**Band Booster Minutes—September 4, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

**Band Booster President Nominations and Vote—**Wes Young, Vice-President, nominated John Horn. John introduced himself. The nomination was seconded, and John was elected by voice vote.The remaining officers were elected at the June 5th Booster meeting.

The slate of officers for 2013/14 is

**President—John Horn**

**Vice President—Wes Young**

**Treasurer—Deepali Bhargava**

**Secretary—Renée Lawver**

**Minutes—**The minutes from the June 5th meeting and tonight’s meeting will be shared via the list serves and posted in the upcoming newsletter for consideration on October 2nd.

**Band Director’s Report—**Mr. Tom Slabaugh gave an overview for parents of what to expect this year and passed out a calendar of events.

**Pep Band Report—Co-directors: Andy Miller and Armen Hovagimian**

The co-directors want to increase spirit this year, including encouraging musicians to dress up. September 20 is the first home football game. Pep band played at the home football and basketball games last year as well as a few la crosse games. The la crosse team really appreciated having the pep band play. Ally Weir is the music archivist for pep band.

Kathryn Miller presented information about options for a band t-shirt or hoodie for the Boosters to consider. The pep band will dress up and not wear the t-shirt at many games. To print 200 shirts with one color, Ink Monkey estimated $6 for each t-shirt and $22 for each hoody. One idea expressed for the design is a general logo in front, with a specific year’s student design in back. Another idea offered was to purchase a general band shirt, a polo or a t-shirt, that would be the same each year for pep band or for the spring trip, parades, and the Arts Festival. An idea expressed last year was to use student-designed arm patches to show the year on a shirt that would have the same design each year.

After some discussion, the Boosters generally supported the possibility of purchasing two shirts: one polo for an informal uniform for combined band performances partially funded by the Boosters and one student-designed shirt for pep band with the full cost covered by pep band members. The shirts should be useful at indoor and outdoor performances. The Boosters decided the student design for the pep band shirt should proceed.

John or Katherine will send a list serve out requesting parent input on shirt purchases and the choice between a t-shirt vs. a sweatshirt. The pep band directors will ask the students tomorrow about their preferences.

**2013-14 Calendar Overview**

8/29 Welcome Back BBQ, Marching, Pep Band Rehearsal

8/31 DHS Band Booster Car Wash #1

9/4 DHS Band Booster Sept. Meeting

9/7 DHS Band Booster Car Wash #2

9/10-11 DJUSD Elementary Band Nights

9/14 DHS Band Booster Car Wash #3

9/18 Pep Band Rehearsal

9/20 DHS Football – Pep Band Rehearsal and Performance

9/25 Pep Band Rehearsal

9/27 DHS Football – Pep Band Rehearsal and Performance

10/2 DHS Band Booster Oct. Meeting

10/5 DHS Band Booster Car Wash #4

10/5 Davis (Natsoulas) Jazz & Beat Festival – DHS Jazz Band

10/9 Pep Band Rehearsal w/ 9th Graders

10/11 Homecoming: 1pm Parade & DHS Football – Pep Band

Nov/Dec Rent-a-Band

12/5 Winter Jazz Extravaganza

12/5 Delta Jazz Festival

12/12 Winter Rhapsody Concert

1/17-18 Playathon (all nighter ☺)

Jan/Feb Honor Bands

1/25 Folsom Jazz Festival

2/19 Festivity of Bands

3/8 Coconut Grove

4/11 Concert Band Festival

4/12 Picnic Day Parade

5/6 Senior Concert & Awards Evening

5/10 Festival of the Arts

5/15-19 Spring Band Trip to Victoria, Canada

7/4 Fourth of July Parade

The Monterey Next Generation Jazz Festival is contingent on being accepted and on whether enough Jazz Band families agree to participate, since it will not be mandatory. Due to the timing of the Festival in early April, a rehearsal will be needed during Spring break. It is a phenomenal festival and is a great honor to be accepted.

DHS will take the lead planning the Festival of the Arts, which used to be known as Picnic-and-Pops in Central Park. There is much interest from Tom’s colleagues. He is working with the Davis Farmer’s Market to see how to make it a reality. The Festival would include visual performing arts as well.

Check on-line for updates at [dhsbandboosters.com](http://dhsbandboosters.com).

**Treasurer’s Report—**Deepali Bhargava. The Treasurer’s report will be provided in the next newsletter.

**Committee Coordinator Introductions**

The following coordinators were introduced:

* Davis (Natsoulas) Jazz & Beat Festival – Katherine Miller
* Car Washes – Gwynn Benner
* Direct Donations – Renée Lawver De Angelis and Ingrid Brust-Mascher
* Newsletter – *open* (Heather Bock volunteered.)
* Rent-a-Band – Co-Coordinators: Renée Lawver De Angelis and *open* (Jennifer Sommer volunteered.)
* Concert CD/DVD Sales – *open*
* Play-a-thon – Mei Yan Lin
* Coconut Grove – Co-Coordinators: Gurbinder Nijjar and *open*
* Victoria Spring Band Trip – Katie Horn
* Scrip – Jennifer & Rick Tan
* Publicity – Stanley Young
* Web & List Serve – Wes Young

Jazz and Beat Festival—Coordinator: Katherine Miller

Katherine introduced the festival and invited boosters to volunteer. The festival is a great opportunity to introduce people to the band program.

The DHS Band Boosters are working hard to provide another year of great musical activities and strong fundraising for our bands and band students.  The Jazz and Beat Festival, put on by John Natsoulas the weekend of 10/4/2013 and 10/5/2013, does both.  It provides an exciting venue for the DHS Jazz Band to play, and it provides fundraising for the entire band program.  On 10/5/2013, the Band Boosters will have a pop-up tent by the main stage to offer drinks and food for the many people who come to Davis for this unique event.  During the Jazz Band performance, the Band Boosters will also have a Raffle.

There are different ways for families and students to join in on this fun day and support our award winning music program.

—Donate an item for the Raffle.  We are looking for a Grand Prize, so if anyone has something they could donate, like a cabin they would like to offer for a weekend, that would be fabulous.

—Sell Raffle Tickets when they come out and at the day of the Festival. The Booster officers already applied to the Attorney General for a license for raffles.

—Sign up to help staff the Pop-up Tent on the day of the Festival.  (Look for the Sign-up Genius invitation to sign-up soon)

—Bring goodies, like cookies or other items, to sell at the Pop-up Tent

—Come hear the Jazz Band perform at Davis Commons (near Whole Foods) at 4:00 pm on 10/5/2013.

More details to come as we get closer to the date.  Here is a link to the Jazz and Beat Festival if you would like to check it out:

<http://www.natsoulas.com/tthe-9th-annual-jazz-and-beat-festival-beyond-the-beat-generation/>.

Car Wash—Coordinator: Gwynn Benner

Many thanks to the parent and student volunteers. We had a successful car wash. We washed a steady stream of dirty cars in two shifts over five hours, and we raised $765. The students have been washing cars for fundraisers since junior high and are experts. We have three more scheduled, and they are located at DJUSD parking lot located at “C” and 5th streets. The suggested donation is $10. Gwynn routed a sign-up sheet to attendees and suggested that even if you can’t stay, please drop off water and snacks. The students really appreciate it.

Direct Donations – Co-Coordinators: Renée Lawver De Angelis and Ingrid Brust-Mascher

The Direct Donation Campaign, or “Music to Your Ears” Campaign will kick-off soon. A letter will be sent to band families requesting a donation to support the music program. Diana Wilkinson volunteered to help out as well. Maintaining the quality and excellence of the band program requires new music, instrument repairs, new instrument purchases, music festival participation fees, and adjudicators’ fees. The school district has been able to allocate a small fraction of the total funds needed. As ever, the generosity of Band families will make the difference. While many band members and their families have already been busy with car washes and other fund-raisers to help cover trip expenses, this direct donation appeal is the principal means of funding the Band Program itself.

Rent-a-Band – Co-Coordinators: Renée Lawver De Angelis and *open*

Jennifer Sommer volunteered to be a co-coordinator. Rent-a-band is a way for students to entertain the community leading up to the holidays, have fun, and raise funds toward the Spring Trip. This is a valuable musical experience for the students, as it helps them learn to play in small ensembles and listen to each other with no conductor. This is a wonderful way for parents to be involved with the community and be aware of what is going on in the band program. The students rehearse with Mr. Slabaugh and play from a library of simple holiday music. Once trained, he will select student leaders who will be in touch with the parent coordinator.

Fred Lange Scholarship—*Coordinator needed*

The Scholarship Fund was created last year to acknowledge the high level of playing

cultivated by Mr. Lange during his tenure as band director and the striving for excellence expected from our students. Scholarship awards are used for private lessons, for students taking up a new-to-them and underrepresented instrument in the Band. More information is available in the November 2012 Newsletter posted on the website.

Go to DHSbandboosters.com to sign up for the list serve. All three junior high booster organizations have been sending out messages to ask parents to sign up for the DHS Band Boosters list serve.

**Spring Trip Update—Coordinator: Katie Horn**

The Spring Trip for all bands is Friday 5/16 through Tuesday 5/20. The Queen’s birthday is 5/19. The number one goal is for our kids to be musically educated while having fun.

All STAR testing and all but 2 AP tests will be completed. We surveyed 9th grade families and band families last year to inquire about trip preferences. The result was most wanted to go to Victoria. Overall, parents and students expressed support for band trips and that they liked the 3-year trip rotation cycle. 20% were interested in distant trips, but only 2% were interested in paying for those trips.

Please get on the list serve or let us know if we need to get paper copies to you. Trip forms will be on the Booster website. In a couple weeks, Katie will send an email asking whether your student will be going on the trip. Please respond yes or no. We will have a lot of early expenses, so we need a firm number of students. The logistics involve planes, busses, and boats. We ask each family to pledge to donate the amount they are comfortable with, up to the full cost of the trip. In addition, we will have several fundraisers to bring the cost per student down. If we don’t have enough pledges and donations, we will cancel the trip. This trip is likely to cost approximately $800 per student. Katie gave an overview and showed slides of possible activities during the trip.

Please get passports if you can. The students don’t have to have a passport if traveling to Canada in a school group or they have an original birth certificate and photo ID.

We could use a new banner, and we need two truck drivers. The student road crew will pack the truck.

**Old Business**—None

**New Business**

—All students/families registration

A link will be sent via list serve to gather registration information from each band family. The information is used by the Director and Booster President for needed communications. They need emergency contacts, primary communication contact(s), volunteer interests, and other key information. Tom cannot share school information with the Boosters due to strict privacy laws. Families must self-disclose/self-declare. You have the option to select “no” to receiving emails. Another option is to select only one parent to receive emails.

—Volunteer opportunities

One of the information screens in the web-based registration application lists the volunteer opportunities as shown below.



—New Fundraising Opportunity

John described a Monday night football fundraiser that other booster organizations in California have used successfully. He will discuss with the school district. Look for an upcoming list serve notice. We are hoping that each family can sell 1 or 2 squares over the weekend. If you can sell more than 2, that is great; we'll fill the grid faster!

The sheet consists of 100 squares with 10 rows by 10 columns. Each square costs $50 for the season. The fundraiser would bring in $5000 and pay out approximately $2000, so that the Boosters would raise just under $3000. Seventeen games pay out $125 per game. We would refund the money if we don’t sell enough squares to cover the costs. John discussed the rules in more detail. Monday night football starts this Monday. The first Lampost Pizza fundraiser is 4-9pm on Sept 23rd and it would be fun to watch Monday night football there together to see who wins. A parent suggested we also do the fundraiser for March madness. The Boosters approved proceeding with the fundraiser. The sheet was passed around to sign up.

—Coordination with Junior High Band Booster Organizations

John is organizing a band booster president coffee/tea to coordinate various activities. In the past, in has been challenging to get the 9th grade families into the communication loop, while respecting privacy needs. He is looking at ways to pass information from junior high to high school, in addition to other coordination needs.

Emerson Band Booster President, Matt Richter, made an instrument donation request. He is also interested in borrowing instruments that may be sitting in closets. Look for an upcoming list serve request. If anyone has an instrument in the closet, let him know now.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm. John noted he will typically conclude upcoming meetings within an hour.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renée Lawver De Angelis

Band Booster Secretary