

TJ Band Parent Preview Meeting – September 08, 2017

- The meeting convened at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time on September 08, 2017 at TJ (Orchestra Room). In attendance: Adam Foreman (Band Director), Carol Small (President), Gita Thakur (Secretary), Kristin Young (Treasurer -- Disbursements), Carolyn Everhart and Tom Wetterhan (Treasurer – Receipts). Cindy Gersony is the PTSA president-elect this year. She was attending another event during this time. There were quite a few parents in attendance. Also, spirit wear sale at this meeting.

This was the parent preview meeting of the 2017-18 season. Following is a snapshot of the points that were captured.

1. Carol Small presided over the meeting. Parents welcomed. Discussion started with the fundraiser efforts that are the focus of the booster to support the Band throughout the year with various events such as Marching Band, Drumline, JAAZ2 etc. These are optional programs.
2. This year 1 percussion ensemble has been added. So total of 2.
3. The parents are automatically a member of the Band Boosters. No member fee. Parents are encouraged to help with new, creative fundraising efforts. TJ is not a neighborhood school so we can't do Tag Day; something other schools get a big collection from.
4. Band Boosters are involved in Fundraising so that we can pay for activities that the county won't pay for; for example, acquiring a new instrument, inviting an artist etc.
5. It was decided in Spring that this year, Boosters need to raise \$22000. This does not include funds raised through the Fall Fundraiser for a dedicated funding project (e.g. Fill-the-Shako. Etc.) \$65K was raised for new uniforms last year. This will be good for 10 years. Total operating cost for TJMC every year is \$100K.
6. Discussed about Fall fundraiser. Led by Cindy Gersony. This year the fundraising goal is for 5 Octave Marimba for use for all concert-type musical ensembles. Need to raise \$15000.
7. This year, Susan Moeser is leading the CITRUS Fundraiser efforts. Son Jack plays Mellophone. Last year, 5K was raised. This year if everyone buys 2 boxes each in Fall and Spring, their goal will be met. Oct 16th is the date set when the sale opens up. November 18th, pick up.
8. Attending Parents were encouraged to help with chaperoning, distribute refreshments at events, move equipment, drive a truck, sell at concession stands etc. Should look out for email with links to Sign up Genius.
9. Oct 6th is new uniform day. Need help with new uniform fittings. Sign ups will be sent out. 2 blocks of 4 hours each will be needed to cover all students.
10. Is everyone getting Charms emails?
11. Band Council is student led. Emails about events that are student driven will not be sent out by Boosters. For example, Hall March. There is a FB page ; TJ Marching Colonials. That has recording of the march.
12. Parent Meg Pasquerella is leading the License Plate Fundraiser effort. She talked about various License plates options to choose from. Great gifts. Forms available on website, tjbands.org. They are \$20 a piece.

13. Carol talked about the biggest fundraiser event of the year: Showcase. This is when indoor color guard, Drumline have competitions. Held at Mt. Vernon. This year it is scheduled to happen on first Saturday of spring break. Expect to raise \$10,000.
14. Also mentioned about Senior Regional Orchestra Audition programs. Will start in a couple of weeks, Monday, Sept 25th. Help will be needed.
15. There was also a brief mention about Scholarships. These are to assist students who can't pay, for example, instrument etc.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

--Gita Thakur