, Sandy and Kevin met with Lisa at Whitaker to discuss a few options for a possible band room relocation. We will fill everyone in at tonight's meeting on the results.

Whitaker General Music – Heidi Johnson

6th grade General Music has been studying Jazz and improvisation this month, learning about famous jazz artists such as Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald; and also learning techniques for improvisation (“making it up while

performing-within certain guidelines”). We started on the drums with question & answer; then moved to the mallet instruments to explore pitch and rhythm variables; and this week started vocal improvisation and scat singing.

5th grade General Music has been focusing on identifying rhythmic beat units and putting them together to play on drums. They love playing Rhythm Bingo, and recently I added a SmartBoard Interactive game similar to Yahtzee (only with note values on the dice).

4th grade General Music – the students are incredibly excited because they finally get to play the recorder! All five classes have mastered the notes B, A, G, and can play Hot Cross Buns, Mary Had A Little Lamb, and Au Claire De La Lune. Soon they will be getting their Cool Tunes books with more melodies to master.

They have also been learning “Sasha”, a movement dance that we will be featuring on the April Fine Arts Day.

3rd grade General Music—we have finished up with Brainware Safari, so are now meeting twice a week (approx.) for music. The students have been learning “Sasha” and “Alabama Gal” for the April Fine Arts Day, as well as reviewing Kodaly Hand Signals for learning new songs to share as well. The movement dances have been beneficial not only because they are fun, but really works on cooperation skills and following directions!

I do not have any information about Voices of Whitaker at this time.

Respectfully submitted, Heidi Johnson

Brent General Music – Steve Jones

-Steve reports that at the Spring Arts Festival, there will be 3 sessions for elementary music:

1) drum circle 2) folk dancing/movement 3) songs/hand signing

Steve will have a student teacher in March – Robin Lana’s daughter

Voices of Whitaker Chorus – Jeff Holmes

NEW BUSINESS -

Savory Sweets – Jennifer Schmidt

Remaining 5 products will be brought to Dinner Before the Show to be in the Bid-N-Buy.

Joint fundraiser with Afterprom, PTA, Boosters, FMPA: addressed above in President’s report

Dinner Before the Show –

From Renee Keith:

- 1) An order form for the FMPA Dinner went out with the PTA newsletter
- 2) Flyers for the elementary schools have been printed and they will be distributed next week.
- 3) Bill Fessler set up a pay schools account so that tickets can be purchased on line.
- 4) I still have to get tickets printed and I am currently working on that
- 5) I have at least 3 volunteers to help with ticket sales at the door : Sharon Figgs, Kay Sanders and myself
- 6) I still would like to get 2 more volunteers to help with ticket sales if possible.

Angela is recruiting kitchen helpers. Glenda will do dessert table & Joan G will help.

Dan reviewed some of the items that will be in the Bid-N-Buy.

Entertainment – not much has been done in this area. Voices of Whitaker will not be involved this year – Jeff was unaware the group usually sings and does not have any songs ready and parents were not notified. Heidi has offered to have the 4th graders play their recorders and is notifying parents. Steve will help with organizing sound. We will use the choir equipment.

Kevin motioned, and Bill seconded, that we adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Next meeting is Monday March 9, 2015 at 7 pm in the MP conference room.