

Hazleton Area High School
Marching Cougar Band Boosters

Meeting Minutes: August 3rd, 2015

*Guest Speaker Cheryl from Kids First Fundraising addressed the parents on fundraising opportunities.

President Jen Stirling called the meeting to order at 6:50PM.

Former Band Director Neil Forte III introduced New Band Director Mr. Joseph Stefanko to all parents and students in attendance. Melissa Lutz was announced as Color Guard Director and Karen Supon as Assistant Color Guard Director.

***Band Director's Report**

(Was moved to beginning of meeting since so many things involved the new band director taking over)
New Band Director Mr. Stefanko thanked the School Board, Mr. Petrone and parents for allowing him the opportunity to work with the band.

Mr. Stefanko announced his e-mail address to reach him at stefankoj@hasdk12.org or the school phone number 570.459.3221 ext 81147. Due to him being hired last week that's why rehearsals were cancelled and he listed the schedule on a power point and also reminded everyone to check the band website and to pick up the directions for *Remind Program (a system to send automatic alerts from the director to your phone.)*

Mr. Stefanko explained that even though the previous director was going to have a football and a separate competition band, this year there will be one band.

Mr. Stefanko also asked for parent volunteers to help with the backdrops and equipment. Also an Assistant Band Director is still not hired yet.

***School Principal Mr. Petrone said it was a pleasure to attend one of our meetings and thanked the Band Boosters for all the help they give and have given to support our students in so many ways.** Thanked Mr. Forte for the 10 years he put in.

Middle School Band Night may be held differently this year but he has to work out the details since he was just appointed Director a few nights ago.

Band Parent Tina Potestio asked about prior commitments due to schedule that was listed from June with 2 different bands. Mr. Stefanko explained to let him know by e-mail as soon as possible.

His ultimate goal this year is to have students feel they learned and grew in the musical community of band and feel like they accomplished something new.

May be setting up Saturday rehearsals. But again needs to work out all details.

A new student Handbook will be coming out detailing all pertinent information for parents and students.

Old props are being re-used to save money just repainted. Also the Star Trek Football Show will be being used this year, and the competition show may get used with having to be updated to fit the band next year

The minutes from the June 2015 meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept was made by Tina Potestio, seconded by Lisa Riedel. All were in favor, none opposed.

Correspondence: Secretary Renee Forte read a Thank You Card sent to the Band Boosters from 2015 graduate Jack Buglio. Renee also announced the importance of all packets having to be returned ASAP.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer Robbin Halliday showed a copy of the budget Motion to Accept Jack Palaggi, Seconded by Denise Kulsa. All in favor. None opposed

Old Business:

Ways and Means: Chairperson Michele Lizbinski stated the individual student fundraisers and how students and parents can pick and choose which they would like to participate in. She further explained the importance and effectiveness of participating in fund raisers to lower the cost of student trips.

General Fund: Chairperson is needed for this area. Renee Forte explained the importance of general fund as far as what it supports such as buying the field show, instrument repairs, music purchases etc. If no one chairs this or any committee it falls on the Executive Officers. Also this year we would like to look into bigger fund raising for general fund and leave the lesser fund raisers for ways and means.

Publicity: Chairperson Audrey Umbriac will see about getting publicity thru the newspaper and local television stations for band camp.

Concession Stand: Chairperson Richard Forte discussed the idea of parent donations to the concession stand to help defray the costs associated with the concession stand. He also mentioned the importance of parent volunteers to work the concession stand if even only for one game per child there would be more than enough help, because as of now help is urgently needed to keep the two stands operating. Water would be greatly appreciated as it is used all through the year.

Chaperones: Chairperson Renee Forte stressed to all in attendance especially the new parents, the importance of chaperones being needed and the clearances needed before you can chaperone. Minimum of at least two chaperones per bus, but more is always better. All clearances must be renewed this year.

Band Store: Nothing to report

Committee's:

Relay for Life-Nothing to report. Chairperson needed

Banquet Committee:Chairperson Renee Forte has nothing to report

Pit Crew: Chairperson needed

Band Directors Report: was moved to beginning of meeting.

Trip Information: More information will be forthcoming when there is a trip decided upon by the new Band Director and/or Choral Director. Once it is agreed upon by the School Board, then and only then will more information follow.

Band Packets: Renee Forte explained that the Band Packets in great detail and the importance of reading everything thoroughly and signing of all necessary papers, clearances and volunteer sheets. Returning all paperwork especially the medical forms ASAP.

New Business

Meeting was adjourned by Jack Palaggi and seconded by Lisa Levitsky at 8:26 p.m.

Next meeting: Monday September 1st , 2015 at 6:30 PM in the Band Room.