

## **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, February 14th, 2023: **Minutes**

Attendance: total number of attendees = 14

### **Executive Board**

Dave Holt <b>President</b>	Alicia de Fuentes <b>Recording Secretary</b>	Tim Tang <b>Accounts Receivable/Treasurer</b>	Senthil Krishnamurthy & Ramya Vasu <b>CO-VPs of Donations</b>	Cecile Cohen-Jonathan <b>Parliamentarian</b>
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### **Music Directors**

Isabel McPherson <b>RMS</b>	Jon Jow <b>RMS</b>	Jason Shiuan <b>SHS</b>	Beth Nitzan <b>RMS Choir/SHS</b>	Michael Boitz <b>SHS</b>
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### **Booster Members**

Mrudula Prashant   Rashi Sanghi   Arnita Proffitt   Thea Widmer

Dave Holt calls the meeting to order at 7:30 pm

#### **January Meeting Minutes** presented by Dave Holt

Dave Holt asks all present if there are any comments regarding the minutes. No comments are made, then he asks for a motion to approve the January minutes as submitted.

Arnita Proffitt motions for the approval of the minutes, Mrudula Prashant seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

#### **January Financial and Disbursements** presented by Dave Holt

January financials shows we have a grand total of \$942,928

If we look at our Budget vs Actuals for SHS we can see our income of \$315,610 is inching up to our budgeted income of \$400,850.

The donations for WP/WG are starting to come in, and Winter Guard is looking good,

Money is coming in too for the SoCal trips.

Redwood Middle and in general SUSD schools are way behind in their program donations.

Dave Holt: Did you send a reminder to the parents for donations?

Jon Jow: Not this month but when parents want something to happen they pay, as in the case of the Disney trip. There should be cheques coming in too.

Dave Holt: 5th grade is starting to donate money.

Ramya Vasu: We need someone to find the person who is pushing donations there and have them join the board.

Dave Holt: We have funds slowly edging up in RMS.

Allen family have made a donation to fund the scholarship at Redwood,

Michael Boitz: They had two kids who went through the music program and they started the Allen Scholarship.

The following transactions have been noted during the month of January:

Transactions BofA cheque numbers 1056 through to 1092 and one cheque number 15329 for Comerica used to transfer money to BofA.

Dave Holt: Any questions, if not, we are seeking a motion to approve the financials as presented along with the mentioned transactions?

Ramya Vasu motioned to approve, Senthil Krishnamurthy seconded

Motion passed unanimously.

Dave Holt: We need an action item to reconcile the trips.

Ramya Vasu: We had a lot of corporate matching.

Tim Tang: You need to reconcile the corporate matching and check-in with Chris Schilling.

Dave Holt: Disney trip is looking really great. Tim, we need to add a line item for the Winter Guard trip.

Tim Tang: I think I do. I'll double check.

Dave Holt: Thank you to everyone who is working with the finances and sorting trip.

**Pancake Breakfast (PB) Planning** presented by Mrudula Prashant and Alicia de Fuentes

We submitted the Facility Use request form and the Liability waiver form to the district and requested facility reservation with Principal Louie too.

In order to comply with all required paperwork we need a copy of SMB's insurance renewal to be sent to Ms Alas in the District office.

Dave Holt: Email me to ping the insurance company.

Most specifically there must be the following language:

Los Gatos-Saratoga High School District, its trustees, employees, and agents, and the State of California, are named additional insured under all policies.

The certificate holder needs to list the District, Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District, 17421 Farley Road West, Los Gatos CA 95030.

Green committee wishes to set up a table to inform the community of how to consider going green as well as hold sales. What is SMB's position with this?

Rashi Sanghi: They want to sell reusable straws.

Dave Holt: In the past we had inquiries with drama and we said no.

Rashi Sanghi: I think we should keep it to the music program.

Mrudula Prashant: Unless they decide to send the money earned from their sales to the music programs then we may reconsider.

Rashi Sanghi: We will promote the green committee through our SMB PB publicity.

Cecile Cohen-Jonathan: In Outlook magazine's March edition there is a save the date. In their April edition there will be a piece written by our very own senior Shannon Ma.

Ramya Vasu: Are we archiving this?

Rashi Sanghi: Yes, we are archiving this.

We request the directors prioritise the program layout to facilitate the volunteer signups ensuring parents do not sign up during their child/ren performances.

Any Update with the SMB Container in regards to maintenance jurisdiction?

Dave Holt: SHS has no such container. SUSD has not answered. There is a place under the stairs that is ideal to store SMB stuff.

Ramya Vasu: PB is going green and we should look into that for bigger storage.

Dave Holt: We could have someone come out to fix the leaks, shipping containers should be airtight.

Ramya Vasu: It is a very old container, Titanic era. If we find an outdoor area then we can have an outdoor shed and make sure it is watertight.

Dave Holt: Those sheds are not watertight or rodent tight. So all we need is land.

Michale Boitz: There is a concrete slab that is not in use.

Dave Holt: I'll follow up with Greg Louie and Ken Geisick.

Rashi Sanghi: Concerts are coming up in March. Can we promote PB there?

Michael Boitz: Yes.

Dave Holt: The sooner we have the program the better it is for PB volunteer slots to be filled.

**Nomination Committee** presented by Cecile Cohen-Jonathan

I have people who will join. I need people to help on the nominating committee.

Dave Holt: I'm happy to recruit people but I'm leaving in June. We need you with younger kids to join this task.

Michael Boitz: I have people who I'm seeing may be interested in joining the board, should I forward them to Cecile? Just the last few weeks I have had people coming to the office to inquire.

Rashi Sanghi and Cecile Cohen-Jonathan: We have been promoting this on WhatsApp.

Ramya Vasu: I will send the list.

Dave Holt: All we need is someone who is interested to enter the data into a google sheet.

Action item for Cecile and Dave: Send link to SMB board members.

Dave Holt and Cecile Cohen-Jonathan are officially serving as the nominating committee.

## **Directors' Reports**

**Jon Jow:** I am meeting with Dave Holt and Teachers' Union Representative because of choir coming into the school day. We need clear language and see how this position is represented.

Dave Holt: Jon Jow has given me an updated MOU and I have yet to look at that.

Jon Jow: We leave in 5 days with 188 (band, orchestra & choir) students and 211 travellers total. Collecting prescription medication from kids is a lot of work and Ramya Vasu has helped a lot. We're grateful for everyone's support in making this happen - chaperones, volunteers, coaches, etc.

Dave Holt: I have done prescription drugs for 40 kids and it's a nightmare.

Jon Jow: We are actually travelling with the Lois nurse and she is bringing a friend who is also a nurse. They will share the cost of the nurse.

Dave Holt: That is such a great answer.

Jon Jow: The actual performance in the park is on Tuesday and we return home on Wednesday. So, the trip runs from Sunday to Wednesday. It should be fun.

When we come back we have 4 weeks to prepare for CMEA that SHS is hosting. Thanks again to Mr. Boitz, Mr. Shiuan, and the rest of the SHS staff and students for putting on the festival for another year. We are very grateful!

5th grade is switching instruments between band and orchestra. So they are starting on their second instrument.

A note to all directors: Vicki Wyant passed away this past Sunday.

Michael Boitz: She taught music for 40 sum years, she was a music icon in the community. She would have a lunchtime choir where Jason Shiuan, Jon Jow, and Isabel McPherson sang in it. I was scared of her because she was intense. The kids knew her bark was bigger than the bite. She was old school and good in her intentions.

Jon Jow: She was like a Mum and Grandma to us and ready to serve in any way, like even serve meals to kids.

Michael Boitz: She had us over for dinner several times. She was a great force for music education.

**Proposal to Honor Mrs Wyant** presented by Dave Holt

In scouts we would offer an honorarium for such service. Does anyone want to propose anything?

Dave Holt: I would like to propose a motion to honor her many decades of service to children and families in the community and many who may have grown up to have children of their own. Thank you Mrs Wyant.

All in favor? Motion was passed unanimously.

Michale Boitz: She had muscular dystrophy and her husband passed away last year.

**Isabel McPherson:**

**Requesting funds to attend CASMEC conference**

My wishlist item would be to attend a CASMEC conference as well as support our students by attending their All-State performances. May I have the funds to cover the entry?

Dave Holt: What about accommodation?

Isabel McPherson: I will be staying with a friend.

Dave Holt motioned, Tim Tang seconds

Motion passed unanimously.

**Isabel McPherson's Report:**

We received the numbers from the elective request for next year. Choir will have 25 students, percussion 15, beginning band 78 and beginning orchestra: 66. This will eventually sort out to 50 students.

Intermediate Orchestra: 46 (this number is just for incoming 7th graders only it does not include auditioning 6th graders). This group will eventually sort out to 30 students.

Advanced orchestra will sort out to consist of 30 students.

Potentially we are looking to split the advanced band as we have 43 students. If we have more than 50 students we need to split.

Dave Holt: How many students does RMS have?

Jon Jow: There are 650 students at RMS.

Isabel McPherson: Prop 28 would be good to help have a teacher with an FTA (Full Time Attendance).

Dave Holt: A point to talk about in the MOU is the prep time each of you need.

Isabel McPherson: I have not had a regular prep time for a while. In summary, this year we had great numbers in the music programs and it continues to be the case for next year.

Rashi Sanghi: Do 5th graders have any performances?

Jon Jow: Not yet

Rashi Sanghi: We need to showcase them.

Arnitta Proffitt: May I ask if color guard is coming back next year?

Jon: Jow: That is part of our MOU too.

**Michale Boitz:** It has been an incredible few weeks. January started with a bang! It started with electives night. The school offers such great electives, it was fun to have that back in-person, each elective had info tables. The St Olaf potluck band dinner was a great success. Dr. Timothy Mahr mentioned that the international buffet dinner was the highlight of their tour as they looked forward to coming back to Saratoga High School. Our parent community is incredibly generous and helpful. We couldn't do it without them, it is overwhelming at times when everyone wants to help. 170 dishes were offered and yet people were complaining, wanting to add more dishes.

We are super stoked as each music program has performers going to Fresno, CA for All-State.

Last Friday night, Orchestra participated in the Homestead Orchestra Festival. Thank you Cecile for your time and feeding the kids pizza.

**Beth Nitzan:** Choir had a fun night last Thursday. We went to California Theatre in San Jose to see 'Falstaff' by Verdi. They were superb. This Thursday kids will be leaving for CASMEC All-State. The Disney tour will be coming up this Sunday. On March 9th SHS and RMS will have their March Choir Concert. Finally, March 10th we will participate in the San Jose State University Choral Invitational and it will be a choral exchange trip with Los Gatos Choir students. It's a good busy time indeed.

**Jason Shiuan:** We had our county honor band, they commissioned a piece to work with composer and conductor.

Mr Clark's Winter Percussion and Thesis performed last Saturday at the CCGC Competitions at Independence HS.

For Winter Guard I need to offer a shout out to Ms Proffitt for all the help behind the scenes,

Within our competition group we earned second place and the kids were disappointed, Russell Crow has integrated live musicians with Winter Guard. We have a violinist and a cellist.

### **Other Business:**

Tim Tang: I took the trailer to the shop and the estimate came out to be higher than originally planned.

Awning repair, service the generator, check brakes, ramp door, fix the jax comes to about \$6000

I asked for an estimate to replace lights to leds and that comes to over \$1000, we don't need to do that because we have generator to feed energy to our lights so no need to do that.

Install back up camera: \$1200

\$3500 to repair a gauge.

The replacement panel will be all white.

Maybe repaint the trailer.

Option 1: \$9 446 without camera

Option 2: \$10 629 with camera

Dave Holt: What is your opinion of the camera?

Tim Tang: Most people with this trailer don't want to back up.

This does not include fixing the ramp.

Tim Tang: I propose \$12000 to include the ramp.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02pm

### **Summary of Motions**

Approval of January Minutes

Annita Proffit moves, Mrudula Prashant seconds: motion carries.

January Financials and Disbursements

Ramya Vasu moves, Senthil Krishnamurthy seconds: motion carries.

Proposal to Honor Ms Wyant

Dave Holt moves: motion carries.

Requesting funds to attend CASMEC Conference  
Dave Holt motions, Tim Tang seconds: motion carries.

Alicia de Fuentes  
Recording Secretary