



Music Booster Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2025

Meeting Attendees:

Cheryl Morecraft	Kelly Busovsky	
Craig Sparacino	Monika Rossi	
Kim Duus	Pam Rousseau	
Michele Kaszyski	Misha Sikka	
Jennifer Connolly	Seth Morecraft	

- **Welcome**
 - The meeting started at 7:05PM
- **Treasurer Report**
 - Craig has not had the opportunity to move our report to Excel
 - We did get a handful of donations for the trip and we have an extra one that came in.
 - Scrapbooking money is coming in. Once the trip is paid for, we will see the remaining amount.
 - Holiday Extravaganza money is not accurate as the payments are being reversed. One person did ask us to keep it as a donation.
 - FAF - we brought in just shy of \$1500 with the 50/50.
 - Craig asked if the winner was selected and Kelly said it was Mike Kaszyski - congratulations!
 - We got about \$600 in FAF advertisements which will help offset the accompanist fees and flowers.
 - Marching Band Banquet and Pep Band fees are coming in.
 - We also received a check (that has not yet been deposited) from the City of Newark for the band's participation in the parade - which will be deposited and then moved to the marching band fund.
 - Not many expenses right now but trip costs are starting to come in.
 - \$600 for one bus has been posted - other checks have been mailed out and will be cleared soon.
 - Other fees to discuss but we may discuss this in another meeting due to the teachers not being on.
 - Craig also has some checks for Marching Band expenses.



- Holiday Extravaganza - the hot dogs are good until February but Jen has frozen them to be safe. We are saving all concessions to be used for the Winter Dance.
- Pam said we made \$108 from selling cookies today which isn't bad because it was not announced. Additionally, 9th grade was out for field trips.
 - Most cookies were sold
 - Renee has the cash box and will give it to Craig. He will catch up with her tomorrow morning at school.
- **Paying for All State Band participants**
 - Stephen was unaware that the Boosters covered payments for All State Auditions and asked parents to pay. This has been handled.
 - Pam suggested some guidelines. For example, kids can audition for multiple instruments. Additionally, is there a contingency for kids who don't show up - should parents re-discuss?
 - Craig asked about the process for choir.
 - Kelly explained how kids only audition for one choir - she was not aware of kids auditioning for multiple instruments. She also discussed our contingency that children not showing up for auditions are asked to reimburse, unless there is a family emergency.
 - Pam did say that kids do audition for multiple instruments for one band. She is suggesting the Boosters only pay for one instrument audition.
 - This does not seem to be an issue this year so Kim asked Jen to speak with Stephen to have a conversation and write out the plan so it is consistent in the future (Boosters will only pay for one instrument, additionally, kids must reimburse if they do not show up unless emergency).
 - Pam also asked if we should only pay for one All State overall (just choir or band, etc.). Jen suggested we discuss this with the teachers and that we should consider paying for each.
 - Craig will be putting together a document outlining our policy for Delaware All State Audition Fees, similar to his scholarship

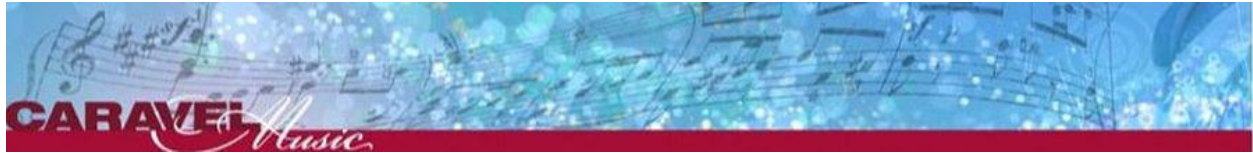


document. It will cover one vocal and one instrumental audition. Everything extra is on the parent.

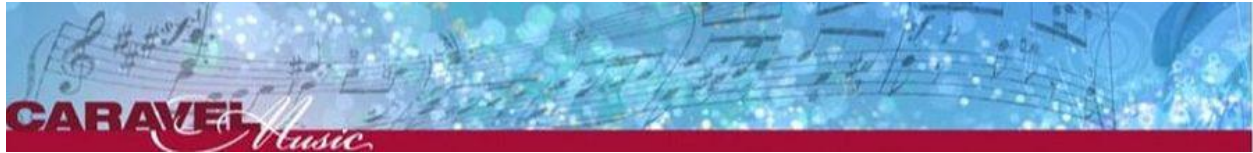
- Craig asked how they are paid for. Kelly said an invoice should have been sent to the Music Boosters account. Craig checked the mailbox - he did say he paid one DMEA charge but he is looking up to see what it covers. Craig did not find the email. Kim also checked and could not find it.
 - Kelly will follow up with Donna Fesmire to make sure it is being sent to the correct email address.
- **West Chester Band Symposium**
 - Request to defray the costs for the students to keep the ticket cost below \$15. Stephen asked us to cover \$100. We need a vote for the expense. Kim was curious about what budget this would come out of.
 - Pam's thoughts - this is new for the band. She thinks that we should help Stephen along. She thinks it should come out of the General Fund. Jen, Monika, and Pam could sit down and have a conversation with Stephen to get an idea of the big picture for the band and the students' involvement, as well as funding.
 - Kim said that since we did a budget this year so every dollar is accounted for. We do have a miscellaneous fund set aside.
 - Pam asked where the budget was and Craig said he would send it to her.
 - Craig said he has numbers for ACDA, DMEA, as well as other fees that we may have some additional wiggle room with. We also got the money back that we allocated for the piano. He doesn't see an issue putting the money aside for a concert band initiative.
 - This is a small trip to West Chester. It is a symposium. It is a clinic with the WCU clinicians where the kids perform afterwards. It is very similar to what the kids did at Temple. It is a \$500 fee per school.
 - Craig suggested covering half (\$250). The motion has passed. Craig will let Stephen know it is being covered.
- **Committees**
 - **Upper School Trip Planning**



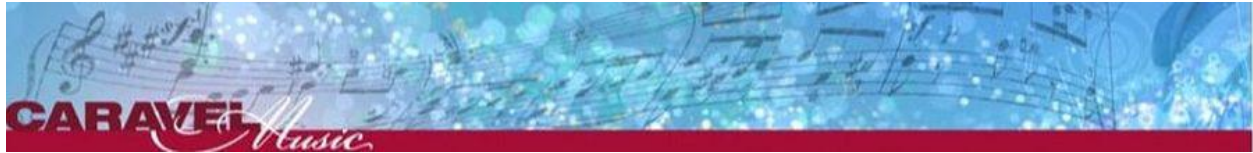
- We are currently waiting on Stephen and Kylie at this point. We have shifted directions to our location. The price has dropped less than half than Boston. Craig is waiting for them to send out a new interest form. Craig has a bus reserved but he is also waiting for which hotel they want to book. All three are similar in price, include breakfast, and have a pool. There is another boutique hotel that is \$50 more. There is no breakfast but it includes a water park. It should make each student's cost an additional \$30. Craig feels this is worth the extra expense.
- Stephen is going to work with Music in the Parks. We may purchase the event through them and purchase the park tickets separately as that may save \$6-\$7.
- Kim brought up the communication around the trip. There is a lot of uncertainty from the parents. She feels it might be helpful to share a ToDo list with the teachers so we can get an interest form out and approve the hotel.
- **Review and approve events in December, including expected budget/revenue**
 - **Holiday extravaganza**
 - We did not have any revenue from the event. However, we did make money from cookie sales. Expenses are \$326 which was less than budgeted. Some will be re-cooped as we will roll over concessions for Winter Ball, for example.
 - Craig can shift the debit over to that event. Craig has not received the receipts yet but he can change the assignment once those are used for the dance.
- **Review and approve events in January, including expected budget/revenue**
 - **Lower School Dance**
 - Kelly is working with Laura Doyle on the dance. They are working on ideas. They want to get the paperwork out the first week they are back from break. A parent owns an entertainment company and they have offered to do sound for the dance. This is a help as the cafeteria technology is not working well (many dropped connections, etc).
 - Laura is getting a committee of Lower School parents. Any one can come help that day decorating, concessions, and registration. Tri-M kids are a huge help that day as well.



- They are working on the theme and decorations and want to stay within the budget.
- Craig asked what the big raffle prize is and they are unsure at this point. She almost reached out to order on Black Friday due to the sales but wasn't sure what the best option was. Should we go in a different direction than previous years? They have also done a movie and dinner pass that has gone over well for the raffle.
 - Craig asked for a price range - we are looking at \$80-\$100.
 - Jen is looking at Amazon's hotlist. The Echo Show for Kids is on sale for \$50. There is also a karaoke microphone combo that is definitely in our price range. There is one with two microphones which seems to be a good choice.
- **Future events**
 - **Cabaret**
 - Silent Auction - last year we did not have materials for that. Pam put together a Silent Auction together out of thin air. We need to start advertising with our Facebook group and reach out to companies to see if we can get donations for the Silent Auction.
 - Pam said she did not get a lot of leads as to who to contact for donations. But getting donations is what helps increase revenue.
 - Craig and Kim had suggested reaching out to the vendors from the Holiday Extravaganza to see if they put together donation baskets. We will also list them in our programs that they are a donator, which advertises their business.
 - Pam said it was such a great setup and something to consider putting together in the spring rather than when we need to worry about snow.
 - Pam thinks we should not do food at the Cabaret.
 - **Spring Fundraiser**
 - The idea to host the craft fair in the spring has been brought up. There is concern about putting together two major events for the spring.



- The Cabaret is always a big money maker and will be happening.
- Kim suggested having vendors there but that would be difficult with the performers.
- Craig suggested it should be separate from the Cabaret as we don't want to take away from the Cabaret. We don't want to make an event too complicated. We want the kids to be showcased.
- Additionally, we don't have many free weekends with trips, play, cabaret, prom, carnival, etc.
- Kelly brought up the pancake breakfast at Applebees. We just need to sell tickets and show up. We could possibly have a few vendors in the lobby. We are charged \$4/person and we could charge \$10/person. We wouldn't have to cook or clean or food safety. The kids would do the food serving. We could do it right before or after spring break.
- Kim is happy to take the lead on Applebees or the Silent Auction but cannot do both. Craig will reach out to Applebees to get more information.
 - We would have to sell a minimum of 100 tickets.
 - For the silent auction, Kim's husband suggested reaching out to businesses for sponsorships.
 - When Sarah Mecke was president, the Peoples family reached out and said the Boosters were not allowed to receive sponsorships, most likely due to businesses and politics.
 - Pam asked how the school can justify the football sponsorships then, between the football uniforms and touchdown club.
 - Craig asked how we would want to show this sponsorship? This would be a question to raise to the board.
 - We have discussed the idea of a package with different sponsorship tiers.
- **Teacher check-ins**
 - Kelly said things are going ok after the FAF week, especially working with three new teachers. It is the kind of thing new faculty need to experience



and there are little nuances that could be forgotten. Things can also be changed in the future and the teachers will meet in the new year to go over everything. Everyone seemed to feel good about everything. The new teachers are amazing to work with and Kelly is excited about the spring. Everyone has big ideas for next year as well. Kelly thanked all of the parents for all of their help. She said that Michelle has stepped down from doing the programs. Kelly is reaching out to Brian Gable who is an assistant art and computer teacher for MS to see if he could do it.

- **Meetings on Tuesdays or Wednesdays?**
 - Kylie cannot make Tuesdays for meetings as that is the same night as theater rehearsals.
 - Craig cannot make Wednesdays.
 - We are considering Mondays depending on holiday schedules.
 - We will plan for Mondays unless it is a holiday and, if so, it will be a Tuesday.
- **New Business?**
 - Pam asked about pretzels for this week and if Tony usually reaches out to Michelle to see if there are any add-ons for the week.
- **Good night!**
 - Meeting ended at 8:18PM