

NCHS Instrumental Music Boosters Association
Parent General Meeting 04-01-2014
North Canyon High School Music Room

Meeting opened at 7:00pm by organization President, Peter Vedder.

Attendance: 27 parents and students

Financial report was distributed and reviewed for the parents by Mary Schumacher, Booster Treasurer. Explanation of students fees was discussed, estimated cost to run program divided by the number of students in the music program.

Fundraising opportunities were explained, including current and completed projects.

On-going auctions and raffles

Yogurtini following performances – percentage of all sales from 4-10pm on designated day is given to the music program.

Chipotle – an available option to schedule

Fry's and Albertson's shopping cards – a portion of all transactions recorded on the shopping card is distributed to the music program on a quarterly basis.

A question was raised about the use of the funds. Response was that a majority of the funds of used for music tutors. A report of the expenses is available upon request.

Parents were encouraged by P. Vedder to participate in the store shopper card programs and to attend the Yogurtini fundraisers when they happen.

Parent Suggestion: Because of the small turn out of parents at this meeting a suggestion was made that the information for the shoppers cards be passed on to the students by Mr. Suehiro so that they can give it to their parents and/or use it themselves.

Reminders that sponsorships are available on our web site and during football season as a fundraising opportunity that includes local businesses. The more sponsorships gathered the more funds raised.

Mr. Suehiro

Thanked parents for participation and recognized the booster board for their work.

Commented on the success of recent band activities including:

March concert that combined NCHS and middle school students. Was very pleased with the participation of the younger students.

Paradise Valley Mall performance

Honor Orchestra performance

Basketball Band – a recent addition to the music program after a break for several years

Coming Events:

May 13, 2014 Year End Concert – will be combined with the middle schools again.

April 22, 2014 – Fiddle Fest for the Orchestra students

May 16, 2014 – Year End Awards Ceremony and Banquet

Spring 2015 Band Trip

Distributed information packets to parents and students in attendance

Destination – San Francisco, CA. in cooperation with Educational Discovery Tours

Mr. Suehiro is waiting on final approval from the NCHS school board and administration

Trip will be education based – students will perform each day of the trip

Transportation – Airlines from Phoenix to San Francisco and chartered busses in the city

A tour guide is provided by Ed. Disc. Tours

Trip itinerary is attached, note the music related events are listed in red. Specific performances are provided to emphasize personal growth musically for the students.

Trip is scheduled for the weekend just prior to the start of Spring Break, March 19-22, 2015

This trip has been planned over one year in advance so that families can begin making plans and saving money.

The schedule provided is only an approximate event schedule. The final schedule will be provided closer to the event date.

In review, the purpose and benefits of this trip are: educational experience, recruitment of incoming freshmen students, and life experience as the students learn to earn money and save for the trip.

In reference to the cost of the trip and fundraising, options include summer car washes, donations from friends and family, and use of the Arizona Educational Tax Credit. The Arizona Educational Tax Credit offers an Arizona tax payer a credit of up to \$200 per individual or \$400 per couple for each tax year. This credit, if used to its fullest potential, could raise all of the funds for a student's trip.

Meeting attendees were provided with a registration packet which included a yellow registration form, pricing and payment breakdowns. Any questions or concerns can be directed to Dylan Suehiro or the travel company.

Questions concerning the trip??

Q- Is there a minimum number of students required for the trip? A- The price is based on 35 students.

Q- Is this information being provided to the incoming freshmen? A- Yes, NCHS band will be visiting the feeder schools in April and will take information with them.

Q- If we sign up and have to cancel do we get our deposit back? A- Refund policies are on the back of the registration form.

Q- How do we make payments? A- The "trip account" will not be set up through the school until July 1. Any payment prior to that time, including the deposit, will be made

directly to the tour company. After July 1, all payments, including tax credit, can be made through the school.

Q- Is there a “drop dead” date when we can no longer back out and are committed to this trip? A- Mr. Suehiro does not anticipate any issues with the band that would require us to back out. If that were to happen, he believes December would be the latest.

Q- If the band is able to cancel the trip up until December, does that mean that the April, 2014 deposit date is not a firm date? A- The tour company is a good resource for that answer, Mr. Suehiro will also follow up and get back to the band parents.

Q- What is the cost for chaperones? A- \$1368 (a little higher than the students because chaperones will not get the student rates at some of the locations). 4 to 5 chaperones are needed. The district requires a 1 to 15 student/chaperone ratio.

Q- Is this trip open to all band and orchestra students? A- For students who are a part of the marching band but not the concert band, attendance will be allowed as long as the student attends all outside rehearsals for the trip.

Q- If the tax credit is used can it be designated for a specific student? A- Yes

Q- Can the deposit be made with tax credit funds? A- No, all deposits need to go directly to the tour company.

Q- Is there insurance available for the trip? A- Mr. Suehiro will check on the details and follow up.

Any other questions can be directed to Mr. Suehiro or the tour company.

Executive Board Elections

Peter Vedder, current band booster President, spoke to the parents about the value of parental support, the student experience, and the volunteer efforts this year.

As of the date of this meeting, there have been 2 board positions vacated. 1 was due to illness and one was due to the parents ineligibility based on the by-laws. Tammie Webb has volunteered to fill one vacated position for the remainder of this term. A motion was made and seconded by the attendees, all were in favor of her appointment as the secretary until the end of the 2013-2014 term.

Beginning in July, 2014 a new board will need to be elected. There will be 5 open positions. Currently Peter Vedder is President, Heather Paulk is the Orchestra Vice President, March Schumacher is Treasurer, and Tammie Webb is Secretary.

Our by-laws require a minimum of 4 positions, Pres, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. An optional 5th position can be in place so that each of the bands has a Vice President representation.

Tammie Webb volunteered to take the position of President.

Steve O'Donnell volunteered to take the position of Treasurer based on explanation of duties: attending executive board meetings, assist with coordinating fundraising efforts, attend monthly booster meeting, participate in marching season activities.

It was clarified that spouses cannot both serve on the executive board.

Lori Ortiz volunteered for the office of Secretary.

No one volunteered for the office of Orchestra Vice President.

Parent – suggested splitting the boosters into 2 organizations, band and orchestra.
Peter Vedder explained that this discussion has come up in back executive board meetings. It has been explained that the orchestra parents view 'orchestra' as a class and not an activity. Band participation requires more time from the volunteers.

Parent – What is the ratio of band vs. orchestra students? What does the orchestra contributed funds go to?

Peter Vedder - approximately 25/23.

Mary Shumacher - orchestra funds help to pay for tutors, sheet music and uniform cleaning. The majority goes to the tutors.

Parent – Wonders if the orchestra parents are aware of the costs and benefits of the booster organization and the booster fees for their students.

Parent – Is curious what percentage of fair share fees not yet collected are from the orchestra students. Also wonders if the parents, if not participating with their checkbook, are participating with their time.

Mary Shumacher – Concert and Orchestra expenses include basically music and tutors.

Marching expenses are different and include competitions, supplies, etc. Approximately 30% of NCHS students are classified as Title 1 students and she assumes that the band students would be about the same. There are some families who have not completed their Fair Share payments because they are waiting for credit from the Entertainment Book sales.

Peter Vedder – The fees are approximately equal among the 3 groups. Parents tend to question why the "class" referring to orchestra is an additional \$200 (the booster fee).

Mr. Suehiro explained the cultural differences between the band and the orchestra. His goal is to bring both bands together successfully. The challenge he sees is to create a culture that the orchestra students are excited about. He is suggesting an orchestra camp like the band camp in the summer. Mr. Suehiro would like for the booster parents to encourage the orchestra parents to help us create this culture.

Nominations: President - Tammie Webb, Band Vice President – Gerald Robenstine, Secretary – Lori Ortiz, Treasurer – Steve O’Donnell, Orchestra Vice President – Possibly an interim band parent – Peter Vedder is willing to fill in until the fall when new parents come in.

Motion was made and seconded to close the nominations.

Executive board election approval with nominees – all in favor say ‘aye’, unanimous vote

Upcoming Board Meeting

Current board will meet in April and May. The new term starts July 1, 2014. Incoming board members were invited to attend the April and May meetings.

Refreshment were served.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

Meeting notes respectfully submitted,

Tamara L. Webb

NCHS Instrumental Music Booster Secretary