



Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2011 @ 7:00pm

Mr. Ceresini welcomed the large crowd and welcomed them to the June meeting which was also Freshman Orientation. Also involved in the welcome was the incoming president, Diane Baker. Mr. C. went on to explain the philosophy of the band program and spoke about the three E's: Excellence, Experience, and Enjoyment. These three words shape everything he wants the students to get out of their involvement with the band program. He gave a brief description of each of the ensembles that the school offers. Regarding the Jazz program, it continues to grow and we will likely have enough students involved to support two Jazz II groups again this year. He went on to give some basic information about Band Camp, and described the first performance at the Pigskin Preview and talked about the close connection the Marching band has developed with the football team and cheerleading program, which is very different from any other school he has worked in. There were 185 students involved in the band programs this year, with even more projected for the next school year. All of the ensembles are graded except for the indoor groups. The grading policies are in the handbook (which can be found on the website, and will be handed out to the students at the beginning of the school year). Participation and preparation are a big part of the grading process.

The discussion turned to the trip for next year. The destination has changed, and the trip will now be for the entire music program; band, chorus, and orchestra. This will involve approximately 300-350 people. The location will be Orlando, Fla, and they will attend a music festival with workshops and performance opportunities as well as theme parks including Universal and Sea World. With this many people involved, the goal is to fly instead of going on busses, and another goal is to keep the price under \$900. The likely dates are March 7-11, but this is not finalized yet. There will be a lot of fundraising opportunities to build up your student accounts. The price should be locked in by July 1, with the first payment probably due in September.

It should be noted that Mr. Ceresini did a very good job of keeping the meeting moving, and his portion of freshman orientation was finished at 7:11pm! The incoming freshmen were then dismissed to meet with the student leaders and take a tour of the school.

Diane Baker spoke about the booster's organization and encouraged the parents to keep their kids involved with the band program as it really helps to ease the transition to High School. We are a non profit organization with an \$80,000/year budget which helps with a lot of the things the district can't provide for the program such as instrument purchases, indoor units expenses, Mr. C's wish list, and supplementing the assistant staff salaries. We also provide performance opportunities for the students by bringing in outside groups such as military bands, and this coming year we are bringing in the Presidio Brass, and our kids will get an opportunity to play with them. The boosters assist with the logistics of carrying out such a large band program with chaperoning help, providing food, sewing flags, and fitting uniforms, just to name a few things we help with. Diane commented that it seems like we feed the kids a lot, but fed kids are happy ones!

Diane introduced the new executive committee members: Cathy Sangillo, vice president; Cindy Case Treasurer; Ryan and Maki Traynor, Financial Secretary: and Laurie Kissinger, Recording Secretary. Diane explained two very important ways of sharing information with the members is thru the website (www.cdramband.org) which includes and up to date calendar of events, and email blasts which we send out frequently so make sure we have your email address!

Diane and Mr. Ceresini spoke about Charms, which is an online data management system designed for music programs. Mr. C. showed what a student page looks like and demonstrated some of the information stored there. There will be more information coming soon about how to access your child's account.

There was discussion about the student accounts which can be used for trip payments, lessons, equipment repairs, or other band related expenses. There are a lot of fundraising opportunities to build up your student accounts including:

Business sponsorship-this program will kick off in July. We will send out an initial round of letters to businesses on our mailing list, and after that it will be open to students to bring in any sponsorships they are able to collect and you will receive a portion of the amount for your student account. Start thinking of business owners you would like to approach, such as your pizza shop, dentist, hairdresser, etc.

Scrip-This is an ongoing, constant, small fundraiser which can be a big program if done right. We are able to buy gift cards for hundreds of vendors such as grocery stores, gas, restaurants, etc., at a discounted rate, and then we receive the difference from the scrip company. You are paying face value for things you already buy and the band (and your student account) makes some money. An example would be buying a \$100 Giant Foods card which we pay \$95 for and the boosters/student account split the \$5. Since this is a trip year, we are trying to get more families to participate in this program by offering a 50/50 boosters/student account split. Missy Miller will be taking over this program. The orders are due the first and third Tuesday of the month, and will be available on the Saturday following the order for pickup at Weber Vision Care on Elmerton Ave.

HERCO/GTP-This program is thru the Hershey Corporation and they donate an hourly rate to your student account for hours worked at the park or concerts. There is more information on the website about how to sign up.

Product Sales-We will have a few throughout the year which we have had success with in the past. They are always optional.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Treasurer's Report: Cindy Case: Cindy talked about expenses and deposits for the month. A lot of the expenses were for the band banquet. Some other expenses include \$2600 for the marching band show/supplies and \$900 for earplugs for the students which we received at a reduced cost and will be sold to the students for \$6 with a case included. There were deposits made this month for the basket sale.

Financial Secretary's Report: Crystal Richards: This is Crystal's final report as team Traynor will take over next month. Crystal reported the student accounts are updated.

Vice President's Report: Cathy Sangillo: No report.

Recording Secretary's Report: Laurie Kissinger: The minutes are posted online within one week of the meeting and are archived on the website. The minutes of last month were approved by a motion by Jennifer DeFazio and seconded by John Cosgrove. They were approved by a unanimous vote.

Student Leader's Report: Josh Richard and Dan Budd: The exiting president and VP gave their last report of the year. They reported on the Knoebels picnic which rained (every year) and the Memorial Day parade in Linglestown which was very hot (every year)! They said the Jazz gig at the Relay for Life was fun and they got to see Mr. Milbrands variety band play there as well. Graduation was great, and the boys are now officially alumni; however the school apparently called Josh's houses that morning to report that he wasn't in school! They both thanked the booster's for putting up with their bad jokes and entertainment throughout this past year. They also gave thanks for all the booster's have done for the band including chaperoning and food, and finished with encouragement for the freshman parents to get involved with the boosters.

Mr. Ceresini's Report: June 3rd was the band banquet which was a nice evening, and the boosters are able to provide for all the students to attend at no cost. There were also awards and scholarships given out that

evening, the winners are listed on the website. There were 36 seniors in this year's class and Mr. C. commented that it was an awesome class with great musicians and leaders!

The Linglestown Parade was very hot as usual, but they love having us there. Graduation was a nice performance by the concert band, and the students enjoy seeing their friends graduate.

The Concert and Jazz Bands Recordings are done; he is currently working on a price. They will be double length discs and you can order Concert Band, Jazz Band, or both. The order form will be posted online next week.

OLD BUSINESS:

Knoebels: Diane reported it only rained for 25 minutes, and thanked the Losers and the Nicholas' for putting this together.

Band Banquet: Thanks to that committee for a great evening!

Scrip: As mentioned, starting July 1st we will be offering a 50/50 split of the profits to encourage more participation in this program as it is a trip year.

Karns1 for the Schools: We received a check from Karns for \$451! Register your Karns shopper's cards and choose CD Band Boosters to receive credit for your purchases. You must re-register your card each school year.

Golf-a-RAM-a: This is coming up June 17th. We currently have 47 golfers registered, and are still looking for some more! The cost is \$75 per golfer which includes some great prizes and a steak dinner at the end. If you would like to just go for dinner the cost is \$25. There is more info on how to sign up on the website.

Legends of Music: Presidio Brass is scheduled for September 20.

Wearables: Thanks to Lorrie Hanlin for taking this over!

Band Camp: Judy Koontz will again be coordinating uniform fittings during camp, and will be looking for helpers. Check Charms to sign up.

BandaRAMa: Save the Date emails have been sent out to Directors. This show is a lot of fun for our kids as they get a large crowd to cheer them on as the host band.

Buddy Night: This will be Sept. 30th for the East Game. This is for the eighth grade students to play with our band and have a pizza party

Photographers; we are looking for someone or several people to take pictures at events to put on the website. Let Diane know if interested.

Publicity Guru: We are looking for anyone who is good with computers to help with email blasts, press releases, etc. Let Diane or Mr. C. know if interested.

NEW BUSINESS:

Membership: The 2011-2012 forms are now available.

Budget: The Budget was motion to approve by Laurie Kissinger, and seconded by Kim St. Clair. It was approved by a unanimous vote;

Event Heads: We are still looking for a few leaders for Buddy Night, Mentoring, and the RamCard product sale. Let Diane know if interested.

Aarogas Night: Joanne Baylor is working on setting this up for the end of August.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28pm.

The next meeting will be Tuesday July 5th, 2011 @ 7:00pm

Sincerely,
Laurie Kissinger
Recording Secretary

