

SMB:

SARATOGA MUSIC BOOSTERS

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

Saratoga Music Boosters (SMB) Regular Meeting May 13, 2019 - Minutes

Attendance: Total number of attendees present = 27 including the following:

Executive Board:

Nimisha Mahuvakar	N	Amelia Shen	N	Sandy Miller	Y
Jennifer Wisdom	Y	Dipti Shrivastav	N	Beth Kingsley	Y
Revathi Koteeswaran	Y	Michele Loconzolo	Y		
Annie Ying	Y	Jane Graham	Y		

Music Directors:

Michael Boitz	Y	Jason Shiuan	Y	Andrew Ford	Y
Jon Jow	Y			Isabel McPherson	Y

Special guests SUSD Superintendent Nancy Johnson and Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Roberta Zarea arrived at approximately 7:20 pm to be part of the Elementary Band Proposal agenda item

Location: Wisdom residence

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:58 pm by Co-President Jennifer Wisdom

Welcome:

- Attendees introduced themselves

Minutes:

- Minutes presented by Michele Loconzolo
- April 2019 minutes were circulated prior to May meeting
- Motion to approve April 2019 meeting minutes made by Susan Nakahira. Seconded by Jane Graham. Minutes approved.

Presenting and Voting of 2019-2020 Board:

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- Presented by Jane Graham
- Nominees posted on SMB website per by-laws
- SHS Orchestra, VP Membership and RMS Color Guard Liaison positions remain open. Elementary and RMS Orchestra volunteer needs will be re-visited in the fall.

PROPOSED SARATOGA MUSIC BOOSTERS OFFICERS 2019/2020 EXECUTIVE BOARD – May 13 2019	
President	Nimisha Mahuvakar Jane Graham
VP Membership	OPEN
VP Fundraising	Deepti Shrivastav
Recording Secretary	Michele Loconzolo Yvonne Linney
Treasurer	Revathi Koteeswaran
Parliamentarian*	Sandy Miller
Auditor*	Amelia Shen
COMMUNICATION	
Corresponding Secretary	Priya Rajan
Publicity	Amelia Shen Ruchi Joshi
Webmaster	Angela Kwan
FINANCE	
Trip Financial Coordinator	OPEN
Program Receivables – SHS	Naomi Wong
Program Receivables – SUSD	Naomi Wong
SMB Merchandising	Lorette Ma
LIAISONS	
SHS Band	Leland Mah and Phil Yoon
SHS Choral Program	Aparna Seethepalli Subha Podila Deepanjana Choudhury
SHS Color Guard/Winter Guard	Dan Smith
SHS Orchestra	OPEN
SHS Percussion	Beatrice Boselli

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RMS Band	Rashi Sanghi
RMS Choir	Andrew Dimock
RMS Color Guard	OPEN
RMS & Elementary Orchestra	Review Fall 2019
Alumni Liaison	Sheeba Garg
FUNDRAISING EVENT CHAIRS	
Cookie Dough Sales	Ann Ison Meghana Palande
Pancake Breakfast	Priya Khemani Mrudula Prashant

- Motion to approve nominees for SMB 2019/20 board made by Sandy Miller and seconded by Michele Loconzolo. Motion approved.

Financial Report:

- Presented by Revathi Koteeswaran
- April financials were circulated prior to the meeting
- Winter guard trip expense reflected in April numbers
- Income versus expenses and budget reviewed for each program
- April Comerica checks: #13893 - #13923
- Motion to approve April 2019 financials including Comerica checks: #13893 - #13923 made by Jane Graham and seconded by Michele Loconzolo. Motion approved.

Approval of 2019 - 2020 Preliminary Budget:

- Presented by Revathi Koteeswaran
- Color guard and winter percussion 'phantom' budgets included; allocated funds will be adjusted once enrollment in the programs is known
- Pancake breakfast expense/income will be revised once final numbers are available.
- SUSD preliminary budget updates since April meeting presented by Jon Jow:
 - o RMS chorus uniform reserve reallocated to uniform expense: had become increasingly difficult to find volunteers to perform alterations on uniforms; funds will be used to purchase polo style shirts for each student to keep, which allows for a more gender-neutral option.
 - o Elementary strings program planned to continue for 2019/20 in same format as current 2018/19 year. Only one potential change: Currently, after school strings meet two days/week. Beginning in the Fall, the plan is to meet three days a week; upper strings and lower strings to each meet individually twice a week and then once as a large group, allowing time for different levels to work together. Search for after

SMB:

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- o school instructor is underway; position have been posted to district website as well as social media sites.
- o In response to an inquiry, at this time plans call for Andrew Ford to continue to lead RMS choir
- o These changes reflected in RMS portion of new preliminary budget
- Motion to approve preliminary 2019-2020 budget as presented made by Susan Nakahira and seconded by Naomi Wong. Motion is approved.

Elementary Band Proposal:

- Presented by Jon Jow
- SUSD Superintendent Nancy Johnson and Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Roberta Zarea, in attendance
- It has been the goal to incorporate band and orchestra programs into the school day for some time; issues with declining enrollment, scheduling, and reducing impact on instructional time, all come into play
- Propose moving beginning band into the school day; greater program accessibility anticipated, as families will no longer be constrained by before school scheduling and logistics.
- SMB contributions, such as the annual transportation expense of \$22,000, can be redirected to support and invest in the proposed in-school format
- Additional funding for the purchase of instruments and supplies will need to be secured; perhaps through a capital campaign?
- SMB approval of proposed changes is the first step. District will then pitch program to district principals and teachers in pursuit of alignment. District families will be approached to assess interest in the program, with a possible launch in 2019-2020 academic year.
- In-school band will meet one day per week, with a plan to add an optional after school meeting
- Proposed schedule presents a huge commitment on the part of the current educators; Jon Jow and colleagues are prepared for the task
- Seed money of \$40,000 estimated by SUSD to cover instructional expenses. Additional funds estimated to be around \$60,000 for the purchase of instruments - will need to be raised or secured. Program enrollment estimated to be 50 - 60 students.
- Michael Boitz shared that a prior legacy campaign had exceeded its goal in donations; the greater community had shown generosity in the past, optimistic that a similar campaign to fund this program will be successful. *Designated giving and gift in kind* may offer additional boost to securing instruments for the program.
- A total of \$31,825, including transportation cost of \$22,000, is allocated in the preliminary budget for 5th grade band at present
- Successful implementation and outcome of in-school band program will facilitate future transitioning of orchestra and choral programs into the school day

SMB:

SARATOGA MUSIC BOOSTERS

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- Motion to approve moving forward and supporting the proposed 5th grade in school day band program made by Susan Nakahira and seconded by Jane Graham. Motion is approved.

Membership:

- Presented by Beth Kingsley
- Membership has passed its revised goal of \$110,000 and now sits at \$110,163

Pancake Breakfast:

- Presented by Sarah Hung
- Silent auction raised approximately \$9400; this was very successful and benefited from various alumni donations
- Total net profit currently sits at \$28,248, up about \$3000 from last year even though our sponsorships were down about \$3000 from 2018.
- Increase in raffle tickets sales attributed to adding students to the parent volunteers walking around event selling tickets; may suggest friendly competition to encourage volunteers to out-sell each other
- A shout out to the Silent Auction Chairpersons – this is a really big job. The auction table was moved into the quad area, which provided greater visibility than previous years. There was some confusion at the closing of the auction as bidding time was extended by five minutes. No items were discounted to generate bids, as had been necessary last year, which helped increase revenue.
- Thanks to Mrs. Hasegawa, alumni had been emailed about this year's event. Sheeba Garg will be stepping in as alumni liaison next year and hope to expand alumni presence at this and other events
- It was noted that the new student performance format allowed for greater exposure to all music ensembles and ran particularly smoothly
- The help and support of all volunteers was greatly appreciated!

Directors' Reports

Isabel McPherson:

- Band and orchestra mini-tour was good experience for the students. Students were awarded the Esprit de Corps Award for respect and composure in all their interactions with event organizers, support staff, performance attendees, parents, and other students. Good citizenship is valued above all else in Saratoga Music programs.
- Students had fun at Six Flags after the performance.
- End of year concerts are coming up

Jon Jow:

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SARATOGA MUSIC BOOSTERS

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- Orchestra and band students had a fantastic Mini-Tour to Music in the Parks and Six Flags, bringing home six trophies among the three groups:
 - o Vivace Strings - Third Place Class AA Jr. High/M.S. Strings
 - o Chamber Strings - First Place Class AA Jr. High/M.S. Strings
 - o Combined Concert & Symphonic Band - First Place Class AA Jr. High/M.S. Band
 - o Chamber Strings - Top Jr. High/M.S. Strings
 - o Combined Concert & Symphonic Band - Top Jr. High/M.S. Band
 - o Esprit De Corps Award - only award that truly mattered as this is feedback on how students treat everyone involved, from chaperons and bus drivers
- Thank you to parent leads and everyone's energy and volunteerism for another fantastic Pancake Breakfast! RMS had so much fun performing, and the small changes made this year really made the event "pop." What a great showing of this annual community event. Congratulations to all.
- Looking forward to this upcoming Saturday's Jazz Cabaret in the SHS Quad. Please join us for performances from choirs and jazz bands. Can't wait to see the outside translation of this traditionally-indoor event.
- Upcoming RMS Spring Concerts are all during Memorial Day week (Bands and Guard on Tuesday, 5/28, Jazz and Percussion on Wednesday, 5/29, Strings on Thursday, 5/30, Choir on Friday, 5/31).
- Please consider sending emails of thanks to SUSD once the in-school beginning band process is in place; and once band is successful, follow up with emails advocating for similar school day programs for orchestra and choir
- Thank you all so much for another great year. We are so appreciative for all of your support and advocacy throughout the year!

Jason Shiuan:

- Combined jazz band performance, with Homestead High School, at the Tabard Theater was a success. Students experienced performing with professional sound and lighting support. Would like to repeat this event next year.
- Pancake breakfast went very smoothly. Director of Bands at Stanford University was "blown away" by the performances and events at pancake breakfast; his child is a 5th grade band student at Foothill Elementary. Feedback from those in the industry means a lot.
- Individual and Ensemble (I&E) Competition took place last Wednesday. SHS student, Gino Prasad created the event as part of the Leadership Through Service program. Competition included a professional judge and featured 12 solo or ensemble group performances.
- Saratoga Wine Stroll was Saturday. Jazz combo, comprised of seven students, performed in front of the Saratoga Book-Go-Round. The Jazz group performance has served as a means to attract people to the Book Go Round, which is located away from the main downtown Wine Stroll area.

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Andrew Ford:

- Led pit orchestra for the Sound of Music production at SHS. Pit orchestra is comprised of 30 orchestra and band students. Students played so well, an audience member assumed SHS offered a Pit Orchestra class. SMB's support of the greater arts community is greatly appreciated; of which the pit orchestra is a fine example.
- To recap as missed the April meeting: color guard had an outstanding showing in Dayton. Varsity ranked 16th out of the national/international groups that competed.
- Choir has been preparing for the upcoming weeks since February. Several performances are scheduled over next several weeks – concerts, jazz cab, etc.
- Jazz Cab this weekend after a year hiatus. Planned to hold event in the quad under the stars, however forecasted rain may force event to be held indoors (new music building)
- Volunteers are needed for Jazz Cab; email was sent today.
- Tickets available for purchase online or at the door. Ticket price will remain the same for at the door purchases to encourage attendance.
- Will advertise event to alumni through email this week – want to encourage broad attendance from students, families, community etc. All welcome
- Choir will sing with Foreigner at Mountain Winery Saturday, June 15th. This will be the third time SHS choir has sung back-up for the band. Due to venue limitations, a limited number of students are invited to participate; seniors and upperclassmen given priority.

Michael Boitz:

- Preliminary plans are in place for a 2020 European Tour
- Anticipated departure on June 21st with return July 6, 2020
- Proposed tour to include performances in Berlin, Leipzig, Dresden, Prague, and Vienna. Venues confirmed last week. Some performances will be competitions, while others are for cultural exchange.
- Intense rehearsal schedule to begin a week or two after end of second semester 2020
- Trips in summer are better for students as there are no academic responsibilities to consider
- World Projects received the winning bid as they offer a comprehensive package, customized to SHS group.
- Tour will be announced to students tomorrow. Tour kick-off meetings will be held on Friday, May 24th at 7 - 8 pm with alternative date of Wednesday, May 29th at 5 - 6pm, in M101.
- Chaperones will be needed; families can opt to shadow as with previous tours. Shadow opportunity is extended to alumni and their families too
- Class of 2019 students will be missed. Many are traveling far and continuing their musicianship at the colleges and universities they plan to attend.
- Humbled and grateful for 2019 parents' dedication, support and volunteerism

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President's Report:

- Presented by Jennifer Wisdom
- Thank you for a great year and for allowing me to be a part of the SMB community. It has been a great experience.

Upcoming Events:

This Month:		
May 17	Fri	Winter Guard Banquet
May 18	Sat	Jazz Cab - SHS & RMS Choirs and Jazz bands
May 21	Tues	SHS Band Year End Concert
May 23	Thur	SHS Orchestra Year End Concert
May 24	Fri	2020 European Tour kick-off meeting, 7pm M101
May 28	Tues	RMS Band and Color Guard Spring Concert
May 29	Wed	SHS & RMS Jazz Band & Percussion Year End Concert
May 29	Wed	Alternate 2020 European Tour kick-off meeting, 7 pm M101
May 30	Thur	RMS Strings Spring Concert
May 31	Fri	Marching Band Kick Off
May 31	Fri	SHS & RMS Choir Year End Concert
Jun 6	Thur	SHS Graduation
Jun 7	Fri	RMS Graduation
Jun 15	Sat	SHS Chamber Choir Seniors: Foreigner Concert Performance at Mountain Winery
Aug 1	Fri	Marching Band Leadership Camp

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Aug 2 - 11	Fri-Sun	SHS Marching Band Camp (no camp Aug 4 th)
Aug 10	Sat	SHS Marching Band Talent Show
Aug 11	Sun	SHS Marching Band Informance

Summary of Motions

<i>Item</i>	<i>Moved by:</i>	<i>Seconded by:</i>	<i>All ok?</i>
Approve April 2019 minutes	Susan Nakahira	Jane Graham	Y
Approve 2019-2020 SMB Board	Sandy Miller	Michele Loconzolo	Y
Approve Apr 2019 financials	Jane Graham	Michele Loconzolo	Y
Approve 2019- 2020 preliminary budget	Susan Nakahira	Naomi Wong	Y
Approve elementary band proposal	Susan Nakahira	Jane Graham	Y

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm by Jennifer Wisdom.
Next meeting: Monday, September 9th 2019

Respectfully submitted by,
Michele Loconzolo
Co-Recording Secretary