



AHS MUSIC BOOSTER AGENDA

Date: January 7, 2021

Attendance: Margaret Finegan, Felicia Harrison, Gisela Pinargote, Eric Posner, James Woomert, Lisa Veslany, Patrick Callanan, Sam Callahan, Van Doan, Wendy Sarney, Yen Lin, Mary Martinson, and Teresa Howarth.

Meeting Start: 7:01 pm

Approved December meeting minutes.

Directors' Reports

Mr. Woomert – We are making music. Currently working on three tunes and putting final touches on the last recording. We will release all three at the same time. We are proud of our two Orchestra students who made all state.

Ms. Meloro – In the spirit of looking forward to the New Year (2021), our Semester 1 choir class created their own arrangement of *Auld Lang Syne*. We analyzed the chord progression, determined optimal voice-leading to create harmony parts, and came up with vocal accompaniment styles. Each singer contributed a melody recording as well as a harmony recording. I assembled the audio recordings and set them to a video showing singer-submitted photos, memories, reflections, and offerings of hope for 2021.

- I am very proud of our Semester 1 singers. Without getting specific, I would like you all to know that many of these singers are dealing with some very serious issues, ranging from mental health struggles to physical illness to financial insecurity. In our field, it is natural to focus on the final product, which is usually a performance. However, I continue to celebrate the *process* of music-making and what being in a choir means to each individual singer. One example of progress is a particular singer who could barely match pitch in September. I can usually help a singer improve their intonation by developing their aural skills in a live ensemble setting, but alas, that's not possible in the virtual learning world. Consequently, this singer was not submitting assignments or participating in class. Weeks and weeks later, by the time the final recording was due for our *Auld Lang Syne* project, this singer not only submitted a recording, but their pitch accuracy also improved. This is a small victory, but one that makes me a very proud teacher.
- Course registration season is upon us. One advantage to teaching virtually is that I have been able to drop in and visit some of the middle school choir classes (or lunch bunches) via Google Meet! However, like our situation at Atholton, most of the middle school choir classes are not meeting until Semester 2. I am hoping to visit those middle school classes as early in Semester 2 as possible.
- Some of you may remember Melisa Yhap, a choir student who graduated in 2019. (She was also in Marching Band.) Melisa was diagnosed with Osteosarcoma, a rare type of bone cancer, in September. Please keep her in your thoughts/prayers as she fights this battle. (If anyone is interested in making a financial contribution to her family, they can do so here: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/melisas-miracle->

[fund?sharetype=teams&member=7548596&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_source=customer&utm_campaign=p_na+share-sheet&rcid=e293124422af4268a655f3d459c68f53\)](https://www.teams.com/join/fund?sharetype=teams&member=7548596&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_source=customer&utm_campaign=p_na+share-sheet&rcid=e293124422af4268a655f3d459c68f53)

Mr. Posner – Happy New Year. Band released two songs before break and still expecting two more to be ready in January. Pleased and surprised that we have 1400+ views and we are even getting compliments from former students. In class we have been working with Beethoven for the past three weeks. It seems to be going well and the feedback that has been received is that the students are more appreciative of his work. Each week we have been featuring 2 composers from under-represented groups -- listen to music then escape rooms to discuss -- students love it as well. Second semester we will do more performance and will continue the extra topics. Joanna Castro will be an incoming parent again next year and will volunteer to help Boosters. again – thankfull!!! Even though we don't have a lot of activity, I am thankful for everything that we have been doing. We have three musicians in All State from Band. Fantastic work!

Mrs. Veslany – Thank you all. The Superintendent is trying to get students back into school. There have been several meetings, and more are scheduled. We have 150 students who are signed up for PSAT on Jan 26. We are focused on Juniors who could be eligible for National Merritt Scholarships. Our next booster meeting is scheduled for Feb 4th and this will conflict with the Back to School Night. A proposal was made to reschedule our meeting until February 11th at 7pm. It was agreed by everyone in attendance. Mr. Senisi will contact Margaret to create a video for the back-to-school night. Our meeting change needs to be posted in three different places to communicate to everyone.

President's Report:

- **Open positions** – We are still looking for volunteers.
- **Atholton Community Support Project** – I am aware of several persons who donated last month to the community support groups using the #WeAreAtholton.

Treasurer's Report – Jen is not able to attend this evening due to work conflicts, nor did she have time to prepare a report.

Committee Reports -

- **Webmaster & Technology** – Patrick Callahan – We are up-to-date on all posting of dates and meeting minutes.
- **Restaurant Fundraiser** – Lori Rudolph – We are planning on scheduling a few more dates in the spring.
- **Spirit Wear** – Margaret Finegan - 2 items sold in Dec (\$30). If anyone is interested in purchasing from our exiting inventory, please contact Margaret.
- **Senior Gifts** – Need to explore gift ideas and prices to review at the February meeting. Do we have a “head-count” of how many seniors that we have this year? Possible gift ideas include: Snuggies, Journals and Bluetooth Speakers. The group unanimously agreed that we want to give Snuggies.

- **Cookbooks** – Judie Jaquis – We only sold 2 or 3 in December, so, we need to figure out how to sell more.
- **Concert Uniforms** – Theresa Howarth - nothing to report – We will create a plan and collect and clean uniforms in March or April.
- **Scripts** – Rukmini Classon – Rukmini gave the box to Margaret to see what could be sold to her friends. Yippee, success! Sold \$565 from current inventory, and pre-sold \$1800 that Rukmini will special order.
- **Raven's** – N/A
- **Poinsettia Sales** – N/A
- **Marching Band Liaison** – Judie Jaquis – N/A
- **Marching Band Uniforms** – Wendy Sarney N/A
- **Patrons & Corporate Patrons** – Van Doan – No news. Just making sure everyone is well and happy.

Krispy Kreme Fundraising – This is a potential fundraiser in the future and will be reviewed and discussed later.

Volunteer Recruiting - for the 2021/2022 year we will need Marching band Liaison, Pit Crew Captain, Concert Uniforms, etc. Joanne Castro has agreed to chair the MB Uniform work. We all need to reach out to other potential volunteers and see who can take which jobs. We are asking 8th graders for contact information and Margaret will invite Jason Jankoski to our next meeting.

Posting Music Performances on Facebook for Fundraising – We will not be pursuing this fundraising.

New Topics:

- To be the best we can be and make the most difference with our fundraising – let's support Melissa Yhap! Students can post a performance on Facebook and attach Melissa's go-fund-me page. Let's be amazing and help support her cancer battle!
- FYI – Bargains can be found on eBay for sheet music and instrument cases.

Motion to adjourn: 7:44 PM

Next Meeting will be February 11th at 7pm.