



# MINUTES

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, September 17, 2024 | 7:00

**PM Meeting Location:** RBHS – BAND ROOM

**Present:**

Amy Moran	Johana Marquez	Maggie White
Ann Kissel	Jorie Landfear	Maria D'Amico
Brian Grote	Julia Rhoads	Mark Parslow
Cathy Battistoni	Kara Kesselring	Meara Douglas
Gina Benes Hector Freytas	Karla Highland	Michelle Backus
James Baum	Kathy Ginder	Michelle Pihlaja-Olson
Janette Douglas	Kelly Fahrback	Naomi Tselepis
Jennifer Tryban	Kirsten Bell	Sarah Clark
Jessical O'Neal	Lisa Janunas	Zaida Munoz
Joe Willhite	Liz Buoscio	

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 by President Janunas

**Approval of August Minutes**

Amy Moran made the motion to approve, Gina Benes made the second and the minutes passed.

**Faculty Updates**

**Band**

- The Jazz band will be playing at the Brookfield Fine Arts Fest from 9-10 AM on Saturday, September 28 at Kiwanis Park
- Fine arts week will be Oct. 15-18, Rock Band will have its first public performances that week.
- We're halfway through the Marching season, happy with sound, still working on formations (they're very hard this year). Thanks to all the parents helping out!
- Parent Night/feeder schools are coming up
  - Band night is October 9th
  - Choir night is October 10th
- NYC is rolling around quickly and we still need 4 chaperones. If we don't get them, teachers will have to step in and the ratio would be 13 to 1.
- We're getting new carpet!



### **Orchestra**

- Thanks for scholarships - orchestra is awarding one to Mykhailo Rurak to switch their instrument to bass and fill out the orchestra.
- Orchestra festival is officially still Nov. 20th

### **Choir**

- All classes will have finished learning their concert music by the end of this week, all very excited for the Junior High Choir Festival (field trip & concert taking place on Thursday, October 10th).
- 4th annual Choir Game Night will take place on Tuesday, October 1st, more information to come.
- Mads will be traveling to NIU this Saturday for an ILMEA workshop and auditions are coming up soon. All 18 students are required to audition for senior chorus, and 8 of them have chosen to submit an additional audition for Vocal Jazz. Results to come out in October.

### **Sarah Johnson**

Play dates are November 14-17, there are 42 in the cast and another 20+ on Tech. Middle schools are invited to the in-school performance on November 12

Seniors interested in Musical Theatre/Acting majors can get all their auditions completed at Theatre Fest January 9-11 at UIUC. GET YOUR APPLICATIONS IN AS SOON AS THEY ARE DISTRIBUTED! This fills up fast!

Sign up Genius is available to all the help needed for the Fall Play

### **Administration Report**

Dr. Freytas highlighted some important dates to keep in mind:

- October 2 from 6:00-7:00 Early College Curriculum Night
- October 17 is the Fine & Performing Arts Admissions Webinar for those with kids interested in pursuing Music/Fine Arts in College. Its purpose is to help navigate the application requirements (such as auditions, etc)

The Little Theatre will be available when the kitchen renovations are done.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Kirsten Bell presented the budget for 2024-25. She believes we should have no problem hitting our fundraising goals. Any surplus from last year has rolled over to this year and the funds stayed with the donors' original intent. Teacher input is gathered before any money is spent.

Joe Willhite made the motion to approve, Gina Benes made the second and the budget passed.



## **Committee Breakout Sessions**

### **Feeder School:**

The three feeder school reps will work together in a shared files

- Google slides template to generate flyers to share in Jr High newsletters, etc
- Calendar of RBHS and feeder school events
- It would be useful if info can be hosted on a 'feeder school' page or spot on the Music Sponsor webpage

Each rep will share info about feeder school nights in October

- We would like to plan a reception for after the choir festival on October 10th

Reps will look for a way to connect with jr high PTA/PTO groups for sharing of information

Future:

- Plan to share info for the music dept webinar after Future Bulldog Night

### **Concessions/Volunteer:**

#### **CONCESSIONS**

- Have a presence (if not full concessions) at all concerts, theatre events, Shens, Radio Show, Tri-M Talent Show. Minimum a table with placards, donation option, spiritwear and a representative to welcome.
- Concessions makes a good profit now that we have it dialed in.
- Notify families about Shout-Outs in advance with ticket information.
- Make announcements in auditorium before the start of performance for concessions and shout-outs.
- Add additional Shout-Out stations – along hallway for those waiting in line and in Lobby near ticket sales.
- Add Concessions in Lobby as well.
- Mix the shout-outs up – brainstorm ideas – candy, treats, other ideas?

#### **HOMECOMING CONCESSION NOTES FOR NEXT TIME:**

- Be specific about what we want donated – insure that the message will go out through the administration with full details.
- Need both sides of Concession stand open.
- Need better signage
- Display what is available up high so kids can see and make decision before they get to the window. Pull item down when sold out.
- Okay that when it is gone it is gone.
- Gatorade, Soda and Izzys a big hit. No juice boxes.
- Water was an issue – not enough stations. Go back to selling water bottles
- **IDEA:** cups with lids and straws – fill with lemonade AT concessions. Put logo or date of homecoming on cup - \$5.00 for souvenir cup - \$1 refills.... Cold sensitive cups that change colors... or neon light ice cube.
- Snacks: Chips, candy, cookies – all pre-packaged.
  - We purchased Nerds, sour punch straws, skittles, starbursts and oreos.
  - All \$1 or less per item – sold for \$2 each.
- 4 volunteers enough for selling – not room for more.



- Great to have one person (or kid) on the square to make it move faster.
- Sell World's Finest Chocolate to raise money for trips.
- Need more singles – every kid had a \$20 and needed change.
- Hot food? Pizza? Popcorn? At least one of these items perhaps...

#### **VOLUNTEERS**

- Zaida will organize 2 mixers for parents – working on locations and will suggest some dates. FOLLOW UP before next meeting.
  - Cathy Battistoni will help her
  - Was suggested that we ask venue for 10% of sales as a donation.
  - Invite Feeder school parents
  - Do 50/50 raffle
- Encourage cross-volunteering to free up parents of students performing.
- Encourage everyone to bring a friend, encourage a friend to volunteer with them
- Continue to improve on Sign-Up Genius details and reminders.

#### **Advocacy:**

Goals for 2024-25 school year:

- Continue to campaign for a fully staffed Music department with 3FTE Teachers
- Advocate for AP Music Theory to run every year
- Support the addition of Bulldog Buddy Choir for the 2025-26 school year
- Work with the counselors to have a Point Person for kids interested in pursuing Fine Arts in College

Additional discussion around the upcoming BOE elections. Three seats will be up and we need to let members know about the requirements for running, should anyone be interested.

Also discussed the need to have more M&T parents attend the BOE meetings.

Work with Feeder School committee to partner in an awareness campaign for middle school parents regarding BOE Music class decisions

Need to put together a Key Dates document with information on when classes are determined for 2025-26.

#### **Fundraising/Sponsorship:**

Question: how do we promote what M & T students are doing, similar model to what RB Athletics does on social media?

- Can we announce our RB Music Students of the Week-snippets on our M&T social media or on RBTv or on RB Instagram? What about Theatre students?

#### **Fundraising Ideas:**

- Review opportunities for donor funds through websites like Forefront-can search up opportunities for Music and Arts related grant funding
  - <https://myforefront.org/programs-services/knowledge-center/chicago-area-comm-on-grant-application/>



### **SPONSORS**

- Review IL Arts Council to see if there are any opportunities to fund school programming or specific needs for Music Dept (a speaker and microphone that students can use at performances)
- Ask RBTV Class to do a story on the Fall/Spring play and include a donation link
  - Preview of the play or behind the scenes view, interview teachers or students about why they picked it or what interests them about Theatre)
- Crowdsourcing-can advertise on a page like Kickstarter
  - <https://www.kickstarter.com/>

### **Fundraising for NY Trip**

Unable to continue the Cheesecake fundraiser since company no longer has storage facility

- Currently students are selling Worlds Finest Chocolate
  - \$25 per box-credit goes to the student
- Sell freeze dried candy-supplied by local business owner/parent, can sell bags for \$3-\$10
- Yard signs-purchase signs and proceeds go to each student or to M&T

Sponsors-approx \$20

- Art student contest for design of yard sign?
- Talk to Ms Sarkady in Graphic Design class
- Briefly discussed online platforms for donations of money per student, pros and cons
  - Vertical Raise keeps 20% of proceeds
  - Raise Above keeps 40% of proceeds
  - Entourage 4% surcharge for donor and if cancel trip do not get refunded
  - Go FundMe or just collect donations on own from friends/family directly

### **Sponsorships**

Already process in place, will reach out to sponsors for past years and give them the first opportunity to sponsor M&T again

### **General M&T Fundraisers**

- Silent Auctions-on their own or combined with event like BINGO
  - Small business owners donate items for a raffle/auction
- Business fundraisers: Lou Malnatis (\$ raised per pizza), Portillos or Culvers (% of proceeds for all that make a purchase and reference M&T on specific day)
- BINGO is currently in the planning and approval stages, hope to host BINGO event sometime after January 2025
  - 50/50 is possible but will need to follow ordinance process in Riverside

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, October 15 | 7 p.m.