

# TJ BAND BOOSTER MEETING

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April 20, 2021 / 6:30 PM / Virtual Meeting via Zoom

## ATTENDEES

Steve Ballard, Lisa Barker, Ely Chen, Sunghee Chon, Claire Chua, Julie Cox, Susan Essman, Katharine Hansen, Ricardo Huaman, Michele Hyde, Val Kreider, Qiqi Lu, Elaine Maag, Helen Miller, Victoria Prudius, Geeta Thapa, Karen Walters, Linda Winston, Jennifer Zhuang

## AGENDA

### Call to Order and Welcome – Val Kreider

- Freshman parents have jumped in to take primary roles or shadow roles

### Approval of March 16 Meeting Minutes

### Fundraising Updates

- Gift Card/Shopping Card Program – Michele Hyde
  - April returns \$41.85, year-to-date \$477.06. She thinks May will be a good month as it reflects April transactions.
  - Purchases tend to be by the same people
  - Could have Michele at Spirit Wear table in the future, showing parents how to use the app
- Spirit Wear – Helen Miller and Ely Chen
  - Will hold a sidewalk sale at the Parent Preview
  - Did a few sales on first parent preview on April 15<sup>th</sup>
  - PayPal charges for every transaction: 2.2% + 30 cents. 3% is the mark-up on the form, but this doesn't cover PayPal fees unless the order is at least \$38.
  - May need to restock items that are low in inventory to have at concerts, etc.
  - Could have "liquidation pile" at next sale
  - Ely will do a count of the cookbooks. She sold 3 on April 15<sup>th</sup>. There are many cookbooks and lanyards left over – one of the pitfalls of having a minimum order. Could give for free with a minimum order or give to custodial staff, etc.
  - License plate frames and cookbooks make nice "going off to college" gifts
  - Band boosters were given 4 lavender sachets and 4 beaded treble clef pins. Sold one of each at the April 15<sup>th</sup> preview.
- Band-inspired Jewelry – Susan Essman
  - Had about \$80 in sales at the April 15<sup>th</sup> preview
  - Jewelry would be a good graduation gift
  - Send anyone with jewelry questions to Susan
- Recent TJBB activities
  - All funds have gone to keeping students engaged and connected
  - Tent canopies: purchased 4, good quality. Thanks to Claire for the leg work!
  - Tuba donation – from 2007 alumni mom who had gotten it from TJBB donation
  - Custodian fees – for after-hours use

- TJMC uniforms & photos
- Courtyard Recital accompanist – Band Boosters are paying for this
- Spring Spirit Wear Sales (see above)

### Updates from Band Director – Steve Ballard

- Four new canopies:
  - Monogrammed, heavy-duty canvas material, in carrying cases with wheels
  - He will use more often for outdoor rehearsals and for Courtyard Concert Band
- Courtyard Concert Band
  - Scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup> (will keep original June 1<sup>st</sup> date as a back-up if bad weather is forecast for June 2<sup>nd</sup>)
  - Can have up to 62 people, which is more than double the last time they met. Per the Governor, can now have up to 500 or 30% of area capacity, so don't need to set limits anymore. Need 40 sq ft per person in open areas.
  - Have to work around testing schedules
  - Would be good to have students show up early to help set up chairs and stands. These have to be carried around the building.
  - Can't use parking lot as courtyard is acoustically better (it has walls and musicians need to be spread out) and there will be buses in lot as testing lets out
  - May not be able to use courtyard for Monday rehearsals as they are earlier in the day and will disturb students in the building
- Band Banquet
  - June 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Could we do this in the courtyard? It would be nice to be in person.
  - Awards and certificates will be given
- TJMC:
  - May 1<sup>st</sup> schedule:
    - 9:00-1:00 Rehearsal
    - 1:00 Lunch
    - 2:00 Get in uniform
    - 2:30 Show-style warm-up
    - 3:15 Final performance and senior recognition
    - 4:00 Dismissal (this gets us out before custodial fees rise)
  - Custodial fees \$240/day for past two Saturdays – billed to Band Boosters
  - Need to get uniforms collected for cleaning
  - Need to get a couple more student photos for group photo. Photo will be put together by Katharine, Colin, and Ricardo. This could be the start of a new tradition!
  - Uniform try-ons and photos went very well. A ton of effort went into this and it was a “parent machine”, per Steve.
  - Many parents of freshman are engaged in the community and have invested their time.
  - There will be a lot of behind-the-scenes work, such as setting up and taking down tent canopies. Steve would welcome volunteers.
  - Val is putting information on paper and electronic files to pass down
- Solo and Ensemble Festival
  - The festival is happening, but we will not be in it this time around

- Not a lot of turn-around time
- A student can participate if their private teacher a VMEA member; otherwise, there will be a huge fee (around \$100)
- The festival will be a normal thing in the future
- Finances
  - Need to start spending down the school account as Steve needs to zero it out
  - Wishlist:
    - Generators – he needs to look up the rules for students to operate these. Batteries don't hold charge for long, but students may not be allowed to operate gas-powered ones. Steve would like a parent to research the costs.
    - Tablets with Bluetooth capabilities with music loaded on them
    - Speaker carts
    - Second euphonium (obtained one through the school)
  - Last year, the boosters voted to use the instrument fund for VMEA, which was not covered by the Partnership Fund. Hopefully, the PF will get instruments for us. Val will reach out to them. Could use excess from last year to diversify the instruments.

### **Treasurers' Reports – Jennifer Zhang and Qiqi Lu**

- Qiqi is working with Val in Charms on TJMC incidentals.
- Qiqi is sending invoices and tracking payments, which is very helpful for Steve.
- Jennifer included notes and new items since the last meeting in her budget report:
  - Bought canopies
  - Paid first half of recital fee. Will pay the remainder in May.
  - For the license plate frames, we have to pay for them first and collect money later.
- Our income is still greater than our expenses for the year.
- Sujatha and Tracy will work with Jennifer on the audit

### **Elections Information – Val Kreider**

- Anne Appler will chair the Nominations/Elections Committee
- There will be a Google Form where parents can express interest and include a short bio
- The goal is to have a slate of candidates before the band banquet with the election held at the banquet.
- Outgoing officers can answer questions about the time commitment and can assist with the transition to new officers. It will be easier to shadow officers when we are back on site.
- Note that the budget will also be approved at the banquet.

### **Meeting dates for 2020-2021**

- Third Tuesdays 6:30 pm - virtual
  - May 18, 2021

### **NEXT MEETING**

- May 18th, 6:30 pm

## Links and Codes

Opt-in Directory and Volunteer Interest Form: <https://tinyurl.com/TJBandsDirectory2020>

Band-inspired jewelry: <https://tinyurl.com/TJBandsJewelry20-21>

Gift Card/Shopping Card Program enrollment code: *231LLC678861*

Download the mobile app at [www.raiseright.com](http://www.raiseright.com), or go to GooglePlay or to Apple's App Store.

You may also shop at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com).

Donations: [www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1251587](http://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1251587)

Amazon Smile: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1819971>

Elden Street Tea Shop: [www.eldenstreettea.com](http://www.eldenstreettea.com) promo code *TJBAND* (online or in person)

Weird Brothers Coffee: Select *Thomas Jefferson High School Band Boosters* from the *Choose Your Charity Organization* dropdown menu at

[https://www.weirdbrothers.com/store/p164/EOTH\\_Charitable\\_Blend.html](https://www.weirdbrothers.com/store/p164/EOTH_Charitable_Blend.html).