

Champaign Central High School Music Boosters Meeting
Monday, April 21, 2025

In attendance: Joanna Wozniak, Beth Allender, Cathy Hong, Doeun Kim, Gwendolyn Breg, Anna Simon, Beth Frasca, Jody Cook, Steve Troyer, Jessie Bhalerao, Johnna Dunnne, Denise Fonner, Jennifer Currey, John Currey, Ann Marie Morrisette

Approval of minutes: Motion to approve March 2025 minutes made by Jessie Bhalerao. 2nd by Anna Simon. Ayes carry, minutes are approved.

Marching Band Report: (Beth Frasca) This is Beth's last booster meeting, as her child is graduating. The entire booster organization thanks her for her years of service, she will be missed. Johnna Dunne will be taking on the VP position, along with Gwendolyn Breg, although it's felt a 3rd VP would be helpful. The title of next year's marching band show is "For the Birds". Beth would like to have the show shirts designed and ordered before the end of this year. She will craft an email to the students asking them to submit design ideas and will then have everyone vote on their favorite. Beth would also like to frame and display old show shirts, as well as an old uniform, in the band hallway.

(Gwendolyn Breg) Many thanks to all who helped launder uniforms. There are still about 20 uniforms, in addition to color guard uniforms, still left to do.

(John Currey) There are currently 191 students signed up for marching band next year. (165 regular band members, in addition to drum majors and color guard.) It is not likely all of those students will end up returning contracts and participating in August.

(Jennifer Currey) The CU showcase date might have to be moved, due to conflicts with Jewish holidays. The directors want to keep it at Centennial, so new dates need to be found (regular date and rain date).

Percussion Instructor Proposal: (Jennifer Currey) Tamara Persad has been the pit instructor for the past few years and will now be taking over the drumline as well. She has submitted a proposal with a general schedule and proposed hours, as well as requests for new equipment. Since so many students are out of town for the summer, she would like to do some intensive clinics before the end of this school year. She proposes separate drumline and pit sectionals, as well as combined rehearsals, with the hope that students will have mastered techniques and memorized music before school lets out and they will continue to practice over the summer. Tamara has requested a rack and a new gong stand for the pit and would also like a new marimba and vibraphone. John Currey is able to purchase a marimba and vibraphone from Smith-Walbridge at a discount (SWC marimba - \$5,430, vibe \$5229; Music Shoppe marimba \$5840, vibe \$5619) Discussion about new equipment purchases has been postponed to a later date. Anna Simon moves to approve the hiring of Tamara Persad to teach both pit and drumline

at a rate of \$35/hour, up to \$5000 for the 2025 marching band season. Motion seconded by Jody Cook. Ayes carry, motion passes.

John Currey also notes that we will eventually need new marching baritones and sousaphones. These can also be purchased through SWC for a discount. Baritones \$2215; sousaphones \$8409. No decisions on these purchases at this time.

Color Guard Instructor: (Jennifer Currey) Abby Mitchell, current color guard instructor, will step away from her position at the conclusion of band camp in August. She has recommended Justin Siegmund to replace her. Jennifer Currey, along with board members, will meet with him to gauge skill level, interest level, and general suitability. It is proposed we offer him \$17/hour. Doeun Kim proposes we also offer Abby a raise. Joanna Wozniak moves to pay Abby Mitchell \$20/hour starting now, and offer Justin Siegmund \$17/hour, should he be hired. Motion is seconded by Jody Cook. Ayes carry, motion passes.

Jazz Report: (Cathy Hong) Jazz Fest was a success. After expenses, the profit was \$5631.70 (which includes a \$1000 donation from the Music Shoppe). This is more than was made last year. There were more schools participating, which could account for more ticket and concession sales.

(Jennifer Currey) We need to reach out to non-jazz parents earlier to recruit volunteers so that jazz parents don't miss their students' performances. Will Shim did a wonderful job as emcee, hopefully he will continue in that role. Some revenue ideas to consider: Have paid shout-outs that Will can read in between performances. Also, years ago, carnations were available to purchase at the concession stand; people could bring them up to performers in between songs (during the set).

(Cathy Hong) 31 items were sold in the recent jazz merch online store. The order was placed today, should be delivered by next Monday.

(John Currey) Airmen of Note concert: will need 8-10 ushers, as suggested by the Airmen of Note. Will ask non-performing jazz students, might need parents as well. Doors will open at 6, jazz ensemble will play at 7, AoN will go on at 7:30. They plan to arrive with the trailer around 2:30 on 4/28, the pit should be covered by 3. We will use the black curtain, not the shell. Ensemble will use their equipment. They have requested bottled water. ~550 tickets have been reserved so far. Also, all lab and stage band music has been turned in, yay.

Orchestra Report: (Johnna Dunn) the orchestra field trip to the CSO rehearsal was a great success, in spite of the weather. Students were well-behaved, responsible with their time, and enjoyed the rehearsal.

(John Currey) There will be a combined chamber/wind piece at the orchestra concert. Dr. Miller (retired Centennial teacher) came to work with the strings.

Choir Report: VP position is still open.

Website Report: (Jessie Bhalerao) Jessie is concerned that she has too much access to permissions and admin access, she is able to see a lot of student info. Directors feel this is fine.

Treasurer's Report: (Doeun Kim) See submitted treasurer report for specific transactions. The new mellophones have been paid for. Marching band fees are coming in, jazz receipts are being submitted. Please submit any and all receipts asap so accounts can be reconciled. We are still looking for a new accountant. We have one referral, could use more.

Booster Business:

Music camp scholarships: applications close 5/3. 5 students have applied so far.

'25-'26 officers: Everyone (except Beth Frasca) will return in their roles. We still need more officers and trained parent volunteers. Steve Troyer suggests we form a Tech Committee who would be in charge of moving/assembling/disassembling jazz equipment, as well as drive the marching band trailers. This seems like a good idea. New board is approved:

President: Beth Allender

Secretary: Joanna Wozniak

Treasurer: Douen Kim

VP Jazz: Cathy Hong (training Lynne Levesque)

VP Marching Band: Johnna Dunne, Gwendolyn Breg (would like 3rd)

VP Concert Band: Vacant

VP Orchestra: Vacant

VP Choir: Vacant

VP Fundraiser: Vacant

Fruit Sale co-chairs: Jody Cook, Denise Fonner

2026 Travel: The 2024 Cedar Point trip was successful, so it makes sense to go back. Directors support this proposal. Proposed dates are June 3-4, 2026. Could use some more parent chaperones. More info/planning to come, but the idea is supported by the boosters. If we let students know early, this could help promote fruit sales and other fundraising efforts.

Requests: John Currey requests a parent(s) to drive the trailer for graduation and help load/unload.

New Business: No new business

Ongoing Conversations: No current ongoing conversations.

Band Director's Report: (John Currey) John Currey floats the idea of doing a "Calendar Fundraiser" where students are challenged to find sponsors for each day of a month (someone pays \$1 for the 1st, \$2 for the 2nd, and so on until the month is filled with sponsors). It might be a good idea to do this in August or September, proceeds could be specifically earmarked for the purchase of new instruments. Beth Allender will investigate further and discuss details with board members. This would potentially delay/replace Trivia Night.

Music groups are preparing for their respective concerts.

Graduation is 5/27, 4:00, should take 75 minutes.

Next Meeting: TBD

Motion to adjourn by Jessie Bhalerao; motion seconded by Anna Simon. Meeting adjourned.