

Northwood Band Boosters (NHSBB) Parent Meeting August 25, 2021 - Minutes

Executive Committee (EC) board members present: Felicia Gilmore, Lisa Holder, Jamie Palmer, Pam Mattocks.

Executive Committee Business

EC President Felicia Gilmore welcomed parents to the meeting and to the Marching Band family. Each one of us has a voice so please let the EC know any concerns at any time.

EC voted for Nan Pardington to fill the Secretary's vacancy and Lisa Holder to fill the Treasurer's vacancy. Jamie Palmer assumes the role of First Vice-President.

Treasurer's Report

Chatham County Schools (CCS)/Northwood pays for Jason Freeman, Band Director. The budget includes Marching Band, Winter Guard and Percussion Theater. All other band expenses come from the Band Boosters budget. Our biggest expense is additional instructors (example: colorguard, percussion) who are non-school personnel. We are in the process of realigning the budget from a calendar year (January - December) to the school year (August - July).

Volunteers recently upgraded Booster-owned instruments and paid for instrument repairs. NHSBBs maintain trailers and provide transportation to/from competitions. We are planning for future instrument and uniform replacement.

The Mann Scholarship for Woodwinds is a scholarship available for a senior who is a woodwind player that is \$250.00 towards their Fair Share.

Question of refunds if school shuts down/becomes remote: there might be a partial reimbursement of Fair Share funds, but some expenditures have already taken place (band camp water/snacks, new instruments, instrument repair, instructors).

We have fewer students (90) in the band than two years ago (160) but the same number of instructors. EC discussed raising Fair Share to \$700, \$600 or \$500 but decided not to because of financial hardships related to COVID. Fair Share is \$500 for the 2021-2022 school year, which is much, much less than many Triangle schools.

The budget doesn't include fundraising as a factor and doesn't include any Thrift Shop earnings.

There has been much discussion recently about whether the NHSBBs are at risk of being fined by the IRS if we continue to direct revenue from fundraising and/or Thrift Shop hours to individual Fair Share balances. The majority of the EC board has voted to continue taking this risk, with the goal being to fundraise as a team (to bring down the costs for everyone) and to keep individual fundraising insubstantial. The EC cannot *require* work hours to offset Fair Share because Marching Band is a class, not an extracurricular activity.

We need a fundraising committee. Other fundraising opportunities this year include but are not limited to:

Apples (raised \$1300 2 years ago)

Motors for Music (May 1, 2022)

SNAP (similar to crowd-funding): \$20,000 goal = ~\$250/student. Link was sent via email.

Coffee

Other ideas: Restaurant night, Flags, Paving bricks, Bleacher plaques

Vice-President's Report

Friends and Family Night has been rescheduled to Tuesday, September 21, 2021. The first show is scheduled for September 25. The Marching Band performs at every home football game and is scheduled for six competitions this season (September 3 - October 30).

Typical Competition Day

Practice at Northwood: group, sectionals
Snacks and water are provided
Load buses (with one chaperone ON the bus, one chaperone OUTSIDE doing socks/shoes/check in)
Arrive at competition/wrist bands/
Student free time/meal(s) (send \$ for concessions; send extra \$ for Western Alamance's Cheesecake on a Stick)
Call time announced for each competition separately
Practice
Dress: volunteers needed for hat racks, uniforms
Pit is moved onto the field by volunteers
Competitions/Awards
Bus check-in, segregated by gender
UNLOAD
About 20 volunteers are needed per competition, including bus/truck drivers, equipment un/loading
Contacts: Lisa: pit, Pam/Felicia: chaperones, Jamie: transportation
Use Northwood band website link to become an official CCS volunteer (required)
If you only come to one competition all season, come to Cary Band Day.
Northwood doesn't hold competitions because we don't have the capacity to park buses.

Fill out a medical form for each student. Bonnie Parsons, RN is present at every competition. Make sure to be available by cell phone if not attending the competition. If a student needs medical attention, they are first assessed by Ms. Parsons, then Mr. Freeman is called, then the parent is called. If a parent is not available Ms. Parsons/Mr. Freeman make the decision about calling an ambulance.

Northwood Band Handbook will be posted by Mr. Freeman on the Northwood website. NHSBBs by-laws will also be posted soon.

Parents present asked for (1) scheduled Thrift Shop workgroups (if any) to be posted to the website, and (2) resend a link to official CCS volunteer application.

Parent Meetings are held the last Wednesday of every month, except September, when the Parent Meeting will be held before Friends and Family Night (September 21).