

Mercer Island Schools Choir Boosters

Meeting Minutes

March 26, 2024

Chair: Tom Henderson

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

Location: MIHS Room 503

We started the meeting by getting an update on what's happening with Fine Arts and future planning. Annalise expects there to be a meeting after spring break. We discussed the desire to focus on a black box and ongoing investments in the PAC.

We then discussed what's happening with IMS. Gator for a night is this week and Shari and Angela are going to support the program/hand out treats and stickers. We also discussed IMS enrollment. It doesn't appear that there will be enough 6th graders to create a second class and Annalise has heard from other choral leaders that they are seeing similar trends with enrollment in their districts. We discussed some options to give 7th/8th graders more growth opportunities, which Annalise will discuss with the administration. High school numbers remain healthy. We discussed what some of the barriers might be and decided to discuss things to make the program more interesting to join at a future meeting (June). We also discussed surveying 5th grade choir at the end of the year.

We then discussed how to recruit more parents to help with the booster program and will also add this to the agenda for the June meeting (brainstorm). Some things discussed:

- Create a brainstorm doc on the share (Brooke).
- Create draft comms to reach out to specific parents and try and schedule 1-1 coffee dates.
- Create smaller, event specific jobs to make roles feel more manageable including things like: middle and high school reps, fundraising coordinator, comms coordinator, social media coordinator, subcommittees, all-district bake sale lead, IMS field trip lead, newsletter lead.
- One goal will be to focus on improving our communications.

In terms of communications – Shari will draft the next newsletter with the goal of getting it out ahead of the Sahara pizza fundraiser (more below). We discussed highlighting: all-district, the honor choirs, and the PLU field trip. Upcoming events to include are:

- Fine arts showcase upcoming
- IMS Eastshore festival
- MIHS wellspring collab, May 17
- Spring Concert June 3

The Sahara pizza fundraiser is Thurs, March 28 (same day as board recognition for MIHS honors choirs). If we want to do signs to promote again a parent will need to be present (Annalise is booked with board

and IMS musical). We discussed IMS students making a poster during school. Brooke will post about on NextDoor and Facebook, Annalise will send a reminder email to parents, and Shari will promote in the newsletter.

Finally, we did a budget check in. We made about \$140 from the Custom Ink sweatshirt fundraiser. We have a good amount of budget left, so we discussed pre-purchasing more sweatshirts to sell next fall (Fall Concert and a la mode potentially). Annalise will follow up with another vendor on some options.

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 30 at 5:30pm in MIHS room 503.

Minutes Submitted by: Brooke Conway