

Mercer Island Schools Choir Boosters

Meeting Minutes

January 30, 2024

Chair: Tom Henderson

Attendees: Annalise Rockow, Brooke Conway, Shari Matheson, Angela Hoefler, Angela Garinger (zoom)

Location: MIHS Room 503

Long range facilities planning: The school district has been re-working long range facilities plan following the decision to not pursue an elementary school consolidation. The fine arts boosters (including Tom for choir) met with Fred Rundle in January so he could update them on approach and get feedback related to fine arts. Tom updated the group on the discussions and asks and we discussed approach with Analise. Analise is the fine arts co-lead with Dave Bentley and is working with him on teacher request document. The current approach for the district involves working to understand what is needed for elementary schools (considering the decision) and focusing the rest of the money on middle and high school improvements. There are no specific plans yet, but the district will hire an architect and plan to move into feedback and plan dev in the springtime. People will bring projects forward they will try and hash costs. By fall they expect to present categorization to the board – musts, wants, pie in sky. Take away – booster leaders want to understand what fine arts staff are prioritizing so we can be in alignment. We discussed the PAC, black box for drama, etc. Annalise will follow up with her colleagues.

IMS PE changes: There may be changes to the PE opt out at IMS, which could potentially impact fine arts registration. Annalise will follow up to see if she can get more info.

Budget related discussion:

We discussed the process to approve fund disbursement since we only meet every month. The boosters agreed that we can approve fund disbursement over email for items under \$1000, with two boosters concurring. We went on to approve funds for the MIHS Solo & Ensemble activity (\$184), which we had agreed to cover at an earlier meeting. We also agreed to cover the 5th grade goodie bags discussed at an earlier meeting, with Shari proposing and Angela/Brooke concurring. We have about 8K currently in budget (no new donations since Oct), and Shari outlined that the PO Box and Constant Contact have been paid, while we need to pay the next bill for the website. Finally, the group approved funds for the PLU event for MIHS. Annalise to work with Shari for payment due by 22nd. We expect the all-in funding (for event, lunch, plus bonding activity) to be about \$1100.

In terms of fundraising, we discussed a couple of items:

- We will investigate making/selling sweatshirts for all district (overall choir vs school specific). There were some extra sweatshirts available last year and they were very popular/sold out. Angela Garinger will look into this (potentially with Custom Ink, who have a fundraising option). Annalise will work on the sweatshirt design.

- We will do a bake sale at all-district. Brooke on point.

In terms of donations – Tom is working on a tax letter for all donors to go out via email. Note – Benevity does not include names, unless the donor enters in the message/notes section, so we have one unknown/anonymous donor. Brooke is working on thank you letters for donors, which she will hand off to Annalise for MIHS students to sign/decorate. Shari had magnets made to go in the thank you notes.

Upcoming:

- 2/3 MIHS solo ensemble
- Late Feb/early March – Plan for next newsletter, help promote upcoming all-district (Shari?)
- 3/1 PLU
- 3/7 MIHS Festival – Annalise will send request for volunteers
- 3/13 All district (bake sale) --- Brooke will create a sign-up genie for support
- 3/27 gator for a night
- Showcase in April

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 27 at 4:30pm in MIHS room 503.

Minutes Submitted by: Brooke Conway