

Music Boosters Meeting

Oct. 22, 2008, 7 pm

Choir Room

In attendance: Maria-Rose Cain, Mary Crowley (secy.), Ron Denissen, John Fanelli, Bert Kramer, Bill Redmond. Richard Slocum, Brett Taylor.

Spring Trip –

Mr. Taylor gave a report on the status of planning for the Music Department trip next April. He said 132 students had indicated preliminary interest in participating, 31 of whom had not yet paid their deposits at the time of the meeting. He was handling follow-up on payments.

Forty-seven adults had signed up as chaperones, eight of whom had not may deposits by the October deadline. The total number of adults participating will likely drop slightly. A question was raised about whether so many chaperones would be needed. The Dr. Slocum said they would no doubt all be put to good use.

No more chaperones can be accepted, however, although drivers are needed to ferry a rental van to and from the airport to move the instruments, concert dress, and other equipment. Anyone interested in helping should contact Mr. Taylor at taylor@olgchs.org.

The directors said that at this point, it looks like the trip will cost an estimated \$150,641 and includes airfare, bus fare in Maryland and Florida, a U-Haul truck in Maryland for the equipment, and \$50 passcards for each student to cover incidentals. The airfare costs will be reassessed in November when SouthWest posts its '09 schedule.

Participants are advised they'll need to call their cell phone provider to arrange international roaming.

Trip insurance information will be made available soon by Mr. Taylor.

FedEx Booth –

Bert Kramer gave a report on the status of the FedEx fundraising program. He said the booth is making more money on average than last year and that John Rocket executives have been impressed by GC's management of that booth.

We reviewed the staffing concerns that led to the decision to scale back GC involvement to one booth earlier this year and discussed whether staffing a second booth would be practical beginning in November. Although the Nov. 3 and 16 games were reported to be short on volunteers at the time, the remaining booth dates had waiting lists long enough to convince the Boosters present that a second booth could be staffed.

It was generally agreed that there was enough evidence of volunteer commitment this year to justify expanding GC's commitment back to a second booth, which Mr. Kramer agreed to handle.

We will still need to consider whether continuing a two-booth operation can be sustained in the long-term as volunteer interest as waxed and waned over the Boosters' six years at FedEx. No decision was made at this time.

Mr. Kramer said the booth operation has made about \$2 million-\$2.5 million in sales over its first five years.

Concerts –

Chaperones will be needed for the Washington Archdiocesan Music Teachers Council Annual Band Festival on Saturday, December 6 at Herbert Flowers High School in PG County. Attendance at this festival is mandatory for all Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble musicians. Students must arrange their own transportation to the concert. Mr. Taylor will issue an e-mail with more details about the concert closer to the date. Parents interested in helping chaperone at the high school should contact Mr. Taylor.

The annual Christmas Concert will be Dec. **12** [date updated after meeting]. Volunteers will be needed to help with concert dress, setting up the gym for the performances, chaperoning the students, decorating, etc. Watch for an e-mail seeking volunteers or contact Mary Crowley at EditWrite3@comcast.net if you can help.

Photos –

To contribute your photos of the students at any Marching Band, FedEx or '09 concert, contact John Fanelli at john.m.fanelli@verizonbusiness.com.