

# **Armada Music Boosters E-Board**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **May 1, 2014**

**Present:** Monique Albertson, Maria Cefali, Craig Greenia (arrived 8:15 PM), Sharon Knust, Debbie Sheridan, Keenan Thomason (arrived 8:05 PM), and Rachel Ulinski (arrived 8:15 PM)

**Guests:** Sandy Jaros (arrived 7:15 PM) and Sheila Ruczynski (uniform committee)

**Next Boosters Meeting:** No date was set for the next meeting. No meetings will be scheduled over the school district's summer break. First boosters meeting for the 2014-2015 school year is to be determined.

**May 1, 2014 Meeting:** The May 1, 2014 meeting was moved to the high school choir room due to an "open house" at the middle school from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. (there was also an open house at the high school) The band room was being visited by open house visitors. The meeting began at 7:00 PM, but music instructors were unable to attend at that time. Mr. Thomason arrived at 8:05 PM from the band room where he instructs, next to the choir room. Mrs. Ulinski arrived from the high school, (where she instructs, along with her position at the middle school) at 8:15 PM. Mr. Loveday was unable to make the meeting on this night, also due to the high school open house. Two parents also arrived after the start of the meeting. Meeting ended at 8:50 PM.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer reported that the regular account balance is \$7,055.10 and the students' account balance total is \$10,791.94.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Fair Barns:** Craig Greenia spoke to those present via speaker phone at the start of the meeting as he was unable to be there in person for discussion. Craig told of issues he had with being the fair barn coordinator last year. He stated that changes would need to be made in order for him to be willing to take this on again this year, and make it worthwhile. Discussion continued approx. five minutes via phone and was later continued when he arrived at 8:15 PM. Craig stated that often he and his children were the only ones present to do the barn work last year. Positions were hard to fill. He has graduating students who will not be able to help this year. The barn work falls during the same week as "Pal Camp" and many middle school students are not able to help at the event. Craig stated that in order to attract workers there needs to be the same rate of pay as there is for the parking event. He stated that the two events' funds need to be pooled together. If not, he stated that positions would remain difficult to fill.

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#### **Fair Barns (continued):**

It was stated that in the past it was unknown how much would be made at the barns, but Maria informed us that this year a contract was signed for \$3,800.00 with an extra \$200.00 added if the jobs are well done. The parking event can vary greatly as the number of people attending the fair and utilizing the parking can vary from day to day, and year to year, and the weather is also a great factor. It was noted that the fair barn event is an event that needs to be held on to as a fundraiser. There is no selling involved and these events are the biggest fundraisers for the music department. At end of discussion it was stated that the rate of pay would be equal for barn workers and for fair parking workers this year.

**Concerts:** The fourth and fifth grade strings concert was held at Krause Elementary on April 29, 2014. The concert was well attended and the beginning students did a great job! Upcoming concerts include the middle school and high school choir and chorale concert on Thursday, May 8, 2014, the middle school band and orchestra concert on Tuesday, May 13, 2014, and the high school band and orchestra concert on Thursday, May 15, 2014. The baskets that were made to be raffled off at the cancelled dinner dance will now be used to raffle off at the concerts, along with a half off DJ certificate and a \$100.00 KO music certificate. Maria will have the sign-up sheets for at the concerts, so parents and students can sign up to work at the fair barns or work at the fair parking event in August.

**Donations:** Dr. Daren Krause has donated \$300.00 to the music department. There were other items donated by individuals to be raffled off, (item individually or in baskets) at the cancelled dinner dance and the individuals need to be sent letters of thanks. The secretary will gather information from those who collected items and obtain addresses to send out the thank you letters to them. There were a few businesses (Jusko's and Armada General) that offered to donate items, but did not do so because the dinner dance was cancelled. They will be sent thank you letters also, and also one will go to the Creek Center Banquet Hall, where the event was supposed to have been held. Monique Albertson noted that Mr. Kallek was easy to work with and we need to express our appreciation to him.

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**Laptop Computers:** Mr. Thomason thanked everyone for the newly purchased laptops. He showed us one and said he is very happy with it and told us that it runs great. One was purchased for the middle school and one for the high school. The middle school laptop is shared with Rachel Ulinski, choir director. If funds allow, a laptop may be purchased for Mrs. Ulinski's use for her choir classes. Mr. Thomason told us that the "smart music system" recently purchased, was being figured out as how to use it on the laptops. "Smart Music" subscriptions were purchased for \$603.14.

#### **CURRENT BUSINESS:**

**Marching Band Uniforms:** Sheila Ruczynski and Monique Albertson have taken inventory of uniforms several times since December. The last two uniforms that were still out, were recently turned in. All uniforms are accounted for, but there are still many hats and plumes missing. Sheila and Monique will meet one last time to inventory uniforms, hats and plumes for ones recently returned. Sheila and Monique recently revised the uniform contract, as formerly discussed, which will include numbered hats and the responsibility for one plume. Monique will contact Mr. Loveday, not present, to find out if he approves. If he does approve, the new contract will be sent to Mr. Jankowski, high school principal for final approval to distribute to students. All incoming marching band freshman will be fitted for uniforms during marching band practices in August.

**Dinner Dance:** The dinner dance to be held in April, was cancelled due to low ticket sales. All money received for tickets to the event has been returned to the purchasers.

**Communication:** The on-going topic of the best method to communicate with parents was again discussed at this meeting. The feedback from parents has been that there is a lack of communication. With so many different ways to communicate, communication via e-mail has seemed to be the best way to get responses from parents. It was mentioned again that there needs to be an email list of all music department parents, so mass emails can be sent pertaining to important and/or upcoming events pertaining to their students. Mrs. Ulinski stated that she already has the email addresses of her students' parents. Mr. Thomason said he has them on paper, but many "bounce back", as the addresses are illegible or incorrect. Sending notes home with students does not seem to work, as the students often do not give the notes to the parents, and parents report not receiving them. Mr. Thomason stated that he would look into the "instant alert" option. Mrs. Ulinski will put fair barn and fair parking sign-up sheets on "sign up genius" so that students and parents can sign up on-line and see what spots are available.