

Booster Meeting Minutes - 5/12/16

CTO: 7:39pm.

Present: Eve Walton, Andrea Ciplickas, Kim Nakata-Guirola , Steve and Liz Pyle, Norbert Staud, Amy Ratnaparkhi, Rosa Lee, Cathy Lang, Lollo and Theo Hill, Cynthia and Bruce Porter, Greg Chow, Suzy Trigonis, Mandy Gutierrez, Mary Katayama, Bob Aron and Yvette Young, Romie Tucker.

Staff: Diane Wyant

Guest Speaker: Eve Walton – Co-chair for November District Bond

Andrea mentioned that as booster organization we are not allowed to support political actions, but we decided to give Eve the opportunity to present information about bond to us. Eve is excited about potential bond which will be introduced to our community to support the district's site improvement efforts under the leadership of Brett McFadden. Eve became interested in helping schools when she became aware of the lack of A/C in most of our classrooms. She started a group and spoke to district to offer support to have A/C installed. District has acquired funding already for the effort. They are hoping to install A/C in 15 more classrooms this summer. Might take a while to get to Branham but it will eventually happen. Eve is reaching out to all boosters across district as well as PTSAs/HSCs to ask for partnerships. She is peaking to us as individuals since our bylaws prohibit us from endorsing her as a group, but as parents and individuals we can support effort. It is important because district has financed the improvement efforts and money comes out of general fund. If bond doesn't pass, this will be a big impact to all schools. Reach out to neighbors and friends to ask for help to support this effort. If interested in committee member or working on campaign, Eve and Nicole Shaddox will have upcoming information meeting on Tuesday, May 24 at 7pm in the Westmont Library. (Handout with additional information provided at meeting). Andrea mentioned to include information on Facebook page to make community aware. Cathy mentioned that there is a short time before bond goes out to communicate info about campaign. District is not allowed to provide that information to parents. That is why we need to garner support now since Eve and her team won't be allowed to be on campus once the bond process begins.

Porter asked if better or cheaper option than bonds have been explored? Eve responded that probably not because last bond passed in 2008. District refinanced and gave back \$8 million back to community. If not they wouldn't have seen that used as option. Bonds have to be repaid with interest. Andrea mentioned that information might be on district website. Might be in FAQ section. Andrea mentioned that she can put people in contact with Eve. Also, outdoor lighting will be installed starting this summer, ahead of the bond.

Treasurer's Report – Steve:

Pledges are at 82% of budgeted amount. Last year was 88%. We are at 82% of 80% that was budgeted. There are outstanding items expected to come in this week. Expenses are down this year. We are almost identical to last year and some still to come with upcoming events. Fundraisers coming – Casino Night, Water Sales estimated at \$3,500, water sales is \$1,200, and other miscellaneous. Statements went out today and included everything except for April Team San Jose event. When going through budget, some of the information is a bit confusing, so Steve went over actuals for some of the fundraisers which went toward student pledges. Apple Sales raised \$5,000, Butter Braids \$2,600, Egg Sales \$3,500, See's Candies \$1,600, etc. Amazon fundraiser does not seem stressed enough. Would like to make

people be more aware of it. Simple way of earning money, we've made \$1160 so far this year. Liz will check for acquiring date for See's Candies for next year. Nicole Oryall taking over Butter Braids fundraiser. Amy is taking over Amazon fundraiser. We made about \$4,500 from Casino Night. Yvette pointed out that if we choose to not participate in this event next year, we have to replace it with something else.

Elections:

Normally, we would elect board at this time. However, Mike Boomershine and Andrea Ciplickas have decided to decline their nominations. Theo, Tamara and Greg are in charge of nomination committee and will be in charge of finding suitable candidates for the open board positions. They have no one to present tonight. We need to have a minimum of 4 people to even have a board. At this time we would have Babette, Cathy, Amy and Romie as nominees. We will look for replacement for president and plan to vote at year-end meeting. Need to have more support in leadership roles. Cathy pointed out that bylaws require 4 members. If we cannot reach that goal, it means that the band can't exist. If Babette has to take over president job then she will step down as VP because she won't be able to support role due to prior commitments.

Food Planning:

We would like to create a task force to figure out band camp food. Please e-mail Andrea if you are interested in being on that task force. Joy Brawn is in charge of overall coordination of band camp food, but we need to create committee to support her efforts. Volunteers: Lollo, freshman parent Anna Mino from Dartmouth, and Romie will help. Band camp will take place on Sunday – Friday this year. We will hold family BBQ for dinner on Friday night as well as candle-lighting ceremony.

Picnic:

There is no one to head the picnic coordination at this time. Theo and Dan have volunteered to grill. Rosa is going to help Gina with decorations. Bob store front is too big to bring to site, but will bring sign to string from trees and round tables to use for senior seating. Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, May 22. Seniors will be honored by lower class students. Theo will help save spot at park.

Café Royale, May 27:

Ticket sales are underway. Last large event of the year to support the program featuring the Jazz Band. We sent home 400 tickets with students to sell to family and friends. Tickets also available online at Royal Alliance store. Auditions for small group performances will take place Friday, May 13. Diane said she would be accepting auditions later than Friday. Small group of kids who could play opener might be nice. At this time we have about 3-5 groups interested. Last day to return ticket payments/returned tickets is Friday, May 20. Student sections in Symphonic band are working on themed auction baskets. Kids will bring in donations items to put these together. We are also looking for volunteers to support event. Volunteer spot will go out to boosters.

Graduation Water Sales, June 2:

Babette is in charge of coordination and will be working with Cathy on event. We need someone to volunteer pickup truck to get couple palettes of water. Water sales is fun event. Students help sell items in the stands. Diane suggested selling visors and fans. Other volunteers will be needed. Volunteer spot will go out.

Directors Report – Diane:

- Spring Concert is next week. Tuesday 5/17 is Symphonic and awards. Wednesday 5/18 is Concert and Jazz bands plus awards. Marc Brodeur is leaving Branham. New Color guard person was hired today (Samantha). Looking at 26 of May for auditions for color guard, 3:30 to 5:30pm. Diane would like us to communicate that to middle school directors. Marc will be awarded special plaque on Tues. concert. Composer of Hymn Band by Brent Heisinger will be in class on Monday. He will instruct kids on composition. Mr. Robins will be conducting last piece on Tuesday. He has been supporting brass for band all year.
- Drum major interviews will be done on May 20. Choir students will have last slots. 7 instructors in a room interviewing kids. 7pm to 10:30pm.
- Next year, Diane wants to definitely want to take Jazz to Sonora in February 2017. Winter guard went to San Diego, so Diane would like to have Winter Guard/Percussion to also go down south to compete. Scholarships and fundraising efforts have to be in place to support travel. We have to plan in advance in order to make it work.
- Car Show – Santa Teresa is doing first annual show. People coming will want cash, trophies, but more interested in food. Saratoga show that Diane entered had 6 food vendors. Apparently they really go for the food. Who knew? Cars and Coffee get-togethers would be place to advertise. We would have to make sure it didn't interfere with another car show weekend. Lincoln HS also had another car show. Weekend of April or September might be nice to do. Possible available dates to put on calendar April 22/23, 2017. We would have to vote as booster organization to see if we can tackle event of this magnitude. Diane will establish committee to go to July shows so that we can plan and figure out semantics of doing the event. If we wait until the fall, we probably won't be able to do it. Diane has outside experts in the business that might be able to support us. We need to get approval from the district to make sure that we can go ahead with planning. We can work with Brett and Kristina directly to get their support. Yogurt vendors (three direct ones) food trucks came to track meet and might be great to use them as resource.
- Get In Step dates are July 6 and 20. July 6th might be good date to hold meeting with interested people – 7pm. Diane will come discuss options and brainstorm ideas.
- 2016-17 calendar will come out soon. Andrea finalizing permission forms.
- Scoops and Tunes will be first week in March 2017 on Friday night.

Miscellaneous:

Next Budget meeting – Monday, May 23 at 7pm in the band room.

Next Booster meeting – Tuesday, May 31 at 7:30pm in the band room.

Ice cream social for band and choir on Tuesday, May 24 at lunch. Right after 2nd period.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm to Tuesday, May 31, 2016 at 7:30 pm

*Respectfully submitted,
Romie Tucker (acting for Babette McKay)
Music Booster Secretary*