

Waxahachie Band Boosters

General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 4, 2020

7:30 PM Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM. A motion was made and seconded (Chrissy Holmberg, Chris Burkhalter) to approve the minutes from the June general meeting.

Director Report

Mr. Armstrong thanked everyone for helping process the students for band camp (health screenings, temporal thermometer readings, etc.). We had approximately 170 in attendance today and the leaders are all doing their part to guide the band. He plans for them to be playing some of the new music by the end of the week.

There is a possibility for some of the band halls to be fitted with special UV lights to remove airborne pathogens. Bell covers are also being purchased. Mrs. Davis was able to design a guide for the flutes.

Fanpledge is set to continue as scheduled. There have been modifications to the system that will allow students to enter their own pledges and complete the process remotely or in person, depending on what they're comfortable with. It will consist of eight easy to follow steps. Students should load all of their contacts in by this Friday.

Registration (picture and uniform fitting day) is being moved to September 12th to avoid conflict with the Labor Day holiday weekend. School staff are still developing a plan to safely fit and sanitize the uniforms. It may involve staggering fittings over different days. Students who are learning virtually are encouraged to come in for a uniform photo, so that they can also be part of the larger team portrait.

Mr. Donny Owens passed away last night from complications of COVID-19. He formerly taught at Turner Middle School. There are tentative plans for a celebration of life in Waxahachie after things settle down. The board will be discussing what we can do to support his family.

Junior High Directors Report

Mr. Ingram (Coleman JH) reports that they're working to make up lost ground with student enrollment as they were unable to meet with last year's 5th graders during the spring semester. The school has purchased washable kits consisting of mouthpieces that the students can use to try out new instruments. The process limits touching, shared space, etc. Although their numbers are down, they currently have about 77 students enrolled for the beginner band.

Miss Seale (Finley JH) reiterated the same message and reported that the students were responding very well to the testing process. Everything can be sanitized to keep the incoming students safe.

Mrs. Davis (Howard JH) added that they've been working to develop social distancing guidelines in the band hall, and that things are coming together nicely for the start of school in a couple of weeks.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer reported that all students should have received a Quickbooks invoice for their account. The fee will reflect whether they're virtually learning or on-site (marching), based on their level of involvement. She reported that a few junior high students have also paid their band fees, but not very many. She suggested sending out a link for those students to use to pay their fees. If you are paying by check, make sure to put your child's name in the memo so that we know where to apply the funds. For right now, do not send cash or checks to the band hall. The boosters are unable to access the black box at this time.

If students or families need assistance with payment arrangements, Ms. Aldrich can assist them in doing so. Partial payments, drafts, or whatever will work for a family; she will be happy to help them set it up.

It was noted that the boosters may be unable to offer the concessions discount due to the unknowns of our upcoming football season. Since a majority of our funds come from concession sales, the football schedule and attendance will impact whether or not we are able to add discounts back to accounts. No one is sure what's going to happen right now.

Freshman families were reminded that they may have additional fees down the line, such as band shoes, ponchos, and band bags.

New Business

Sherri introduced all of the band booster executive team members that were present at the meeting. Attendees were encouraged to get involved in various items and introduced to the go-to person for those respective activities. Especially with activities like logistics, concessions, chaperoning, and fan club. Sherri reiterated that concessions money comes from both junior high and junior varsity games as well, not just varsity football sales.

Junior high band fees will go out after the start of school. The directors will send out information electronically.

Instrument rental fees are now available on the school district website. See the weekly sheet for more information.

Thankful Heart Custom Designs will have the spirit wear store website up and running within a couple of weeks. They hope to have everything available to preview by tomorrow.

Amy asked that everyone please complete their PIE forms by August 10th. PIE forms are needed each year, even if you completed one during the last academic year. You must also sign the background check form and copy your drivers license, then submit those forms to Melissa Cobb at the WISD administration

building. If we have everyone on by August 10th, we'll be ready to go when we need volunteers (whenever that may be.)

Next General Meeting: Tuesday, October 5th @ 7:00 PM via ZOOM

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.