

Music Parents Support Group Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2023 7pm (Google Meet)

Attendees

Bobby Gulati, Chantal Nault, Dolores Gutierrez, Elisabeth Moreau, Iva Apostolova, Jane Carruthers, Jason Sinkus, Julie Findlay, Kristin Kilby, Kerry Larkin, Kevin Craig, Kevin McGowan, Mandy Fisher, Maria Fabiani, Natalie Pampararo, Olivia Paquette, Paula Walsh, Sari Harrel, Tara Campbell, Victoria Pierce, Via

Student Update- Olivia Paquette

- Working on planning coffee house for late October- sign up for acts on now
- Also planning a Halloween fun evening- decorating pumpkins and watching a movie
- Need parent volunteers for the Coffee house- 2 at the door and 3 at the food table- Chantal, Julie F, Bobby Tara, and Dolores will volunteer and will find others (possibly Julie E as well)
- Volunteers should show up at 6:30 for set up
- Cake auction to take place at coffee house too

Music Staff Update- Jason Sinkus

- Had a visiting school from Korea visit last week to showcase their talents- it was a great experience for all the students
- Grade 10 Jazz experience was great too- Kelly Lee Evans provided opportunities for some singing and playing- students loved the opportunity
- Thanks to parents who have helped to get dresses and tuxes ready and sent out to students
- Had the first lunch and listen, an idea of Janice Mah; it will be open mic, every Wed, open to students
- Student council is meeting each Monday to get some activities planned
- Music clothing is getting on the go under the guidance of James Caswell; will be designed by students, hoodies, shirts, etc., hoping to have this in place by the holidays for gift orders
- With our seniors, we are starting our chamber unit. And so what that means is that in the three disciplines, the students are getting in small groups in their performance, learning a piece of music, which we will be performing on November 16 and 17. And the top performances on those particular days will be offered the opportunity to perform at our music night.
- It will be a very busy day on October 24th, we have our coffee house, but during the day itself, we do have a feeder school concert that we're putting on. So it's not just music. It's all of the arts who will be putting on the show.
- Looking for a music parent who could come record the show on the morning and afternoon of Oct 24; Kerry will record morning and Julie F will record the afternoon

- We just finished collecting all the money for the OSO and the NAC tickets. These are the concerts that we're bringing our grade 12s and our grade 11s too. But then we also opened it up to the rest of the students and their friends and family, if they wanted to. So, any money that was brought in last Friday, we were able to secure tickets for the NAC on May 16th for the Ray Chen concert and James is taking care of ordering the tickets for the OSO concert, which is on Sunday, October 29th in the afternoon.
- Wish list items:
 - So one of the things that has been on the wish list item for quite some time is new choir tunics or tops for the vocal performers. Prices are 39 US dollars for a discounted group rate, he will need 60. He does have a sizing kit finally at the school and he's going to size the vocalists. And so he figures he'll need around 60 tops; Kerry agrees that there are sufficient funds for these tops
 - Another formal request is for some new hardware in the percussion section. Jason would like to request two Yamaha cymbal stands. They're for a total amount of 265 dollars and a pearl hat stand that is 259 dollars.
 - Requests are granted, there is enough money and tops are under budget as we had \$5000 set aside. Motion by Julie F and seconded by Kerry, second request motioned by Tara and seconded by Kevin
 - Jason will purchase at Long and Mcquade in order to get the discount and will contact Kerry for reimbursement
 - Last request is for shelving unit for the storing music folders; previously a parent had built some and they are very expensive to buy new; would need to accommodate 125 folders, some prices are as high as \$2000; Kerry will ask her neighbor who makes furniture and others will do some digging; Jason will check with shop teacher to see if it could be made by students

Financial Report-Kerry Larkin

- Very generous gift of \$500 from Delores' family; will send a nice thank you note and some free music night tickets
- Not much money coming in to the Fundscrip account
- Balance is \$23,000, taking into account money for student accounts and considering the expenses just approved
- There is \$4000 this year and next allotted for the vocal retreat; the retreat has been denied by the board, Jason will meet with principal about it; he is also strategizing with other music teachers in the board; the board has approved a March break trip, but it is expensive to go that week; Jason will keep us posted and parents will write letters to support as needed

Other business-Julie F.

- Citrus- Tara
 - Tara and Julie E have been in touch with Produce Depot, but no word back from them yet. Aiming for November into mid December for the sale.
- Fundscrip- Iva
 - Gave overview of the program for new parents

- Kerry noted that it is important to sign up with a student account when starting to use Fundscrip or else the parent group will get all the funds
- Jason noted that it can be a very good fundraiser, but may need a trip to incentivize the students and parents to get involved
- Victoria asked about a refillable Fundcrip card; Iva will find out more info
- Dolores noted that there are specials each month
- New members- Julie F
 - Introduced Victoria Pierce as director at large and Maria Fabiani as the community rep
- Performance attire- Jane Carruthers
 - Will be organizing the clothing for hand out on Oct 11; will need volunteers to help to arrive at 8:30; can also be available for Oct 12 if a student is not there on the previous day
 - Using a Google Form to help with connecting with students about what they are looking for and if they want the same they had last year- it is working really well
 - Explained the clothing attire for new parents
 - Maria volunteered her mom for mending and tailoring as needed
 - Will do a mail chimp for other volunteers for Oct 11
- Music Night- Chantal
 - Billy was absent for the meeting, but they are working on the plans for music night and will have a broader range for discussion of dates and such during the Nov meeting
 - Will meet in person on Nov 30 for a meeting before music night

Julie F motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 pm

Next meeting to be held virtually on Nov 1, 2023