



VICTOR J. ANDREW HIGH SCHOOL
MUSIC PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Music Parent Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2022

- Directors Present: Mark Iwinski, Chris Moan, Mary McCarthy
- Board: Deb Jennings, Nancy Evens, Deb Jennings, Lauren Garrett, Melody Taboada, Tracy Procajlo, John Miller
- Open and Welcome: Deb Jennings started the meeting and welcomed everyone attending.
- Secretary's Report: Tracy Procajlo - The last meeting minutes were from the November 16th, 2021 meeting and can be found on the VJAMusic.com website. She sent an email with a link to the website to everyone.
- Correspondence: None
- President's Report: Deb Jennings – In December we had the Prism concert. She thanked the directors and staff members for putting on a lovely evening. In January there was a theater production, Freaky Friday. It was great to see the students on stage again. In February there was the community show where the Winter Percussion and Winter Guard performed for friends and family. This past weekend the Choral performed with the Nordic Choir at Luther College. The Wind Symphony will perform during T-Bolt Time this week to showcase what the band has to offer. Mr. Miller is working hard on fundraising. The individual fundraisers help raise money for the individual students, while the Music Parents focus on events to fund the entire music program. The Craft Fair is another big fundraiser and we need volunteers. Lynette and Lynn have been very helpful with the Winter Guard. Mary McCarthy has worked to secure COVID funds to support the music programs.
- Treasurer's Report: Nancy Evens – She encouraged signing up for Amazon Smile. It is an easy way to raise money for the music programs. The Spring Craft Fair is doing well. We have already raised over \$15,000 in crafter and vendor fees. The individual fundraisers have been very successful. Students were able to use over \$36,000 in earned funds to help pay for their Disney costs. The Music Parents do incur some costs for the individual fundraisers so that all the profits can go directly to the students. Therefore, the dining nights help offset those kinds of fees. Melody and Nancy

wanted to emphasize that the cost of Marching Band, Winter Percussion and Winter Guard is very large. These fundraiser events, such as the Invitational, the Spring and Fall Craft Fairs, help lower the costs per student over \$500 each!

Director's Report:

Mary McCarthy – She said the Sax Trio is doing amazing. The Nordic Choir and Choral had a wonderful performance and had a great experience at Luther College. The Winter Percussion and Winter Guard are doing great. We finally have tarps and uniforms. Parent teacher conferences are virtual again and will be March 8th. She was able to secure some ESTER (Covid relief) funds. We used these funds to help cover some percussion costs (instruments), Winter Guard costs (the tarp and flags), and a new piano! A local music store was going out of business and they sold it to us at cost for \$6000. She has implemented the Friday Newsletter and it is a great source of information.

Chris Moan – The A Capella group is back and they have some great soloists for the Spring concert, which will be March 17. The Luther College concert was an amazing experience, and he thanked the Music Parents for the choir meal. The Spring Musical is Shrek. They have started rehearsals and the performance will be April 21, 22 & 23. We will have a Disney meeting on Feb 28 in the PAC.

Mark Iwinski – The jazz fest was canceled due to a snow day. He is hoping it will be rescheduled. The jazz band will perform at the Quarry on March 9th. The jazz band and the District 140 jazz band will perform at the spring concert on March 15th. Percussion has a new staff member, Rachel Taylor. Last week the Wind Symphony recorded their Super State audition. The Wind Symphony is performing in a shared concert with the Hindsley Symphonic Band at University of Illinois on April 27th. They will also get to spend the day at U of I and will be able to tour the Susa archives. The Lemont Music Festival is Friday, February 25th. The Symphonic and Wind Symphony bands will be competing. The Music Ambassadors are continuing to meet and are improving their leadership structure and their organization skills. We also now have instructors coming into the band classes on Thursdays and Fridays. They work in small groups and bring more personalized attention to the sections.

Fundraising Report:

John Miller – The Ted's Greenhouse fundraiser is next, and orders are due on March 14th. They revamped the forms. The flowers will be ready May 7th which is also the same day as Super State. We are planning on a Saver's Day on April 16th. This raises money for donations of used clothing and household items. Upcoming dining nights – Panera Bread is March 9th, and Which Wich is April 6th. We raised \$150 from Pops, \$111 from Freddy's, and \$190 from Lou Malnatis. John wants to think of some

other fundraiser for the summer for the new kids joining the music program. We are not doing Century again. He would like to create a survey to ask parents what fundraisers worked, etc. We had some problems with the fruit fundraiser and not many participated. He is also already working on sponsors for the Invitational. Lincoln Way will not be at our Invitational – it is their Homecoming.

Open Discussion:

Melody mentioned that Winter Guard received 3rd place at their last competition and it was a wonderful performance. They are going to WGI this weekend. There are two open Board positions. They will be open for nominations at the March meeting. Deb and Lauren are graduating this year. In order to be nominated you must attend 3 Music Parent meetings during the year. The kids Disney shirts will be distributed at the meeting on Feb. 28th.

The next parent board meeting will be Tuesday March 29th, 2022 at 7:30pm.

Motion to Adjourn:

Theresa Aron

2nd:

Lynn Meyrick