

Unit 5 Music Parents Meeting Minutes – January 23, 2023

Normal Community High School – IMC

BOARD ATTENDANCE:

Present: Angela DeJaynes, Secretary

Present: Logan Geigner, Treasurer

Present: Robyn Wenzel, Asst. Treasurer

GENERAL ATTENDANCE:

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM by the U5MP Treasurer Logan Geigner.

TREASURER REPORTS:

- Thanks to Robin for assistance in cleaning things up
- End of year docs 1099ECs are being sent out
- \$15,328 from musical extravaganza, taking out \$3500 for audit
- Need to make a change as NMB will not receive any funds from musical extravaganza
- Each group will now get \$657.22 (this amount is AFTER half of the necessary amount for the audit)
- Directors will have access to funds around end of January/Beginning of February

DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

*****CHIDDIX JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL*****

Chiddix Junior High Band:

Tricia Ogdon (Director)

- Chiddix band had a successful fundraiser with Gobena Coffee and Butter Braids. With the money raised I have been able to purchase more solo and ensemble books, as well as, a class set of tuners. The students have enjoyed seeing transposition visually instead of just explaining.
- All grades are working on their next concert music. The 8th grade is doing a combined concert with Orchestra, 7th grade is combining with Parkside 7th grade band, and the 6th graders are going on an elementary school tour in March. The 5th graders are gaining confidence and are growing every day

Chiddix Junior High Orchestra:

Jillian Meszar (Director) **NO REPORT**

Chiddix Junior High Choir:

Julia Beer (Director)

- **Chiddix 7th & 8th grade choirs** are preparing music for the upcoming **Unit Choir Festival** on **March 16th** at Normal West. The concert begins at 6:30 in the gym.
- **Chiddix 6th grade choir** is preparing music for their upcoming **Elementary School tour**, which will take place on **Monday, April 17th**. They will perform for Fairview, Colene Hoose and Grove elementary schools, followed by lunch at Pizza Ranch. They are very excited!
- **Chiddix** is sending five students to the **Intercity Music Festival** at Bloomington Junior High on **April 15th**.
- Students will begin preparation for our **Unit 5 Vocal Solo & Ensemble Contest** next week. The contest will be held at **Chiddix** on **Friday, April 14th**.

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- Chiddix Choir and Orchestra students kicked off a **fundraiser** this past week with Century Sales which will conclude on **February 2nd**.

*****EVANS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL *****

Evans Junior High Band:

Krista Beddigs (Director) **NO REPORT**

Evans Junior High Orchestra:

Elizabeth Fontana (Director) **NO REPORT**

Evans Junior High Choir:

Julia Beer (Director)

- **Evans 7th & 8th grade choirs** are preparing music for the upcoming **Unit Choir Festival** on **March 16th** at Normal West. The concert begins at 6:30 in the gym.
- **Evans 6th grade choir** is preparing music for their upcoming **Elementary School tour**, which will take place on **Monday, April 24th**. They will perform for Cedar Ridge, Pepper Ridge, Benjamin and Towanda elementary schools, followed by lunch at Pizza Ranch. They are very excited!
- The **EJHS Honors Choir** recently submitted an audition recording to sing the National Anthem at one of the IESA State Sporting Championships. They were selected to sing at the 4A 8th Grade Girls State Volleyball Championship on **March 17th** at Morton Junior High.
- Three members of the **EJHS 8th Grade Choir** formed a **Men's Trio** to audition for the IESA National Anthem performances. Teon and Tyshawn Dortch along with Mazin Syed were selected to perform the National Anthem at the 1A 7th Grade Boys Basketball Championships on **February 9th** at East Peoria Junior High.
- Students will begin preparation for our **Unit 5 Vocal Solo & Ensemble Contest** next week. The contest will be held at **Chiddix** on **Friday, April 14th**.

*****KINGSLEY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL *****

Kingsley Junior High Band:

Tyler Harr (Director) **NO REPORT**

Kingsley Junior High Orchestra:

Daria VanDeLoo (Director) **NO REPORT**

Kingsley Junior High Choir:

Katie Winchester (Director)

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- **Overview:** I was able to return to work this semester! The current plan (which should be finalized this week with my doctors) is that I will continue working until spring break. After that I will need my next surgery which will require a 6-8 week recovery, putting me out through the remainder of the school year. I have rearranged my concert calendar to try to fit in the most important events over the next two months! I am hopeful that we'll get to make some great music between now and spring break.
- **Upcoming Dates:** (All are tentative until I get the clear to wait until spring break to have my next surgery)
 - 2/23 Parkside 6-8th grade concert and 8th grade recognition
 - 2/28 Kingsley 6-8th grade concert and 8th grade recognition
 - Week of 3/20: 6th grade elementary tours for both buildings (one day long tour for each school)
 - 3/16 Unit Choir Performance at NCWHS
 - 4/14 Solo and ensemble choral contest at CJHS
- **Thank you:**
 - Thank you to music parents for all of your work - thank you so much to my reps - and thank you for creating our fundraiser to support our programs.
 - Another big thank you to the unit 5 choral department (Sara, Julia, Ben). They have been in my classroom teaching my classes, helping me hunt for subs, and so much more. I really couldn't get through all of this without them.

*******PARKSIDE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL *******

Parkside Junior High Band

Jennifer Bolton (Director) **NO REPORT**

Parkside Junior High Orchestra:

Angie Stalter (Director)

The spring semester will bring many performances by the PJHS Orchestras.

- 7th and 8th grade students are busy preparing for one of two concerts this semester. The date for the next concert is Wednesday, March 1, 2023. All concerts will be at PJHS this semester with the call times being 6:00 pm and concert times being 6:30.
- Several students have elected to participate in the 2023 IGSMA Solo and Ensemble Contest. The date for this contest is Friday, February 24, 2023. KJHS will be hosting this event. Performance times will be sent home as soon as they are assigned to the students.

Thank you for your support of our orchestra program at PJH.

Parkside Junior High Choir:

Katie Winchester (Director)

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*******NORMAL COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL*******

Normal Community High School Band:

Paul Carter (Director) **NO REPORT**

Normal Community High School Orchestra:

Melissa Siebenthal (Director) **NO REPORT**

Normal Community High School Choir:

Ben Luginbuhl (Director)

NCHS Choirs had a wonderful end of last semester! Highlights were a return to our usual space for Madrigals and 3 fantastic performances, as well as a terrific Holiday Concert. We are busily preparing for a lot of events that begin in February and race to the end of the year. Here's what we're currently working on:

- We are excited to be bringing back the NCHS Music Department Showcase Concert, which hasn't been held since the early 2000s. We will be holding a joint concert with the Chamber Choir, Chamber Orchestra, and Wind Ensemble on Thursday, Feb. 16 at 7:00 pm at the ISU Center for the Performing Arts. It promises to be a wonderful concert and a celebration of the outstanding musicians in our school's top ensembles!
- A Cappella Night is planned for Friday, Feb. 24 at 7 pm in the Auditorium. It will feature Key of She, Voice Male, and hopefully a college ensemble or two. :)
- NCHS is hosting IHSA Solo-Ensemble Contest on Saturday, March 4. We will need over 100 parent and student volunteers to make this event run smoothly. As of this writing, NCHS Choirs has 70 events registered! We're going to be very busy getting ready for it!
- The Unit 5 Choral Festival will be held on Thursday, March 16 at Normal West. The culminating concert at 6:30 pm in the gym will feature all of our Unit 5 singers in grades 7-12.

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- We are also planning two upcoming trips: this summer (May 31-June 3), students in choir and orchestra will be traveling to Memphis and Nashville, TN. This trip is being held to make up for the one that was cancelled in 2020 and gives our seniors a chance to have another trip! The other one in the works is a trip to Germany & Austria in the summer of 2024. We're working out the details of this trip and will hopefully be having an introductory meeting in the next month.

Thanks so much for all you do for us. We especially appreciate the efforts you have taken this past fall with the referendum, and for what you will be doing to advocate for it this spring.

*******NORMAL COMMUNITY WEST HIGH SCHOOL*******

Normal West High School Band:

Ryan Budzinski (Director)

Over the weekend, the Normal West Wind Symphony and Wind Ensemble hosted a day of clinics with Lt. Col. Bryan Miller, commander of the Air National Guard Band of the Midwest and ten other guest faculty. The event included full band rehearsals, sectionals, and presentations about careers in the music industry. The Symphonic Winds, Symphonic Band, and Concert Winds are preparing for their chamber concert program that will be held at IWU Westbrook Auditorium on February 6. All three jazz bands have begun rehearsals, and the Jazz Orchestra is preparing for its first festival performance at Northern Illinois University on February 1. The Carnegie Hall Ensemble (comprised of students from Wind Ensemble and Wind Symphony) held its first rehearsal last week. A record 12 all-state musicians will attend the Illinois Music Education Conference this week. Mr. Budzinski has enjoyed meeting eighth grade musicians and hearing their high school placement auditions over the past couple of weeks, with a few to go. The bands are organizing a trip to see John Williams conduct a program of his own music at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra on March 24. Contact Ryan if you are interested in joining the group for this concert!

Normal West High School Orchestra:

Kim Boehm (Director)

- Welcome back Music Parents! Thank you for your continued support of our music programs, and everything you all do to keep Unit 5 Music Parents going. The importance of having a parent organization has never been more evident than in these challenging times.
- We've got a busy semester ahead, with several performances:
 - February 4-5 -- A collection of students are headed to St. Louis for an overnight trip, which includes a clinic at University of Missouri St. Louis.
 - February 18-19 -- Select students will be performing for the Wildcat Choirs Madrigal performances.
 - March 2 -- Chamber Ensemble Recital
 - March 8 -- Concert/Sinfonia Concert
- We are in the process of planning our Spring 2023 tour to several elementary schools on the West side. I firmly believe that performing for our district's elementary students is one of the best acts of community

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engagement that our high schoolers can provide, and I'm excited to be able to continue this opportunity this spring.

Normal West High School Choir:

Sara Williams (Director)

- The Winter Concert was a lovely evening. The concert was opened by the NCWHS Jazz Combo playing music while the audience was seated. The concert featured all three choirs and two extra-curricular ensembles. The program featured a diverse selection of music. The program featured many traditional songs as well as songs that featured poetry, songs from oratorios, songs in hebrew, songs by Stevie Nicks, and from Frozen. The choirs also combined to perform selections as one large ensemble. It was a joyous way to welcome the winter season together.
- Upon return from Winter Break, the choirs have been preparing for the upcoming events. We have been selecting music for the students who have selected to participate in IHSA Solo and Ensemble Contest. NCHS will be hosting this event on Saturday, March 4.
- The Concert Choir is focusing on Music Literacy, a unit on solo singing, and preparing for the Unit Choir Festival on March 16th at 6:30 in the big gym. NCWHS will be hosting this festival like concert. It will feature all of the singers in 7-8 grade from all four junior high schools and the choirs from NCHS and NCWHS will also combine and perform that evening as well. It is an exciting event that features all of our singers in Unit 5 in grades 7-12.
- The Chamber Choir and Chorale have begun preparing for the annual Madrigal Dinner. It is a concert that has a twist... The evening is set in a castle during the 15th Century, and includes candlelight, costumes, music from the Renaissance, a Court Orchestra, Court Trumpeters, a King, a Queen, a Royal Court, Court Minstrels, a Jester, a funny play chock full of puns, a little mixed up mystery and a catered pies. All of the music is performed a capella for our guests at our feast. The Chamber Choir will be playing the role of the Royal Court who are the guests of the King and Queen of Westshire. The Chorale will be playing the part of the Court Singers. There will be a few other roles to fill as well including Jester(s), and the masque players. We will be singing and serving dinner in costume while “employing our best English accents”! It is a fun and cherished tradition for the top ensembles at West. We will be needing a lot of support from our parents to help make the night a success. We will need a lot of parent support and help. There will be informational emails and a signup genius for volunteers. The performance dates are Saturday, February 18, at 1:00 pm and 4:30 pm as well as Sunday, February 19, at 2:00 pm. Ticket will be available the first week of February.
- This weekend we will be participating in the ILMEA All State Conference held in Peoria. We have the fortune of having three singers participating in the event. Emily Masters and Faithe Streilyi are in the ILMEA All State Honors Choir and Seth Meyer is one of twelve students in the state in the IMEA All State Honors Vocal Jazz Ensemble. They have been diligently practicing and preparing for this week since December. Words cannot express how proud I am of their accomplishments and how proud we are to have them represent our high school and our program at All State.

*******NORMAL MARCHING BAND*******

Normal Marching Band (NMB)

Multiple Directors (Ryan Budzinski, Paul Carter)

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The Junior Varsity and Varsity Winter Guards begin their competitive seasons this weekend! Plans for the 2023 NMB season are underway, with a partial calendar posted at normalmb.org and the 2023 show trailer posted on Instagram.

OLD BUSINESS: N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

Referendum Talk

- School Board member Barry Hitchens shared some details and clarifications, as well as here to help offer answers to questions
- The referendum is back on the ballot for April voting, will be asking the same as what was on the ballot Nov
 - Failed 46-54%
 - feedback has been that people who voted against it were not aware in detail of what was at risk if it did not pass
 - same number 88 cents, generate 20 million in the district if it passes April 14
- School Board meeting last Wednesday discussed what was at risk if it does not pass
 - 5th grade band and orchestra
 - 6,7, 9 athletics & Schedule B budget reduction
 - Nothing can reduce student safety (ie football pads), but uniforms would have to go longer in between or funding be cut all together
 - Cannot reduce amount that is paid to Schedule B reps as it is contractually bound, but could reduce the number of Schedule B offerings
 - There has already been reduced Schedule B at the elementary level (student council and chess clubs were primarily impacted)
 - No more field trips (education experiences during the day)
 - No more district funded overnight trips (exception is state series qualification events like regionals)
 - Looking at increasing fees (more to come on this, this is restricted on what can and cannot be increased)
 - All of the above are for 2023-2024 school year
 - Future years: all Schedule B activities will be cut
 - If additional revenue is not given, Carlock will be closed (Fox Creek, Parkside Elementary & Prairieland would absorb)
 - Effort is being focused to not impact the 8am – 3pm class experience
 - Board will vote on changes for next year at special meeting next week on Tuesday
 - If revenue is acquired, special meeting will be held shortly after election to modify or reduce these cuts
- Questions/Comments:
 - how do we have non-kid community members get this messaging and understand how these impacts are broader than just the school
 - A healthy school system is a great sign that this is a great community and worth investing in
 - Chatter was “we don’t trust they won’t still continue to use cash bonds”
 - 5 candidates are running opposing the referendum, nine total candidates are vying for 4 board seats

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- New candidates have to be sworn in on April 26, if challengers do win vacant seats, current board will special vote to implement and reinstate cuts and “lock in” for 2023-2024 school year
- Keep in mind, if this does not pass, cannot go on the ballot again until this time next year, thereby impacting 2 school years
- Dr Weikle has also pitched reducing workforce by 150 (about 15% of 1000 employees)
 - Education fund has \$11 mil deficit (large portion of fund pays teacher salaries)
 - Transportation is \$1.4 mil deficit (partially due to state being behind)
 - O&M – still in the black because we continue to make energy efficient changes to help
- How are working cash bonds approved and approved to be used?
 - to issue working cash, the board has to pass an order of the intent, it is made public in the paper, and then vote to issue
 - Typically not opposed, no petitions typically submitted, so can pass without a ballot vote
 - If signatures opposing/petitioning against are received and meet the threshold, board is forced to put issuance of bonds on ballot

Music Parents Talk:

- Approval of October meeting minutes
 - Karen Fryer motioned, Monica Baca seconded
- Approval of November meeting minutes
 - Karen Fryer motioned, Logan Geigner seconded

Logan Geigner motioned to adjourn the meeting; Karen Fryer seconded. Meeting adjourned @ 8:05 PM
The next meeting will be on Monday, February 27 at 7:00 PM at the NCWHS IMC.

ATTENDANCE:

- Robyn Wenzel – PJHS Band/Board Member
- Logan Geigner – CJHS Band/Board Member
- Barry Hitchens
- Lora Weigman – EJHS Orchestra
- Monica Baca – NCHS Band
- Susan Hara – KJHS Choir
- Laura Roethle – PJHS Orchestra
- Roy Guzman – NCHS Orchestra
- Tanya Waninger – NWHS Orchestra
- Karen Fryer – NCHS Choir
- Laura Reddington – CJHS Choir
- Angela DeJaynes – PJHS Band, PJHS Choir

FINANCIALS:

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Unit 5 Music Parents			
Profit_and_Loss_by_Month-MP General Account			
January 2023			
	Jan 2023		Total
Revenue			
43000 Fundraising Revenue			0.00
43001 Annual U5MP Fundraiser (Extravaganza)	-11,828.84		-11,828.84
Total 43000 Fundraising Revenue	-\$ 11,828.84	-\$ 11,828.84	11,828.84
48000 Direct Public Support			0.00
48100 Corporate Contributions	44.00		44.00
Total 48000 Direct Public Support	\$ 44.00	\$ 44.00	44.00
49000 Other Types of Income			0.00
49300 Interest Earned	6.29		6.29
Total 49000 Other Types of Income	\$ 6.29	\$ 6.29	6.29
Total Revenue	-\$ 11,778.55	-\$ 11,778.55	11,778.55
Gross Profit	-\$ 11,778.55	-\$ 11,778.55	11,778.55
Expenditures			
61000 Business Expenses-MP			0.00
61600 Filing Fees	115.00		115.00
Total 61000 Business Expenses-MP	\$ 115.00	\$ 115.00	115.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 115.00	\$ 115.00	115.00
Net Operating Revenue	-\$ 11,893.55	-\$ 11,893.55	11,893.55
Net Revenue	-\$ 11,893.55	-\$ 11,893.55	11,893.55
Monday, Feb 13, 2023 02:02:04 PM GMT-8 - Cash Basis			