

## **Saratoga Music Boosters (SMB)**

A 501(c)(3) organization supporting music programs in the Saratoga Union School District and Saratoga High School

Regular Meeting in-person, June 7th, 2022: **Minutes**

Attendance: total number of attendees = 10

### **Executive Board**

Dave Holt    Alicia de Fuentes  
President    Recording Secretary

### **Music Directors**

Isabel McPherson    Jon Jow    Jason Shiuan    Michael Boitz  
RMS                    RMS                    SHS                    SHS

### **Booster Members**

Senthil Krishnamurthy    Cecile Cohen-Jonathan

Rashi Sanghi                    Olivia Zhou

### **Dave Holt Thanks SMB Community**

Dave Holt calls the meeting to order at 7:32 pm and informs the community that Tim Tang is visiting colleges with his child so he will be presenting the finances.

Dave Holt revises the agenda for today.

### **Approval of May Minutes** presented by Alicia de Fuentes

Rashi Sanghi motions to approve.

Senthil Krishnamurthy seconds.

Motion approved unanimously

Motion approved with a pending amendment to include nomination slate for 2023.

### **June Finance Report** presented by Dave Holt

Presents financial reports on digital screen and observes that overall SMB's end of year financial is out of the red and shows later on the year-on-year & YTD Comparison to fully understand SMB's position.

Transaction cheque numbers to be approved: Cheque #15127 thru to and including cheque #15174

Alicia de Fuentes motions to approve the financial report as presented and all cheque transactions specified herein.

Rashi Sanghi seconds.

Motion approved unanimously.

**Year-on-year & YTD Comparison** presented by Dave Holt

End of May we reached \$624,842. We have \$38,123 surplus to allow to purchase instruments. We are waiting on draft budgets from SHS, RMS to plan for the next academic year.

Alicia de Fuentes: pancake breakfast will be sent last week of June.

Everyone has worked so hard to have a good budget.

YTY View	Prior Year	End Apr 2022	End May 2022	
	2020-2021 YE	2021-2022	2021-2022	Mtm Delta
SHS Band	\$ 94,535	\$180,145	\$180,145	\$ 0
SHS Orchestra	\$ 45,101	\$ 67,495	\$ 67,495	\$ 0
SHS Choir	\$ 13,396	\$ 17,740	\$ 17,240	-\$ 500
SHS Winter Perc	\$ 15,971	\$ 75,470	\$ 74,320	-\$ 1,150
SHS Winter Guard	\$ 3,264	\$ 18,480	\$ 18,480	\$ 0
RMS Ensemble	\$ 17,943	\$ 30,618	\$ 31,806	\$ 1,188
RMS Strings	\$ 4,030	\$ 6,035	\$ 5,135	-\$ 900
RMS Color Guard	\$ 600	\$ 900	\$ 900	\$ 0
RMS Choir	\$ 250	\$ 1,750	\$ 1,750	\$ 0
5th Grade Music	\$ 5,950	\$ 6,050	\$ 6,050	\$ 0
Cookie Dough	\$ 12,779	\$ 15,545	\$ 15,545	\$ 0
Pancake Breakfast	\$ 300	\$ 20,579	\$ 45,546	\$ 24,967
Benefactor Donations	\$112,111	\$167,765	\$160,430	-\$ 7,335
	\$326,230	\$608,572	\$624,842	\$ 16,270

BUDGET VIEW		End of May 2022	
	2021-2022 Budget	2021-2022	Delta to Budget

SHS Band	\$194,600	\$180,145	<b>-\$14,455</b>
SHS Orchestra	\$68,670	\$67,495	<b>-\$1,175</b>
SHS Choir	\$20,000	\$17,240	<b>-\$2,760</b>
SHS Winter Perc	\$80,370	\$74,320	<b>-\$6,050</b>
SHS Winter Guard	\$16,800	\$18,480	\$1,680
RMS Ensemble	\$45,000	\$31,806	<b>-\$13,194</b>
RMS Strings	\$18,000	\$5,135	<b>-\$12,865</b>
RMS Color Guard	\$4,500	\$900	<b>-\$3,600</b>
RMS Choir	\$7,500	\$1,750	<b>-\$5,750</b>
5th Grade Music	\$18,500	\$6,050	<b>-\$12,450</b>
Cookie Dough	\$12,779	\$15,545	\$2,766
Pancake Breakfast	\$20,000	\$45,546	\$25,546
Benefactor Donations	\$80,000	\$160,430	\$80,430
	<b>\$586,719</b>	<b>\$624,842</b>	<b>\$38,123</b>

### **2022-2023 Open Positions Review** presented by Dave Holt

We need people to recruit for open positions.

Ruchi Joshi and Rashi Sanghi have questions about Alumni: Did they receive a form asking them if they wanted to be included in SMB information to learn about what's going on?

Dave Holt: We don't have the manpower to curate that list of alumni names. It used to be Sheeba who would work that.

### **Should SMB Take a More Active Role Advocating with the District?**

District seems to going into the weeds with what the parents want.

It appears the district admin and board and are out of synch with faculty, students and parents; that being said this question is strictly poised to support the music in our schools.

Michael Boitz: I feel strongly about this, so many people don't know and they should. That said, I don't like this organization to take an active role in the politics of school affairs because SMB is super positive. Just for informative purposes the teachers association and the school's paper editorial voted a vote of no confidence in our board.

Dave Holt: Some parents are supportive of the board.

Rashi Sanghi: Is there an informal way of reaching out because we don't know half the things that's taking place.

Micheal Boitz: I don't want our group of parents to be sucked into negativity.

Cecile Cohen-Jonathan: Are 16 teachers leaving?

Micheal Boitz: 18 by the end of the week. We have work to do as a community to make it better.

Olivia Zhou: I am in a group of 500 parents who are concerned with what is happening in the community. This took place when Mr Boitz sent the email. The two board members in our group are defensive and say everything is fine. The community wrote many emails to the board members without a response. Chang and Zheng are in the WhatsApp group. Parents are frustrated with them.

Michael Boitz: We had a great relationship with our past superintendent. When Jon and I were freshman, mostly everyone had a doctorate degree. I think we should have a side conversation.

Dave Holt: We will remain non political.

### **Directors' Report**

**Michael Boitz:** The last month of the year went by in a flash, my family was hit with influenza B and Covid. As usual Jason had the world on his shoulders and took everything on. The kids poured their heart and soul into the final stretch of performances. Jazz band finished in a theatre performing so beautifully.

The big thing now is our tour: we are also preparing for next year's show. Mr. Shiuan is writing that complimentary and I hope he clocks out soon but he is still thinking about the show.

It really is the best time to work with teenagers, they're logical, they think mum and dad don't know anything and teachers know everything.

A student graduated a while back in 2012 and the kid comes in to Mr Shiuan to apologize saying he was a jerk in High School and continued by saying he was a pain and obnoxious. We told him that that was his job as a teenager to be like that. This moment meant the world to us because we cemented a good memory in this individual's brain. We really have sensitive kids and they are aware.

We need young blood in all leading roles.

Rashi Sanghi: we really need the soloist.

**Michael Boitz:** I have been working on an email for 2 days covering safety precautions, extra hotel rooms in case of COVID. Test before arriving, etc., we know every 24hr service, doctors who do home visits etc. We are thinking in the event we have people who are coming back last. We have handed out the handbook which includes precise details.

**Isabel McPherson:** End of the year concert went really well, they were the less stressful concerts i have ever conducted. Combining the orchestras was first my nightmare and then it turned out to be the best thing ever.

This year was a satisfying ending to the year. I will be excited for next year and be well rested.

We are going to pull up some instruments to RMS. We need to address sizes for cellos and basses. We are swapping 10 basses. And we just have to pay for the shipping.

Dave Holt: When do you need to pull the trigger to have this happen?

**Isabelle McPherson:** I need to do it before school starts.

## Orchestra Expenses in Anticipation of Increased Enrollment 2022-2023

Southwest Strings - \$900

- Swap 6x $\frac{1}{4}$  and 2-4x $\frac{1}{2}$  size cellos for 8-10  $\frac{3}{4}$  size cellos
- We pay shipping costs only
- ~\$450 per pallet - hopefully it all fits on one pallet, would like to budget for 2 pallets just in case

Krutz Strings - \$2500

- Swap 6  $\frac{1}{8}$  size basses for  $\frac{1}{4}$  size basses
- Upgrading incoming basses from 100-level to 200-level @ \$200/instrument
- Need to be palletized and shipped back freight - Quotes around \$1000
- They have actually offered to ship us the  $\frac{1}{4}$  basses first, so I can ship back the  $\frac{1}{8}$  in the same boxes
  - They may need to wait for 1 more container to have all 6 200-series at once, so we will take care of this in July after I come back from grad school

Wenger - \$1214

- RMS only owns 2 bass racks (8 slots) and needs a 3rd to safely hold all instruments that will be in use next year at a cost of \$993 + freight shipping
- If there is a handy parent or Eagle Scout looking for a summer project, this expense could be reduced to just the cost of materials (there are some plans online)

Total: \$4,614

Note: If 5th grade instrument interest stays the same, we will use a mix of violins or violas in 5th grade next year - students won't necessarily have a "choice" as everything we learn will be identical between the 2 instruments. There is a small chance we may need more ½ size violins but because those don't have to be put on a pallet they are easier to swap out later.

Alicia de Fuentes motions to approve the **Orchestra Expenses in Anticipation of Increased Enrollment 2022-2023** budget as presented.

Senthil Krishnamurthy : seconds

Approved unanimously.

**Jon Jow:**

Excited about next year, this year was a challenge, and we ended up all the music kids ourselves. So next year we will have a music teacher. The year ended really well. All our students performed in the MacAfee. I set an auto response of out of office for the first time ever. End of year concert was performed in the McAfee, our superintendent attended the band concert. The mayor attended the choir. It was really a good year.

We have the legal document ready to start the relationship with SUSD and SMB.

**Jason Shiuan:** Great choir concert with RMS, there was a little bit of last minute craziness. So all the choir students had to be tested and results came back negative. They had a great concert regardless. The AP theory had their last concert 2 Fridays ago. There was one student I asked if they could write their music out for jazz band.

A lot of marching band planning is going ahead and it will be a fun season.

Excited to receive the class of 2026.

Cecile Cohen-Jonathan: wil there be an AP music theory every other year for the enrollment ?

**Michael Boitz:** If there was a solid number of enrollments we would advertise but there were not enough students signed up for AP theory this coming year. That is why it is offered every other year. Can't go wrong with elective offerings at this school.

**Other Business**

No other business was discussed meeting adjourned 8:24pm.

**Summary of Motions**

Approval of May Minutes

Rashi Sanghi moves, Senthil Krishnamurthy seconds: motion carries with a pending amendment to include SMB nomination slate for 2022-2023.

Approval of June Finance Report and Presented Cheques

Alicia de Fuentes moves, Rashi Sanghi seconds: motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia de Fuentes  
Recording Secretary