

Instrumental Music Booster Meeting

Tuesday Oct. 6, 2020

Attendees:

Ricky Alegria
Agnes Berthillier
Jill Denny
Allison Devenney
Tyler Doan
Gordon Elder
Gina Estrada
Lynne Ewald
Mike Jimenez

Jeffrey Kuan
Anna Linde
Brenda Moceyunas
Cynthia Ponce-Pineda
Karin Porticos
Anita Rao
Mrinalini Sharma
Nandini Sharma
Marilyn Stanley

Peter Stanley
Kathy Stiles
Jacqueline Trager
Lara Vastano
Mia Whitfield
Ella Wu
Ru-Fang Yeh

- **Welcome:** Peter Stanley opened the meeting at 7:00pm and welcomed all new and returning parents to the group, as well as Lynne Ewald, assistant principal, and Kathy Stiles, Booster president of LAHS.
- **Approval of September Minutes:** The minutes from the Sept. 16th meeting were approved by the majority and will be added to the website soon.
- **Music Director's Reports**
 - **Curriculum updates-Ricky A.** Distance learning will continue for the rest of the semester. Classes are focused on playing music with students sending in recordings for a virtual performance before Winter break. Ricky also discussed Cut Time, the management tool which is replacing Charms. More information will be shared on Cut Time soon.
 - Pete suggested adding a special tab on the website for Cut Time, to replace Charms
 - **Anna's report- Diversity in Music Guest Speaker Series.** Anna went over the list of speakers scheduled to present to all students in the music program. See the music in diversity series handout. Stadium lights update: The ground-breaking ceremony has taken place, and everyone is looking forward to having lights for Marching Band and Football. Anna shared a slide with Boosters on ways to students are making positive changes in the community: Reflective, finding positive solutions, resilient, empowered and encouraging the heart.
- **Questions and Discussion:**
 - How will Cut Time work? What details can be shared to parents and students about Cut Time? Will it be another layer, on top of Canvas and Google Classroom?
 - Student Survey feedback? Generally, students understand limitations we are in. There are students who are disappointed that there is less time being spent playing music and have voiced their frustration.
 - Timeline on lights? Early November is when they will be turned on, but it could be sooner, possibly by Halloween.
 - Are Diversity in Music Speaker series webinars recorded? Yes

- Will MVHS perform a short video like Homestead did on YouTube? Not at the moment. Directors are working to edit student videos for a virtual performance, date TBD.
- Can cohorts start forming for small groups? No, the district has not said it is safe to resume in person sectionals.
- Do all students have instruments? No, but percussion students will be getting some practice mats on order from McCormick.
- How are the state's standards for music curriculum being met? Lengthy discussion on how music classes are being modified to meet core standards for music learning.
- Will there be a virtual performance this semester? Yes, this is in planning stages.
- How many new students are there in music? How many marchers? 100

Lynn Ewald- We are starting to work on higher need cohorts, students with largest needs, AVID seniors who need help with their college apps, working with students with technical problems at home, etc.

Mike Jimenez- Cohort update; Currently 15 kids max w/ 1 adult instructor. Kids are allowed to move from one cohort to another between morning and afternoon practicing social distancing, wearing masks, sanitizing, all precautions in place. Each cohort is 2-4 weeks long. Goals for academic cohorts are to keep kids engaged. Mike will continue to ask the School Board questions about cohorts and when they might possibly be reinstated for music since athletics are already allowing small practice cohorts. Parents asked about small cohorts on the field, and Mike said that he will keep us posted on the cohort situation.

- Is there an opportunity for non-woodwind cohorts, including color guard? Ricky mentioned that they are still concerned with having enough staffing for all the groups to keep kids safe.
- What about masking up and having small sectionals to help retain marching skills for next year? Anna- our goal is safety, so even though Homestead is having small sectionals, we do not feel we can do so safely. We don't have enough instructional adults at this time, and the music team is sticking with this plan.
- MVLA sent a letter saying that distance learning will continue for the duration of the semester. How do small cohorts work in campus with this guideline? Lynn- Many of the cohorts are not being led with teachers, and only meeting once or twice a week. Teachers are needed for teaching the rest of the students, thus, the classified personnel to help with the cohorts.

Peter & Jacqueline- no further updates

Auditor's Report-Mina reported that Anita and Karin did an excellent job. Reconciliation is within \$90, so likely due to PayPal fees or electronic funds. Karin- We reconcile all PayPal reports, square reports, employee matching and all bank statements. We look at both the beginning and end of year expenses. A vote was taken for the approval of the auditor's report and all were in favor. Audit report was discussed and approved.

Budget- Please see attached **2020-2021 Annual Budget Proposal slide**

- Anna presented the proposed budget to the Boosters and gave more details on line items.

- Clinicians are now contracted staff, through the district. Contracted staff for MB, \$8200, Contracted staff for Winter Programs \$7000. Clinicians- shorter term staff (guest speakers, resident clinicians) \$5000(Music for Diversity Speaker Series department wide) \$1500 Scholarships
- \$3000 video editing for Distance Learning (3-minute videos, 5 total, across the ensembles, WE- 2 videos)
- 2nd semester events \$2000 (end of year picnic, farewell taco night replacement)
- Awards & plaques \$400
- Overhead expenses \$3000 (internet accounting insurance)
- Total annual expenses \$30,100

Please see additional slides on **Staff Pay Breakdown and Staff Pay Continued (prob shouldn't post this since it contains salary info)**

Virtual Performance Editing:
 \$1,000 per ensemble
 1 per ensemble (2 per Wind Ensemble)
 About 3 minutes each

Karin's report- \$3000 for overhead- we have an accountant to make sure we are filing correctly, keeping our non-profit status in compliance, insurance, webmaster, etc.

Approval of budget: \$30,100 for the entire year was approved. If additional ideas are brought to the board, we will address that then. Budget approved by the majority!

Tyler Doan- Music Council President

Tyler gave his report on music council and ways that the students are collaborating in distance learning. Tyler also discussed the Music in Diversity Speaker Series.

Music Booster Direct Ask: Pete- reported on the distinction between Direct Ask and Fair Share on the website, outlining who pays for what, the different roles and how funds work. The diagram on the bottom of the website goes into detail for Fair share, what Boosters covers, etc. The Direct Ask, normally part of the Back to School packet, was shelved this fall due to COVID. Now, after approving the proposed budget, we will need to replenish the funds for the Boosters, to further support the instrumental music programs. Thus, a Direct Ask letter will be going out to the music family population.

Gina E. will be helping to write a letter for the Direct Ask for families to contribute, along with corporate matching portal.

Brenda- MVHS music jackets for Christmas are for sale! Ricky is designing a t-shirt for music groups as possible holiday gifts. There was a suggestion to have an online store for gear in Cut Time once it is set up.

*BridgePoint Music in Menlo Park is closing. Mina plans to reach out to see if the Boosters can do anything to help before they close. Many families have patronized Bridgepoint over the years for rentals, repairs, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06pm

Next meeting Tuesday, Nov. 3rd 7:00pm