AHSBBBC General Booster Meeting Agenda

August 11, 2020

Held via Zoom due to COVID-19 Pandemic

Ryan Diks – Board President

Susan Bourgeois – Vice President

Robert McDonald – Treasurer

Todd Vogt – Fundraising

Celina Kosinski – Treasurer-Elect

Nancy Lubrano - Secretary

Ryan Demkovich – Band Director

Logan Nagai – Associate Band Director

62 total in attendance

Ryan Diks called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Minutes from previous booster meeting were voted on and accepted as shared at 7:04pm.

**Treasurer’s Report: Robert McDonald**

Typically, he presents the budget at this time of the year but he won’t today because there is so much we don’t know.

He shared what the role of treasurer is…to pay bills on time, to get checks cashed on time, to work with the board and band directors to make sure we know where we are with regards to fundraising then to adjust as needed for expenses.

We don’t know if we will even be able to hold fundraisers this year. SO many uncertainties.

The Executive Board is monitoring the current situation and adjusting the budget as needed.

We are in good financial shape right now and we need to continue to navigate as things unfold to keep us in good financial shape.

Ryan Diks stated that booster club members can ask to see the budget at any time.

**President’s Report: Ryan Diks**

Welcome to everyone and special welcome to parents of freshmen students.

What is a booster club? If you have a student in the band program, you are automatically a booster club member.

What is your responsibility as a booster club member? We ask that you stay updated on what is going on in the band. The booster club is here to help and support the directors.

We ask that you get involved. We always need volunteers. Many way for members to contribute either in person or from home. It’s fun to volunteer. We need chaperones, equipment crew members, tailgate volunteers, and more.

The booster club is here to help the directors and students achieve more than they can on their own.

The booster club holds fundraisers to help with the band costs.

Please ask questions.

We won’t share the budget tonight. We have reduced costs and reduced income due to the pandemic situation.

Last year we projected at $15,000 deficit if we did a full program. We were not concerned because our bank balance was higher. We want to spend the money we have, not let it sit.

Right now, however, we are looking at an $8000 deficit, but we don’t know what the next two months will look like.

When will band fee refunds go out? We can’t accurately answer that as we are still waiting to see what the fall season will look like. Regarding band fee refund, our email said that the range for fees will be between $250 and $400.

Please be patient with us. We don’t want to over-refund.

Robert has been asked by parents if they can opt to donate their refund to the band. Can they get a charitable giving letter? Answer is YES.

(Fee payment information was shared in the chatbox on the Zoom call.)

Ryan Demkovich: Band fees are not just for marching band season, but for the whole school year. We have clinician fees and master class fees.

Our money comes from: 30% from the school district; 40% from band fees; remainder from fundraising.

We can hold more sectionals with marching season being what it is right now.

As of right now, FBISD has said that the first 4 weeks of school will be online. That may extend to the first 9 weeks. But if we do come back, we would want to salvage what we can of marching season.

Regarding football, we don’t know right now. UIL has posted an alternate schedule but FBISD has stated no extracurriculars while school is completely online.

At the end of the first 9 weeks (October 10) we will have an idea if we can refund some or all of tailgate fees. If we do have a foot ball season, we will need money for tailgate.

**Parent question:** Baseball and volleyball teams are working out. Why can’t the band hold practices?

Ryan Demkovich: We are not allowed to hold practices right now. If other groups are holding practices, the question should be taken up with the school administration.

**Fundraising: Todd Vogt**

FBISD gives some funds to the band program. The director and students and parents want an exceptional program.

Welcome to a fun four years, freshman parents. Please get involved.

The booster club funds are the band parents’ funds.

We need to raise between $50,000 and $70,000 a year. The money goes back to the kids in the band.

Coming up this Thursday is a Spirit event at Carmelo’s restaurant. This business supports us, so let’s support them. Order food anytime all day, tell them you are with the band, they will donate 10% back to the band.

Rockathon is our big fundraiser, which typically takes place at the conclusion of summer band camp.

This even will be virtual this year.

Mattress Sale is coming up. Many schools in the area host a mattress fundraiser. We set up a mattress showroom where people can come and shop. It may sound odd, but it is a great fundraiser for us.

Sponsorships – our band equipment trailer displays logos of companies who sponsor the band.

We need more sponsorships this year. If you know anyone who might want to sponsor, please send an email to vp@sfaband.org.

**Director’s Report – Ryan Demkovich**

This meeing is typically our Parent March event at Mercer Stadium. We had planned a cookout in conjunction with that event and a parent meeting. We are sorry we could not hold that this year.

The directors are learning a lot right now and are trying to get the students to understand that the current situation is difficult and not what any of us want, but we can choose our attitude and we can adjust.

Ryan Demkovich (Band Director) introduced himself as well as Mr. Nagai (Assistant Band Director), Mr. Aya (Percussion Director), Mr. Sonny Saicharoen (Color Guard Director).

When the directors share information with the parents, it is everything they know. They do not have any additional information that has not been shared with parents.

On Monday we start school. Mondays and Thursdays will be for class periods 1 through 4, 1 hour each.

Tuesday and Friday will be periods 5-7, 1 hour each.

Wednesdays, students will attend every class for 30 minutes each.

The students are meeting in band classes and are being taught as many skills as possible that they would learn during marching season.

After school rehearsals being held like summer band.

They will have online assignments, pass-offs and video assignments to turn in.

He is pleased with the kids…great attitudes and they are working hard.

FBISD has paid for Smart Music for every student this year.

Parents, please keep encouraging your children.

SFA is one of the best bands in Texas. Success is due, in part, to time and effort of the parents.

**Mr. Nagai:** Nice to see everyone. We are excited for this year. The kids have been great, and we are proud of them. They are getting a lot of work done.

**Ryan Diks:** We have had a question about spirit wear and show shirts. We want to design a shirt to commemorate this year. We will get information out soon about spirit items.

Parents…VOLUNTEER! We don’t get to meet a lot of parents because they don’t volunteer. Volunteering allows you to get to know your kid’s friends.

Background checks are still required so please fill that out.

Mulch sale is held in the spring. Please consider volunteering for that.

Join our Facebook group…SFA Band Booster Club

Motion to end meeting. Motion seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:49pm.

Meeting minutes recorded by Nancy Lubrano, Recording Secretary