

Vocal Music Booster Meeting

September 5, 2013

The meeting was called to order by President, Mike Kurriger at 6:02 p.m. 12 parents, 1 student, Mr. Ryan, and Ms. Burford attended.

The Secretary Report was read and approved. (Motion by Brenda Hidlebaugh, second-Becky Schultz)

Treasurer's Report was given by Darcy Petersen. There is \$13,054.53 in unrestricted funds. Darcy will email a copy of report to be attached. Motion to approve by Karen Stern, second-Mike Kurriger.

Old Business:

- Summer Show Choir Camp – Directors report the camp went well despite losing several applicants due to last minute resignation by Mr. Oswald. Mr. Tolle did a great job organizing the camp and may compliments throughout the community have been heard. Students Erica Schultz and McKenna Shield were the choreographers. 44 students attended the camp with profit of \$1,341.06. Will plan to continue this camp next summer

Director's Report:

- Choir trip – The directors have submitted a trip to the school administration and are waiting for approval. Dates for the trip will be March 14, 2013 – March 17, 2013. Destination will be announced once approved.
- All-State – quartets have been assigned with 20 students participating. They are meeting for 1 hour lessons and on Monday mornings.
- Show-Choir – RCR music just came in so full rehearsals will start on Monday. Choreography camp is in one week.
- Jazz Choirs – Mr. Ryan is auditioning for his group. Ms. Burford reports that several members of Solid Harmony are returning and she has auditioned to fill out the group.
- Curricular Choirs – the choirs are all sounding great. Choirs have been paired together to have all men/all women pieces. A'Capella and Women's Chorale is one pair with Concert and Freshman choir also paired. Combining Concert and Freshman choir gives the freshman students some experience with upper classmen and allows the upper classmen leadership opportunities and has been well received by the students.

New Business

- **Fundraising**
 - HNI/Kent picnics – Brenda Hidlebaugh reports the fundraiser went well but would have liked to see a larger number of volunteers. Due to the resignation of Mr. Oswald all profit from these events was divided among the students with an amount per hours worked. Proceeds from both picnics were \$4355.15. The hourly rate paid that was listed in the original emails was adjusted as some volunteers did not show up to work. Brenda provided a spread sheet with documentation of volunteers; hours worked and amount to be credited to student incentive accounts to the treasurer for disbursement.
 - Community Discount Cards – The invoice for 1000 cards came today and needs to be paid within 30 days. Since cards were ordered during a promotional event we will receive an Android tablet to raffle for a prize. Student receives 5 cards at a time. For every 5 cards sold the student will have name entered for a prize. General raffle prizes are free lesson tickets, free tardy ticket, and \$10.00 Wal-Mart card. If 15 cards are sold they will have name put in the "elite" raffle for the Android tablet. There is also a competition among the 4 choirs – whichever group sells the most will get to embarrass the director(s). Cards cost \$10 each with profits being split 50/50 between general funds and student incentive accounts. Monte Ryan states that he has seen another group sell unsold cards outside Pizza Ranch. This may be an opportunity if not all cards are sold.
 - Other fundraising opportunities – Mike Kurriger states he would like to see the choir host a "Halloween Dance" along similar lines as the band's "Swing Dance". This could be a fundraiser as well as a social event for the students. The directors report that MHS administration is discouraging small fundraisers so the community isn't being nickled and dimed. The charter bus fundraiser conducted by the students last year was not approved by administration so they have been watching the choir closely. The directors do not want further scrutiny of the choir programs

from administration so cautioned the boosters to be considerate of the administration's viewpoint. Mike will email Mr. Goodwin about hosting this dance with a potential date of October 26th.

- **Charter Bus funds** – it was suggested to have the RCR students vote if these funds should remain for a possible charter bus rental or if they would like to transfer these funds into the show choir budget since the amount of the fees was capped by the administration causing less money to be budgeted for show/costuming expenses.
- **Incentive form** – a “Student Request for Incentive Money” form has been developed for students/parents to submit to the directors to receive reimbursement from incentive accounts. Incentive money can be used for show choir fees, music, or any choir-related expense.
- **Smart Music** – the program has been provided to all choirs but the Freshman choir. The directors state the MHS Principle designated \$3000 to all music programs with remaining funds supplied by the director's curricular budget. There was discussion about booster support for the program but both Muskie Boosters and the Vocal Music Boosters that this is a curricular expense and funds should come from school monies.
- **Vocal Music Booster Credit Card** – the original card was cancelled when Mr. Oswald resigned with the intent to apply for a new card once a new director was in place. Sue Krueger moved to reinstate the Vocal Booster Credit card with said card to be held by Mr. Ryan. Second by Karen Stern. Motion approved.
- **Overnight Trip for RCR** – Mr. Ryan reports the final show choir competition will be 6 days before the general choir trip. Several combo members will also have jazz band competition that would interfere so there will be no overnight trip this year.

Discussion for the invitational will take place after adjournment so parent not involved with show choir can leave. Motion to adjourn by Rebecca Schultz, second-Brenda Hidlebaugh. Meeting adjourned.

River City Showcase – January 25, 2014 at Central Middle School.

- Mr. Ryan is starting to receive confirmations with new groups of Ankeny and Waukon, MN.
- Five Middle School groups have confirmed and registrations will be going out soon. Since we are adding the middle school component warm-ups will start at 7:30 a.m. which means a longer day for volunteers but increased profit potential. Directors report that middle school choirs will bring in more revenue of ticket sales as they bring lots of family members and since awards will be at 10:30 a.m. the extra attendance should not impede the high school groups and their family members. Mr. Ryan will speak with CR Kennedy to get logistics as to what time concession sales started, etc. to help committee heads organize their departments.
- Mr. Ryan reports that Brenda Neff's (our accompanist) mother is a retired MCSD food service employee and she and another lady are willing to donate their time. This would save expense of hiring food service employees. Brenda Hidlebaugh will contact Alisha Eggers to explore this possibility.
- Since the event will continue at CMS it is imperative to get close-captioned TV viewing available. It's hard to justify not having a place for those who paid an admission fee to be able to watch the shows. Mr. Ryan discussed using the warm-up portion of the gym as a supervised holding-area/dance party area for students to ease some of the seating problems and safety concerns during awards.
- Karen Stern will compile volunteer/committee chair lists from volunteer sheets returned from the show choir parent meetings.

Next Vocal Music Booster meeting will be October 3, 2013 at 6:30 pm in the MHS Choir Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Krueger
Secretary