

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

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Regular Meeting in-person on **Oct 10th, 2023,** for **1 Hour 49 Minutes** Attendance: total number of attendees = **15** 

# Attendees

#### **Executive Board**

Name	Role
Alicia de Fuentes	President / Pancake Breakfast co-chair
Mrudula Prashant	Co-VP Donations / Pancake Breakfast co-chair
Nisha Hebbalae	Co-Recording Secretary
Bharti Ramaswamy	Co-Recording Secretary
Revathi Koteeswaran	Treasurer
Ramya Vasu	Parliamentarian / SUSD & RMS Program Donations Chair

## **Music Directors**

Name	School
Isabel McPherson	RMS
Jon Jow	RMS
Jason Shiuan	SHS
Beth Nitzan	SHS
Michael Boitz	SHS

## **Booster Members**

Name	Role
Anu Kankanwadi	SHS Color Guard/Winter Guard liaison
Vrinda Gopal	SHS Percussion liaison
Suzie Kim	RMS Music Programs
Meghana Palande	Cookie Dough co-chair

Alicia calls the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

## **September Meeting Minutes Approval**

(presented by Alicia de Fuentes):

Alicia: Do we have comments or corrections? Is there a motion to approve the meeting minutes?

**Ramya** makes the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by **Mrudula**. May the record show that the motion passed unanimously.

## **Update on September E-Vote**

(Presented by Nisha Hebbalae)

**Nisha**: The e-vote to approve the Winter Percussion trip budget was called on September 19. The e-vote was necessary, so we could approve the budget for the trip ahead of the deadline for the flight reservation deposit. **Alicia de Fuentes** made the motion to approve the budget, which

was seconded by **Thea Widmer**. The votes were tallied and reported to the board on September 21. There were 14 e-votes cast, 4 executive board members voted in favour of passing the budget. The e-vote met all the requirements (listed below) for motion approval, per the SMB <u>bylaws</u>:

- 1. A board member must second the motion.
- 2. The motion must receive a majority of YES votes from the ballots cast.
- 3. At least 3 members of the SMB executive board must vote in favor of the motion.

The Winter Percussion trip budget was unanimously approved by the SMB board by a vote of 14-0.

A huge thank you to Alicia for her guidance in conducting the e-vote.

#### Cookie dough update

(presented by Meghana Palande)

**Meghana**: Oliver has generated the report with the cookie dough order data. We have received orders, but not a whole lot. We will contact the SMB publicity team to get the word out and reach out to more folks on social media. We will also request our music directors to send out an email, since that generates a lot of interest.

Suzy: Can out-of-state folks place the order, and have it shipped to them?

**Alicia**: There were interests from extended families to order the cookie dough this way. This year we are not set up for this. Is it possible to let people order it through us and have it delivered to them if they pay for shipment? Do we have the infrastructure to support this?

**Meghana**: We can ask a family member to take the responsibility of placing the order, picking it up and then shipping the item to them. Cookie dough is perishable, and SMB cannot take this responsibility. Our team does not have the bandwidth and I do not believe the vendor will agree to this. I will follow up on this with the vendor and report back to the board.

Alicia: Any observations on how this year's sales compare to previous years?

**Meghana**: We are going with a new vendor, who offers more savoury options.

Alicia: Has this helped us?

Meghana: We are not sure. But we expect an uptick in profit in working with this vendor.

Alicia: Can you get an update from the vendor for the complete picture? Meghana: Yes, I will do that.

## Amendment to Bylaws

(Presented by Ramya Vasu)

Alicia: Ramya, please walk us through the amendment and we will take up a vote to approve it. Ramya:

In last meeting we proposed this amendment to our bylaws:

In the case of special circumstances where two authorized signers are not physically available to sign, a check can be issued with a single authorized signer's signature ONLY with the approval of the board. Approval of the board in these circumstances should be 50% of the executive board over an e-vote.

We presented this at the last meeting and there were comments and suggestions from board members in attendance. We made the recommended edits and corrections, and this is the updated version.

Section F:

In the case of special circumstances where two authorized signers are not physically available to sign, a check can be issued with a single authorized signer's signature ONLY with the approval of the board. Approval of the board in these circumstances must be at least 50% of the executive board over an e-vote if they are unable to physically convene for the vote.

Please share your comments and recommendations for edits, if any. If there are none, we can have a motion to approve the amendment.

**Anu**: Do we put a dollar limit on the amount on the check that can be signed this way, and if yes what would that amount be?

Alicia: No, we do not do that. This is because some check amounts are large, like we had this summer. If we put a restriction on the amount, we will limit the urgency of the large purchases we need to make and restrict potential business. We should have the ability to move things quickly without restrictions. The e-vote is the safety net we need to protect the organization and prevent irregularities. We always need 2 signatures for checks, but in these circumstances (summer and when the board is not in session), we will take up an e-vote to approve a single signature on the check. This way the board is made aware of why that was necessary, and we have done our due diligence.

Michael: I would say that this is a rare occurrence.

**Suzy**: Does the bank have a restriction on the amount in the check?

Alicia: There is no restriction from the bank. This is per our bylaw.

**Ramya**: The bank has a restriction on who can sign these checks, but no restriction on the amount.

**Nisha** makes the motion to approve the amendment to the bylaws, seconded by **Anu**. May the record show that the motion passed unanimously.

# **Reporting from Booster President Meeting**

(Presented by Alicia de Fuentes)

Alicia: Thank you, donation team, thank you to everyone who helped Richard file taxes for SMB.

In other news, I attended the boosters meeting with Principal Greg Louie on 10/6. I have some information of interest to us. Do we have an emergency phone tree for SMB events? We have a shake-up awareness event coming up. If we were in an SMB/music event, and if we were in an emergency, do we have an emergency protocol?

Michael: We have SLACK.

Alicia: Do we have a way to inform parents when there is an emergency? We need to have a tree of communication.

Jason: We have one for staff.

Michael: What if the internet is down and cell service is not working?

Alicia: We need to identify which parent has a landline when that happens.

Ramya: Also make sure that the landline does not go through the internet.

**Michael:** Let us send an email asking parents to provide their emergency phone number, one that does not need internet to work.

Alicia: It is a good thing to have, you never know when you need it.

Alicia: Not just SHS, but also RMS. It is good to have something in place for SMB in general, covering all music programs.

**Alicia**: Moving on to a fun event. SMB, do we need to be present at Trunk-or-Treat at SHS on Oct 28? This initiative was created at SHS. Instead of kids going door to door for candy, the teachers came up with the idea of having a single location where they can safely trick-or-treat. If anyone wants to do it, you are welcome to participate.

Alicia: Another fun event: the Robotics team wants your pumpkins after you are done with them for Halloween, to smash them. This will happen on November 3. That is something we can do to support other boosters. This is not music, but it is community news that I wanted to share.

### SHS Program Grant review

(Presented by Michael Boitz)

Instrument	Quantity	Note	Estimate Amount	
Cello	at least 6	6 cellos to meet the	32000 (includes tax)	
		current numnber of		
		students, 6 more bows, 6		
		soft cases (included).		
Viola	4 Violas, 4 Cases, 4 Bow	total instruments for SHS	\$16,600 (includes tax)	
		students, and have 2		
		students playing on		
		instruments too small.		
Bass Bows	4	Need at least 4 bows to	\$900.00 (includes tax)	
		replace the current		
		broken bows.		
Full Department Guest Artist C	onductor / Soloists	Since our program grant	\$14,000 is a generous	
run Department Guest Artist e		request in June, we have	-	
		had the opportunity to	flights in October,	
Ballroom Marriott/Convention	6 Hour Duration	One and only rehearsal	\$2,735	
All Guest Conductors/Artists w		w all professional		
SHS		performers/conductors		
		with our students.		
Percussion Instrument and		Includes All Perc and	\$3,800	
Sound Euipment Rental 12.19-		Sound Gear		
12.21				
Trombone	2	2 tenor trombone with	\$1,550 x 2 (includes tax)	West Valley Mu
	-	no trigger		West valley ha
Bass Clarinert	2	YAMAHA YCL-221-2	2550 x 2 (includes tax)	Music Village:
		(from Music Village)		ready to pick up
		(nom masie mage)		from the shop
Tenor Saxophone	1	1 Yamaha Tenor Sax	2729 (Includes tax)	West Valley Mu
Replacement cables, batteries,	mallets	Replacing aging	\$7,800	
		equipment		
Harp	1	Additional	\$14,000	Harps, etc.
			\$102,765	

This is the SHS program grant that we brought up at the last meeting. Before we purchase instruments that are requested here, we make sure the students really need them. First cellos. We have 44 cellists – which is a huge number for a school our size. We are currently borrowing/renting them. Looking at Isabel's numbers coming in from RMS, this number will grow in the future.

So far, the kids really like playing the cellos. \$32,000 is the estimated cost for 6 cellos. Next one is violas. We are short 4, which is a great problem to have. We would like to wait to make sure that the kids who signed up stick around. We are asking for 4 violas, with cases and bows. Quality that is decent but not expensive. We estimate the cost to be \$16,600. Bass Bows get damaged with use and need to be replaced at a cost of \$900.

As we know Saratoga Strings is going to the Midwest Clinic in Chicago in December. We are renting the ballroom at the Marriott for our rehearsal for a 6-hour duration. We have 4 professional jazz musicians who are flying in to work with us. We have guest conductors and soloists who will perform with us. The total cost for the trip includes these expenses and rent for percussion instruments which is further down.

We are trying to get SMB to give us a grant to offset the cost to our students. We have 50 kids making the trip and a few of them need financial help. Our grant request is \$103,700.

A lot of kids are playing the trombone. One thing that we are noticing is that more kids are choosing not to purchase or rent an instrument. We need 2 trombones, and the estimated amount is \$3,100.

Same thing with bass clarinet, there is an abundance of players. The cost to purchase them is \$5,100. This is the instrument that needs repair most often.

We need 1 tenor Saxophone that will cost \$2,729.

Replacement cables batteries and mallets: We have 21 kids in front ensemble percussion. There is a lot of wear and tear going from fall going into winter percussion. This cost is in replacing them: \$7,800.

We have 4 harpists, 2 of them in our PS orchestra ensemble. We own 1 harp. We do many symphonic orchestra repertoires which requires 2 harps. We need an extra harp which will cost \$14,000.

Alicia: This is good for informational purposes for the team to look at. But can you send the details to Rev?

Ramya: Do the parents know that SMB is buying the instruments for them?

**Michael:** I will come to that. When we had this issue 3 times in the past, we did a "leave a legacy" campaign. For Macy's parade we had 208 kids. We listed instruments that we need and had people sponsor whole or part of the instruments. We did this in 2021 for percussion. 24 of the 25 instruments came through that request. If the group feels comfortable, I would like to move forward with this idea and repeat the campaign this year. This group works hard to raise the funds, this is the least we can do outside of SMB.

We do not want the child to feel isolated, so we do not directly tell the child who is receiving the instrument, or their parents.

Alicia: This is in addition to the previous wish list.

SHS Program Grant Red	quests v6.2.23	
Orchestra Commission	Includes 6-8 minute work for strings and jazz combo, workshops/rewrites, flight and hotel for kickoff performance in December, etc. www.tonyglausi.com	\$10,000
Music	Midwest/Program Music	\$2,000
Midwest Clinic Director's Meeting June 9-12	Flights (SFO<->ORD): \$675 x 2 = \$1350 Hotel (June 9-12): \$675 x 2 = \$1350 Ground Transportation: \$250	\$2,950
Midwest Guest Performing Artists	Performer Fee (special rate for SHS): \$300/day x 4 artists x 3 days = \$3600 Hotel: \$250 x 4 nights x 4 artists = \$4000 Flights (NYC<->ORD): \$500 x 4 = \$2000 Ground Transport: \$250	
Midwest Cello Soloist Nov/Dec Workshop	Flights (JFK<->ORDSJC/SFO): \$700 x 2 = \$1400	\$1,400
Midwest Soloists: Cello, Violin/Electric Violin	Hotel: \$250 x 4 nights x 2 = \$2000 Flights (including seat for cello): \$700 x 3 seats = \$2,100 Ground Transport: \$250 Per Diem: \$400 x 2 = \$800	\$5,150
Full Size Viola x 2	2 Full Size Viola's x \$3,000	
Cello Travel Cases	14 x \$1000 = \$14000	\$14,000
Cello Bow Replacements	14 bows x \$300 per bow = \$4200	\$4,200
Concerto Competition Expenses	Adjudicator Stipend: \$2500 Adjudicator Expenses: \$600	\$3,100
Marching Percussion Equipment	Battery Equipment (Used) from Drum Corps: \$20,000 Rosewood Key Marimbas (Used): \$15,000 Update Sound System and Tech (Used): \$17,500	\$57 <i>,</i> 750
	SUBTOTAL	\$116,400
	Commission Reserve (SMB 3316)	
	Bancroft Family Donation	
	Total Grant Request	\$103,700
	Other possible funding sources: Tour 2022 Overage? Sponsor Campaign (Direct Request from Directors)? Fundraising/Donation \$	

**Michael:** Now to talk about program support for commission with guest artists. For the Midwest Clinic, we commissioned a string-jazz combo, "Starlit Fantasy" written by Tony Glausi, since jazz is a uniquely American art form. We are also performing "Song for UhmMa", which is based on Korean folk music, composed by Dr Soo Han that we are not paying for. This is sponsored by an organization called Project Imagine started by Scott Lang, which takes composers from marginalized background and has them write grade level music. Soo wanted our group to premier his piece. We want him to come and coach kids and work with all ensembles. Dr. Mallory Thompson was All-State in Minnesota. They only allowed women in Marching Band in 1978 in the big ten conference. Mallory became 3<sup>rd</sup> person only to hold a conductor position at Northwestern University. Broke the glass ceiling. Dr. Jay Kennedy her husband was the Vice President for Academic Affairs/Vice Provost at the Berklee College of Music in Boston. He composed the piece "Be Ever the Hope (BETH)" for her and will transcribe it for string orchestra and percussion. They are both coming to work with our students. They will not charge us any fees. Tony is coming next week and again in December. Thomas Lim is a 2018 SHS graduate and getting his master's degree at Julliard as a Cello rising star. He is soloing with us. These experts will work with all the ensembles here at SHS. All classes will perform both the Dr Han and BETH pieces. We cover the flights and hotels for them to come and work with us, the cost is about is \$14,000.

**Alicia**: This is cheap, considering we have people of this calibre. More than generous that they are teaching our kids. Mr Shiuan, does this number include the \$14,000? **Jason**: Yes.

**Alicia**: This is in addition to the other wish list. Do we have questions or comments? Do we have a motion to approve the request for grant?

**Vrinda** makes the motion to approve the grant request, seconded by **Ramya**. May the record show the motion passed unanimously.

## **Review of September financials**

(Presented by Revathi Koteeswaran)

#### **Cash Flow:**

	<b>D</b>	Saratog	ja Music Bo	osters
	<b>IJ</b> <sup>i</sup>	Cas	sh Flow 09/30	/23
	MUCIO			
	Actual	Actual	Actual	23-24
Name	Carryover	Income	Expenses	Actual
SHS Band	43,444	188,565	67,007	165,002
SHS Concert Band	0		692	(692)
SHS Jazz Band	0			0
SHS Winter Guard	8,000		0	8,000
SHS Winter Percussion	10,000		76	9,924
SHS Orchestra	0	72,260	20,854	51,406
SHS Choir	16,575	11,990	3,999	24,566
SHS Band Trip		0	0	0
SHS Orchestra Trip		71,125	50,510	20,615
SHS Choir Trip		8,175	7,600	575
SHS WP Trip		0	0	0
SHS WG Trip		0	0	0
SHS International Trip		0	0	0
SHS Totals	78,019	352,115	150,738	279,396
Redwood Marching Band	0			0
Redwood Ensemble	150	24,560	2,842	21,868
Redwood Upper Strings	0	11,980		11,980
RMS Color Guard	5,500			5,500
Redwood Chorus	9,625			9,625
RMS Trip/Tour	0	0	8,689	(8,689)
Redwood Total	15,275	36,540	11,531	40,284

**Revathi** We will start with cash flow for SHS first. Income is at \$352,115, expenses at \$150,738 currently.

Alicia: Question regarding the upcoming orchestra and choir trips. Have we made these deposits already and reported all the income for them?

**Revathi**: Everything is done except for 1 company match for about \$13,000.

Alicia: We are looking quite healthy.

**Revathi**: Next let us look at RMS cash flow: Income stands at \$36,540 and expenses at \$11,531, which is quite good.

**Alicia**: FYI: we do not have the last batch of checks. Jaya processed a huge batch recently. This does not have most recent numbers yet.

**Jon:** I see nothing in the RMS Marching Band category. Did it all get logged? There should be some income there. In the web store the RMS Marching Band numbers were all consolidated.

Revathi: I must go investigate and make the corrections.
Jon: Sure, it will be good to know. For the sake of my hair colour 
Alicia: Do you prefer the numbers broken down?
Jon: We want to see how much our fund-raising effort generated.
Revathi: Too late for this month, will investigate and report it at the next meeting.
Revathi: Finally, our benefactor matching is at \$104,000.

## **Balance Sheet**

#### 09-2023-BalanceSheet.pdf

Total Bank Accounts balance is at \$967,000. As the year goes on, hoping the expenses will come down. Trip income is parked in accounts labelled **6191** and **6194**. We will pull that out in relevant rows as needed.

Net revenue is \$207,890 in the positive.

### **Budget vs. Actuals**

#### 09-2023-BudgetvsActualsFY23-24-FY24PL.pdf

**Revati**: There are a few accounts that have actuals without a budget. I will send an email with the update later and we can sort it out. I will sort out small accounts with Ms Hasegawa and Mr Boitz.

Anything marked **4999** is not classified at this time. This means the revenue is in suspense and the amount there has not been allocated. We are waiting for information on these, to move them to the correct area. \$36,440 is the amount that has not yet been allocated.

Anything that is blank in this document, we need to figure out before the year ends.

**Ramya**: Question about RMS income: does choir have no income? We have \$7,700 budgeted. Have we not asked for it yet?

Jon: Perhaps we have not, we will check and get back on this.

#### September 2023 Transactions

#### 09-2023-TransactionListwithSplits.pdf

**Revathi**: This month's transaction checks are **1336** through **1373**. We need to review them to make sure there are no breaks before we approve them.

**Vrinda** makes the motion to approve the September financials and transactions 1336 through 1373, seconded by **Mrudula**. May the record show the motion passed unanimously.

# **Music Directors' Reports**

#### Jemal Ramirez

(Written report read by Jon Jow)

We are working on basics in both groups. We are sight-reading and practicing pieces in choir and hopefully soon in percussion as well.

We just started the rhythm unit in the book, "The Packet" in our beginning percussion class.

Really looking forward to getting those students in percussion on real instruments, not just the practice instruments.

In choir we are warming up every day and adding more repertoire to our daily routine. We continue to work out of the Kodaly Elementary 333 Choral Method book and reinforce that with the music theory book, A young singer's journey.

The door is always open in all classes if any parent is interested in observing.

#### <u>Jon Jow</u>

- We are grateful and excited to see the start of a new year of MESH with band students (the high school usually starts this as marching band season winds down).
- Marching Band has started! We just had our second practice this morning and students are picking up quite quickly. We will be having some high school help for marching band with the MESH program and inviting SHS students to perform with us at the Los Gatos Holiday Parade.
- Beginning Band is off and running and making great progress. We have learned our first five notes and chugging along in the book.
- Color Guard is ready to go! We are waiting for a final paperwork item from our instructor and then it is full steam ahead.
- We have instrument sectional coaches lined up for all instruments except bassoon (for which we are still looking). Thanks to the generosity of parents and SMB, we hope to continue bringing in these coaches year-round to give our students specialized instruction every couple of weeks.
- Trip update: We are making determinations of possibilities and dates around the beginning of April. We are aiming to offer some different experiences so that 8th graders who traveled last year have some new highlights, and that 7th graders who will travel next year will not have a repeat trip either.

Jon: I made 3 promos for Color Guard that we aired on GNN.

Jon showed the board the promo video.

Ramya: Do we have a Colour Guard liaison for RMS?

**Jon**: I believe it is the same as band liaison. Tista can help.

**Ramya**: I would like to put it on our WhatsApp group that we are kick starting RMS Colour Guard.

#### Isabel McPherson

5th graders finished all the band instrument mouthpiece trials, and I am working on taking down their instrument preferences so I can pass out loan agreements starting Thursday. Additional string instruments have been ordered and should be delivered soon.

RMS orchestras are chugging along, everyone has had the shock of their first playing assignment - essential in large classes. Advanced and Chamber are preparing for their Halloween-themed

lunchtime performance. Intermediate, Advanced, and Chamber have their music picked out for the December concert, and beginners are continuing to work on their fundamental skills. Orders are open for band and orchestra hoodies!

**Jon**: I must give props to Isabel. We used to do this together and now she owns it.

Ramya: Any updates on the t-shirt merchandise fundraiser?

Isabel showed the design to the board.

**Isabel**: This is our winning design. Designed by a 6th grader for orchestra as part of our fundraising effort. I also need a high school contact for our bass club.

Michael: I will send it to you.

Alicia: How many kids are taking up bass club?

**Isabel**: 8 kids in all: 4 6th graders and 4 7th graders

#### Beth Nitzan

Our annual retreat for Orchestra and Choir ensembles was a great success. We had a fun day at Saratoga Springs. Our Chamber choir sang the national anthem at the homecoming game. Unfortunately, I came down with covid. So, they were on their own, with help from Jason. They did great, worked independently and diligently.

Alicia: They were fantastic. Acapella was great.

**Beth**: Also, we have the final signup count for the choir Seattle trip. We have 27 students. This is not everyone in the program, but most of the participants signed up. Our Falcon Tenor Bass Choir met again on Friday at lunch. This Friday, the word got out that we were serving pizza, and we had 40 students who came and checked us out.

Michael: The room was filled with faculty and staff as well.

**Beth**: We have 5 students who have been accepted into the Regional Honor Choir, which is a stepping stone to All-State.

We are going to the WVC Invitational Choral Festival on October 20 at West Valley College. We will be working with <u>Dr Andrea Ramsey</u>, who is an incredible composer, conductor, music scholar and educator.

Alicia: Is that equivalent to sectionals in band?

**Beth**: There is no real band equivalent to this. Other local choirs come, and we perform for each other. We get live feedback from the adjudicator. They come on stage and work with us. This is like a master class.

Alicia: Is this open to the audience?

**Beth**: It is open to the audience, usually parents do not come since it is the middle of the day. But if someone wants to come, we can accommodate you. This is our first real performance, which is also a day before our fall showcase concert.

Update on Philharmonic Strings: We are doing great. We have had the opportunity to work with orchestra coaches. We are the biggest string ensemble at the high school. We have added a few managers from this ensemble this year.

#### Jason Shiuan

Marching Band has been full speed ahead. We had a great rehearsal today. Our first competition is this Saturday in Cupertino. We are hosting a Senior Night for all music programs next week. We will be at Foothill on the 28th. Our competition in Folsom is on Nov 4.

#### Michael Boitz

We will have our 1<sup>st</sup> concert exchange with Dublin HS Chamber Orchestra on Tuesday, October 17 at 7pm at the McAfee theatre. This is the only other Bay Area high school orchestra that was invited to perform at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago. There will be a dinner with our students. We

will meet with them by sections. I gave our kids our hardest pieces to play at this performance and they are meeting the challenge. The following Tuesday, Oct 21, we will have our fall showcase and senior night. This starts at 6pm at McAfee theatre. Orchestra and choral ensembles will perform 2 pieces each. We will then bring everyone to the Pierce Field stadium, and senior parents and students will walk the 50-yard line. The directors will read the bio of each senior student in all the music and guard programs. Marching Band will then perform the finale of the night. Band performs at 8:30pm.

Alicia: Will the senior students be in uniform? **Michael**: Yes.

Alicia: Can students in both orchestra/choir and band/guard change quickly and in time? Jason: We have it all worked out.

# **Miscellaneous discussions**

Alicia: Any other topics?

**Ramya**: 2 questions about elementary schools specifically. Do you have your own space at the elementary schools?

Isabel: I have my own room at each elementary school.

Ramya: Regarding Prop 28. Did the district update you on it?

**Isabel**: We have asked them. They need to create a committee to determine how to spend the money. We know community members who want to be involved.

**Jason**: I was at the band director's meeting last month. One of the directors said: when the proposition went thru, there was a lot of energy behind the proposition itself, but no energy behind who would lead it. It was supposed to happen in July, but the state did not have their act together. February is when the money is getting distributed. Other school districts are putting together a strategy plan for it and presenting it to their board to get a head start.

Isabel: Our district wants to know how much we will get before they plan.

Jason: This is backwards.

**Michael**: Many districts have spent the money based on an estimate. We need to get on an offensive in this matter.

Alicia: Do we know the number? Can we send it?

Ramya: Can we request that the parents be notified about the committee?

**Michael**: Jason has been sending emails. We have management personnel who should lead it. Unfortunately, things do not move unless parents push for it.

Alicia: I spoke to the SUSD admin. Their message implies that they do not know the numbers. Jason: They are playing it safe.

**Michael**: Livermore district admin asked their performing-arts teachers to resign so they could hire them back with the funds. They are finding loopholes like this. We have to lookout for that. **Ramya**: If you are in the SUSD meeting, please follow up on this.

Alicia: I would love to see the numbers Mr. Boitz.

Ramya: I have shared this with Jean Aldrete.

**Dongni**: I have a question. Tim asked this before. Does SMB have cloud storage for media such as pictures and videos from our performances? My husband shoots 4K videos at our events. These are large files and cannot be uploaded to YouTube, so we need a central drive to store them.

Michael: It is an irreplaceable teaching tool.

Jason: I download the content and save it on the school servers. This is a temporary fix.

**Jon**: I have a question: Before covid, we had legacy campaign for 5<sup>th</sup> grade band instruments and the donors' names were put on plaques. We need to follow up on that. We need to have visibility in elementary school offices. Do you know of any companies that make the plaques? **Ramya**: We can ask the school PTAs about this since they do it all the time. I will get the information back to you.

Alicia: We turned over one of the plaques that we have in the choir room and found the company name printed on the back.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51pm

## **Summary of Motions**

Approval of September Minutes	Ramya moves, Mrudula seconds, motion carries.
Amendment to Bylaws	Nisha moves, Anu seconds, motion carries.
Approval for SMB program grant	Vrinda moves, Ramya seconds, motion carries.
Approval of September Financials & Transactions 1336-1373	Vrinda moves, Mrudula seconds, motion carries.

Bharti Ramaswamy/ Nisha Hebbalae Co-Recording Secretaries