

Buchholz Band Boosters, Inc. — General Meeting

Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2017

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Linda Meling (President), who welcomed everyone in attendance (19 parents/guardians of 21 students).

NEW BUSINESS

Volunteer Hours: Jennifer Boe (Secretary) passed a sheet for parents to list hours spent volunteering from August 15 through November 14, 2017.

By-Laws Proposed Changes: Jennifer Boe reviewed the proposed changes to the By-Laws that were presented at the August 15, 2017, general booster meeting. There were no questions or comments. A motion was made by Christy Payton to accept the changes as presented. April Funston seconded, motion passed.

School Facility Surveys: Jennifer Boe presented information about the school district's effort to list facility needs at each school in the county, in preparation for asking voters to approve a ½ cent sales tax on the 2018 general election ballot. Revenue from the tax would fund facilities improvements at all schools in the district. Band families are asked to take time to complete a survey for Buchholz by February 9, 2018, by visiting ACCPTA.org and clicking "Facilities Surveys." The music department is in dire need of new and upgraded space to continue providing the best music education for our students.

A Taste for Music: Our annual dinner-dance fundraiser will be held on Saturday, March 17, 2018, at the Best Western Gateway Grand. Sarah Freedman reported that The Silent Auction committee is already working to secure donations, and parents are asked to help in this effort. We are also looking for table sponsorships for the event. Pricing has not been finalized by the committee but will be shared soon. Last year's pricing was \$50 per individual ticket, \$400 for a table of 8 (included 8 drink tickets) and sponsorships were set at \$600 (Gold), \$450 (Silver), and \$300 (Bronze). This event is a general fundraiser to help the Booster organization make budget since fairshare does not entirely fund the band program. The goal is to invite friends outside of the band program to attend and support the Silent Auction.

REPORTS

Treasurers:

- Catherine Lawton (Treasurer/Receivables) reported that fairshare is coming in somewhat on schedule, but families should watch the deadlines and continue to monitor amounts due to help the band program stay on track with expenses. Catherine encouraged families to sign up for Gator football concessions as a very easy way to make fairshare. So far, individuals have earned \$49-73 per person per game in fairshare credit so this adds up fast.
- Melissa Kury (Treasurer/Disbursements) reported our bank balance is about \$13,800; our money market balance is about \$8,700 and we are continuing to repay into this account over 4 years for the new Sousaphones that were purchased. We have 3 CDs totaling about \$30,000 in value that are on reserve for emergencies.

Fundraising:

- **UF Football Concessions:** Lisa Zunkel (Vice President/Fundraising) reported we have two more games this year (November 18 and 25). Several more volunteers are needed for these dates. This activity has been fun and successful.
- **Rome Apples:** sale dates are November 13 – 27; delivery to BHS on December 9.

Special Events:

- **Food4Kids donation:** 452 pounds of food donations were given to Food4Kids Backpack Program from our Veteran's Day Concert collection.
- **Mentor/Mentee holiday party:** Tuesday, December 12 at 3:00 p.m. in the band room. Students will enjoy holiday treats and a gift exchange.
- **District Solo & Ensemble — February 16-17, 2018 at Fort Clarke Middle School:**
 - Mr. McConn's 8th grade students will volunteer; BHS band students will fill in gaps as needed and this time will count for community service hours. More information coming.
 - A bake sale will be held at FCMS on Saturday, February 17, to benefit the BHS Band. This will be run by BHS band adult volunteers (typically 2-hour shifts). Watch for a Signup Genius.
 - Auxiliary will be in the FCMS Gym.
 - Christy Payton is rep for FCMS Band Booster Board; they plan to have 2 food trucks at the event.
- **State Solo & Ensemble (including Auxiliary) — March 26-27, 2018 at Buchholz High School:**
 - **NOTE: this takes place the first 2 days of spring break in Alachua County. Student and parent volunteers will be needed. Please let Mr. Barat know if you will be in town and can sign up to help.**
 - Mr. Barat indicated students who play a Grade 5 or higher solo and receive a Superior at District S&E then qualify to play their solo at State S&E.
 - Kelly McKinlay will contact Matt at PDQ and also Cilantro Tacos to determine if they can bring food service to BHS for this event.

Travel/Section Parent: Kelly McKinlay reported on behalf of Alicia Walker (Vice President/Travel). Section parents mentor parents of incoming freshman band students, and it is a great way to get to know the students and parents. We are looking for section parents for next year as many who are serving this year have students who are graduating. Goal is to have section parents identified before summer, so communication can begin right away when marching band starts up. Parents who are interested in volunteering should email Alicia Walker (alibill961@gmail.com).

Uniforms:

- **Band spirit gear:** Annette Krecic (Uniform Coordinator) modeled the long-sleeve band spirit shirt. It is a 50/50 blend, available on Charms in sizes S-2XL for \$12 each. Caps are \$18 each on Charms (this is a different design than baseball caps that are part of the Golden Regiment under uniform).
- Annette thanked parents/students for helping to take good care of the marching uniforms this year as no major repairs were needed.
- **Concert uniforms:** these have been distributed as ordered. ***Students need to ensure that skirts and pants are properly hemmed before the Winter Concert on December 7.***
- **Concert uniform supplies:** A parent asked if there is a uniform supply closet for students in need. Annette indicated it is best for students to let Mr. Barat know if they have a specific need

as we do not have the space to store donated concert uniforms. The Boosters will then provide assistance as possible.

Aviance: Debbie Johnson (Aviance Coordinator) reported that the team is now in its second year of rehearsing for Winter Guard competition (rehearsals on Monday/Wednesday/Friday). The “Pictures” Aviance costumes are being used for Winter Guard. Transportation options need to be determined (Debbie to meet with Mr. Barat). Mercedes Medina will add Aviance events to the band Google calendar. The guard closet needs to be cleaned out and Mr. Barat approved for Aviance parents to get together and determine what items can be donated or sold.

Band Director:

- Communication via email with band families has been effective so we may reduce the number of general booster meetings next year.
- Mr. Barat reported this year’s Veteran’s Day Concert was “amazing” in every aspect (and he does not often use that word!) He had a lot of pride that the auditorium was “standing room only” and that all ensembles performed extremely well. This was the 14th consecutive year for the concert, which was started by Paula Thornton (past BHS Director of Bands) because she wanted to do something to give back to Gainesville. The BHS Chorus was added to the show for the last 2 years and it appears the event has now outgrown University Auditorium. Two veterans who have attended all 14 years approached Mr. Barat to indicate they would like to help the band program pay for the cost of the event (the Boosters pay approximately \$2,000 to UF to have the event at University Auditorium, and we do not charge an admission fee). Mrs. Skaggs indicated the Chorus Booster group would also like to support the event next year.
- Mr. Barat also reported on the great success of the Golden Regiment at Marching MPA in October, earning a Superior rating for the last 19 consecutive years. The on-field celebration that followed the performance and ratings announcement was enjoyed by all students, parents, and band alumni in attendance.
- Winter Concert on Thursday, December 7: this show will include 7th and 8th graders invited to perform with the Golden Regiment. Rehearsal on Monday, December 4 at BHS.
- Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band continue to work on their music for District MPA.

Other Items:

- **Fairshare due Friday, November 17:** statements will be mailed in December only to those students who still have a balance due. This is the last income opportunity for the band program prior to A Taste for Music.
- **Band night at PDQ — Monday, December 11:** a BHS jazz combo will play holiday music on the patio at PDQ to show appreciation for their support of the BHS band program. It is also a Spirit Night in which PDQ will give a portion of the evening’s proceeds to the boosters.
- Jazz Band will not play this year at NFRMC Pond Lighting or Thornebrook Village due to schedule conflicts or other reasons. Need to determine interest in Jazz Band playing at local senior centers to generate interest in the Taste for Music event.

NEXT MEETING

Next general meeting is on Thursday, January 25, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in band room. The final meetings will be TBD in March (Nominating Committee to be formed) and April (vote on new board).

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Jennifer Boe, Secretary