

**SHS MUSIC BOOSTERS**  
**Minutes September 22, 2022**

**Board Attendance:**

Michaela Turbitt, Paul Duhamel, Melissa Moroni, Laura Field-Swallow, Katherine Young

**General Attendance:**

Sandi Brenner, Lu Duhamel, Stephanie Savastano, Kristi Morin, Francine Ayrassian, Joshua Lynch, Sherri Briggs

**Secretary's Report:**

Paul Duhamel motioned, seconded by Melissa Moroni, to approve June minutes as posted. Approved.

Sandi Brenner will continue as PR Coordinator regarding all print; seeking Social Media Coordinator (FB, IG, etc.)

Katherine Young stated members of Tri-M volunteered at the Arts Camp held over the summer.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Melissa Moroni reviewed the budget and submitted a draft budget for approval.

SHS Boosters maintain 3 accounts:

- 1) Operating which supports general budget
  - 2) Take Your Seat Campaign designated for auditorium improvements.
  - 3) Gala which was allocated to auditorium repair and improvements. (Will close by year end.)
- Note: The Gala was planned pre-COVID and due to restrictions, was not rescheduled. Donors authorized donations to be retained and used as designated.

Two (2) \$500 scholarships were presented to Jayna Barrette and Desiree Hirons at Senior Awards Night in May. (Michaela Turbitt later read a Thank You note from Jayna Barrette to attendees.)

Melissa Moroni stated Take Your Seat donations are solely dedicated to auditorium improvements as intended. Any funds received through a specific fundraising project(s) must be used only as originally advertised.

SHS Boosters raise most funds in five (5) ways:

- 1) Cookie Tray Sale
- 2) Concert Concessions
- 3) Raffles
- 4) Cabaret Concessions
- 5) Membership

**Band Report:**

Katherine Young is hopeful one of the candidates interviewed this week will be hired. This person also will take on the Jazz Band after school.

Kathrine Young stated students in band have been identifying their weaknesses on which to improve. "Breathing" was the main concern so Mrs. Young will be addressing throughout the year.

This year's Fall concert will have a Halloween theme. The event is scheduled for October 25.

The Music Department has been asked to participate in the Pep Rally as well as the Thanksgiving game and possibly the last game of this season. (Due to SHS field/track improvements, there may not be any home football games in '23.)

Joshua Lynch, Tri-M officer, stated that it will be possible to include in the Livestream of the game as well.

#### **Tri-M Update:**

Joshua Lynch provided update to attendees.

New Tri-M Officers: Julie Butera, President, Sophia Owens, VP, Joshua Lynch, Treasurer, and Sami-Lee Harrington, Secretary.

Approximately 25 joined Tri-M at the Club Fair, and the numbers for Drama doubled from last year. The first meeting is next Thursday and will occur before school (club meetings during Advisory are no longer allowed).

#### **Choral Report:**

Katherine Young stated the number of students enrolled has increased to 32 and next semester's enrollment is 42.

Students were excited to hear most of their submitted music selections were chosen for the Spring Concert.

Mrs. Young stated any student in chorus can elect to complete required work to obtain honors designation. Although students must be enrolled in chorus, they can decide at any time during the year.

Mrs. Young stated the All-State auditions is November 19 (at Moses Brown) and she would like to see more representatives from Smithfield audition this year. Although students must cover the cost of audition, SHS Boosters would like to try to assist with program cost for those selected (dependent upon number of students).

Mrs. Young stated Spring Music Trip will take place during April vacation (not allowed to utilize school days) and will be in New York. Three (3) nights will include a Broadway show, a visit to the 9/11 Museum, Central Park Zoo as well as some free time. The students will perform on the Intrepid which will be an exciting experience. Transportation will be buses. Additional details will follow at later date.

Michaela Turbitt inquired about the process for dry cleaning band/choral attire. Mrs. Young stated the policy is for those students to return their items dry cleaned; however, that is not always the case. Mrs. Moroni will speak to Akim Dry Cleaners to see if a discount can be obtained.

**Old Business:**

Michaela Turbitt provided an update on the auditorium improvements and new equipment. Still awaiting speakers and a list of add-in options for the funds not yet utilized such as two (2) spotlights will be installed and approximately twelve (12) communications headsets and microphones. The existing headsets are not compatible with the new system; however can still be used for Cabaret events, etc. USB inputs, touch screen, teaching mode, and a theatrical mode included in the new system. Mrs. Young stated there was a training session earlier, and there will be a more in-depth training session next month after completion.

**New Business:**

SHS Music Booster Club Proposed 2022-2023 Budget was submitted to attendees for discussion and review. Michaela Turbitt stated equipment and instrument repairs previously were two (2) separate line items. Also, scholarship allocation remains \$1,000; however, two (2) students will receive \$500 scholarship each.

Regarding All-State auditions and fees, students will be responsible for their audition fee; however SHS Boosters will try to assist with fees for those who are selected (dependent upon number of students/final cost). As always, students requiring financial assistance can contact SHS Boosters.

Sandi Brenner moved, seconded by Paul Duhamel to approve the budget as submitted.  
Approved.

Melissa Moroni added ten (10) plaques have been ordered for the Take Your Seat Campaign and will hopefully be installed for the Fall Concert.

Paul Duhamel suggested QR codes be hung in/outside of the auditorium so folks can continue to donate as this will not be promoted as heavily this year.

Michaela Turbitt received fundraising suggestions from a member unable to attend: pasta dinner, Christmas Fair with crafts, vendors, raffles at concerts, 50/50, and a band/choir car wash.

Mrs. Moroni suggested coordinating car wash with Tri-M members.

Paul Duhamel asked about the Swag Store and selling items/gear at a table at an upcoming event. Mrs. Young stated some items sell at those events, but there often is an overage which then requires storage.

Mrs. Moroni will contact DMK to determine time to open store. Store will remain open for approximately two (2) weeks. Sandi Brenner will promote Swag store in newspapers, and the Patch (include live link).

Michaela Turbitt announced that Sandy Barrette (Music Teacher at Laperche) is in process of recruiting participants for a potential community band in Smithfield. There was a brief meeting at Pleasant View School yesterday to determine interest and discuss logistics, etc. Anyone interested, should reach out to Mr. Barrette directly.

Regarding the Membership Drive, a flier was distributed at freshman orientation and open house. Compared to this time last year, the membership is higher. Mrs. Turbitt added anyone who joined as of May 1 (2022), their membership automatically extended through the end of this school year.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 19 in the Chorus Room. Meetings will likely be held the third Wednesday of each month. Anyone needing a zoom link to participate, should reach out directly to Michaela Turbitt. (Information also will be available in the next email.)

Paula Duhamel moved, seconded by Miss Moroni to adjourn. Meeting Adjourned at 8:07 PM.