

Mercer Island Schools Choir Boosters

Meeting Minutes

August 22, 2023

Chair: Tom Henderson

Attendees: Annalise Rockow, Brooke Conway, Shari Matheson, Angela Hoefler

Location: MIHS Room 503

Meeting summary:

This was the first meeting for the choir boosters in preparation for this school year. We focused on near term activities on the calendar.

Choir a la mode

The first big activity for choir this year is the choir a la mode welcome event on Monday, Sept 11 from 5-7 at the MIHS commons/amphitheater. Last year's even went well so we discussed building on it with some minor tweaks. We'll plan on games (similar to last year), tickets for a raffle to win seating etc for some concerts (one winner per family group for HS, middle and elementary). Some details discussed with owners:

- Raffle: [Annalise will handle logistics for the raffle \(tickets, etc\)](#). One ticket per student/family. We discussed giving an extra ticket to families who donate to the fundraiser during the first week (or some similar time period depending on logistics)
- MIHS choir will perform two songs at 6pm (Stand by me and hallelujah).
- Choir boosters will do a short presentation after the performance (less than 10 minutes). [Tom and Angela will plan what to say](#). We discussed including info on how we invest booster funds. [Shari will determine pie chart for last years spending](#).
- Treats: We'll do more ice cream sandwiches and less fruit related treats based on last year. [Shari and Tom will handle ice cream order](#). [Annalise will try and get freezer space from the staff lounge](#) so we can avoid dry ice and manage more easily with coolers. Student volunteers will help bring in ice cream batches to coolers as needed assuming we get freezer space. Annalise has two coolers and rest of boosters have coolers they can bring as well as needed.
- [Annalise will be in charge of music \(speakers and playlist\)](#).
- Games: High schoolers will set up - arrival for them and boosters 4pm. Annalise shared doc from last year. No bowling this year. We discussed who could bring what -- [Annalise is asking pe about badminton and table tennis](#). Cornhole -- Angela and Annalise. Ladder ball Annalise. Tom giant jenga. Brooke beach ball volleyball TBD. Tom has paddles and ton of balls for table tennis.

Fall fundraiser

- We'll target using the event to kick off the Fall Fundraiser (target \$100 per child in choir). We'll hand out a half page flyer with fundraiser info including url to donate. [Angela will create signage and flyer for this](#).

- [We need to change messaging /campaign for give butter – Tom/Shari to handle.](#)
- [Dinner fundraiser: Angela](#) is following up with qdoba about dinner – we don't seem to be in the system yet. Angela will check with Sahara as back up. Thurs or Friday for pizza if they will do. Get into ptsa newsletters etc once set.
- We discussed other ways to raise funds for boosters including business sponsorships. We discussed some options for structure: \$250 for ads all year in programs, \$500 for ads plus being on the MIHS bags, \$1000 program, tote, banner. Ask parents first then other businesses. Work offline about this.

Communication/Increasing choir booster participation

We could really use more active parent involvement in the boosters – doesn't have to be board level, can be one time or coming to meetings, etc.

- Annalise will include info in choir syllabus about opting out for boosters comms/requesting participation.
- We'll follow up a la mode strongly with communication and fundraiser info – first newsletter to go out after 11th with pics from a la mode, reminder of fall fundraiser w pie chart, major dates. [Shari will start on canva with others contributing.](#)
- 5th grade choir starts beginning of October – we need to decide how to engage this family group early.

Other misc

- The MIHS choir retreat is Oct 20-22. We discussed buying branded tote bags for the kids that we can include treats in. [Brooke/Shari to figure this out and work on offsite.](#) Can we put sponsors on back of bags, etc? We'll need to determine what else we want to do to make the retreat special and how much we can budget.
- We will need to settle out finances for last year (we have until November to file taxes). [Tom and Shari are on point.](#) Goals on how to spend (even if just percentages).
- Brooke will test if Benevity matching is working through MSFT giving.

Minutes Submitted by: Brooke Conway