

## LHS Rebel Band Booster Executive Board

October 11, 2021

6:00pm/Band Hall

### Board Members in Attendance:

Ashley Blase, President

Debbie Martinez, Fundraising

Rebecca Dominguez, Secretary

Olga Padilla, Hospitality

Kayce Sellers, A/P Treasurer

Katy Reid, Membership

Traci Tercero, Communications

Stella Clifton, Parliamentarian

### Others in attendance:

Steve Dojahn, LHS Band Director

Morgan Marin, LFHS Band Director

Jessika Ramirez, Colorguard Committee Chair

J Gonzalez, Colorguard Director

No Vice-President

### Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order by Ashley Blase at 6:10pm
  
- Minutes from previous meeting on September 20, 2021 were reviewed
  - Traci Tercero made a motion to approve
  - Kayce Sellers seconded the motion
  - All approved, none opposed
  
- **Financials –Treasurer Reports:**
  - **Accts Receivable**—Stacy Pitts was not in attendance, so no updates
  - **Accts Payable**- Kayce Sellers:
    - Bank Account Balance for LHS: \$81,934.05
      - Alamo JHS – \$ 7,947.29
      - Abell JHS – \$ 8,316.61
    - We're doing fairly well about keeping income and expenses at least even for the period
    - No change to the earmarked funds for the sponsorships; still at \$8,800
    - Total assessments collected: \$41,787.89
    - Fundraising: Kayce is looking into an alternative option for next year instead of SNAP with the exact, same setup who doesn't take the 20% from the proceeds; we lost \$1,838 off the top due to their percentage and fees (others may keep 10%-12% instead)
      - Saw another fundraising app that had a QR code to scan as handouts
    - Regarding Fall Colorguard vs. Colorguard equipment for coding (and to compare for income/expense for budget next year), since it didn't match up:
      - Verified if assessments are split up: of \$500, will \$200 goes to band/meals, \$300 pays for Colorguard equipment & supplies
      - Ashley will review the correct code from her first budget meeting
      - Gloves and socks will be included with the undergarments budget-line item. In the past, Quickbooks had a limit to how many categories could be placed in the budget, so a new category was not created for these items.
    - Kayce asked if budget money for hat boxes had been used: yes, but not for hat boxes (monies had already been used for other items)
    - Shane spoke with a person who would be able to order hat boxes for us

## Board Updates:

- **Memberships** – Katy Reid
  - No new memberships
  - Volunteers: Had someone volunteer this week that wasn't on the volunteer list;
    - Katy has sent e-mails to three people in the past few days, requesting their approval e-mail from MISD with no response;
    - Per Ashley: if after Wednesday, any volunteers haven't e-mailed their approved e-mail notice to Katy or responded to her e-mail, she will send them a final e-mail notifying them of their removal from the 2021-2022 Band volunteer list
- **Hospitality** – Olga Padilla
  - UIL Competition: Olga will get all the supplies and food for the decorations; Mr. Dojahn is checking with the school about getting the MISD credit card; Olga is having limitations on how many items she can buy at one time so we need to see if they can increase the daily limit;
    - Olga has a friend who is willing to help cut up/chop up the onion and tomatoes for hamburgers & will look into getting everything pre-cut, like the tomatoes, onions, set-ups, etc. from Whitehouse restaurant to save time
      - Will need to bring tub to place all dirty dishes in since there's no access to any sinks
      - Kayce will ask her husband for his contact at Whitehouse Meats to hopefully get a good deal for the band with the hamburger set-ups
    - Since there was no pushback from the last "gig," Mr. Dojahn suggested taking the easy route for the Booster Club and buying set-ups from Whitehouse by using the monies from his transportation budget since he hasn't used much of it due to limited trips (this will avoid the amount budgeted being cut next year due to non-use)
    - Olga asked about dinner: kids will be fed leftovers after competition like last year (they'll be wrapped in foil to feed the band afterward to avoid the hassle of arriving late then having to buy/order food)
  - For the MHS game the following week, the cafeteria will not be available for dinner, so students will need to be fed possibly in the patio area; if the weather is bad, we may have to feed them in the band hall.
    - Olga was thinking about possibly ordering burritos (something easy); band has usually only had breakfast burritos in the past; Ashley is open to any ideas Olga has.
  - Olga requested ideas for Area Competition if we advance to El Paso (doesn't want to feed them the wrong thing): Breakfast would hopefully be served at the hotel; the next meal would be served after performance; something that's easy on the stomach since, if we make finals, we'll need to perform again
    - Stay away from spaghetti and anything spicy
    - Use judgment since we know our own kids (hard when doing boxed meals; choices are limited)
- **Communications** – Traci Tercero
  - No new updates other than posting information
    - Katy had 17 new people volunteer as a result of Traci's post, which was amazing!
- **Uniform Committee** – Shane Dockrey (Samantha Burgess, Committee Co-Chair)
  - Shane requested the numbers for the hat boxes, as well as how much money was budgeted; she would like to know how much in order to negotiate the price (\$12/hat box)
  - Shane will e-mail Chris since he knows which hat boxes we need (we'll need to order at least 250-300), as well as being super-generous (he's a former band student)
    - Kayce stated there was \$1,937 left in the Uniforms budget from last year (Ashley thought that money was allocated elsewhere)
  - Shane wants to order more large hats/visors and head wraps since several kids are trying to "make do" with medium hats/visors and may even need some extra larges, too (for next year); there are also

popular uniform sizes that they are completely out of for both male and females, so as the band grows there won't be any of those sizes

- There may be extra money for those, but we won't know until February or March when Kayce can see what the numbers look like; we can re-budget and re-allocate it to the other places those monies are needed.
  - Mr. Dojahn informed the board that there a school budget for uniform monies so that he can use that money first for the hat boxes (which he considers part of the uniform), the visors, and the new wraps; MISD needs to pay for all those. Once they look up some numbers and talk with Chris, they need to make sure that Chris Walls dba Assistant Directors is a Vendor of MISD (if not, it'll take at least two weeks to get him set up as a Vendor)
- The hat boxes that are broken will need to be thrown away
- Debbie asked if the tubas ever get to wear hats; Mr. Dojahn said certain band programs allow them to wear berets, but LHS doesn't and probably wouldn't consider them; Debbie stated that some tuba players noticed at BOA that some bands' tuba players wore berets (and expressed interest)
- Shane asked if the drum majors could wear white plumes & white hip drops for the games, but his choice for contest: he will consider it and get back with her
- Pink-out game: Mr. Dojahn asked if we would be "good to go" as far as wearing the pink hip drops? Shane stated that she & Samantha could place the pink hip drops in the uniform bags, but Ashley stated it was too much work; she suggested that the pink hip drops be passed out by the section leaders during inspection (like years past) since they're all the same size
- **Spirit Sales** - Debbie Martinez
  - Doesn't have the dollar amounts for Spirit wear for September
  - Rebel Market will be held at Mr. Gatti's on Thursday, October 14th from 6pm-8pm
    - Can sell both old and new items; other boosters should also be there, including cheerleaders and Dolls
    - Teachers and students may go in with their ID's at Mr. Gatti's from 6pm-8pm
- **Fundraising** – Debbie Martinez
  - Whataburger fundraiser earned us \$905, but rounded up to \$910
  - Snap Fundraiser earned us \$9,190
    - \$7,417.90 was the total profit
    - Snap Gear ordered went as a proceed to students (\$65.90)
  - November:
    - Texas Roadhouse: We are still on track for the frozen dinner roll sales starting on the 5th; turn in monies by the 10<sup>th</sup> so Debbie can turn in the order on the 15<sup>th</sup> to have ready to hand out to the students on the 17th
    - Jason's Deli is confirmed for Wednesday, October 13
    - Grub Burger: changed to Monday the 15<sup>th</sup>; from 4-10pm; we will receive 15% of the sales
      - We need to have either a flyer or just mention that we're there to support the MRB
    - Premiere Popcorn fundraiser is also coming up
  - December:
    - Dickies is confirmed from 4pm-9pm (will confirm if the percentage is 20% of sales)
  - Band Get-togethers:
    - None planned at this time.
  - No further questions on fundraising

#### **President's Report** – Ashley Blase

- BOA: Began with 161 volunteer shifts

- Paired down to 142 shifts the week of event
- 44 slots were not filled
- 22 no-shows on day of the event
- Had 8 volunteers from MHS
- Had 5 volunteers from PHS, but they covered 8 shifts
- Checks need to be issued to each band (MHS, PHS) for \$64 each (\$8/shift, as agreed)
- UTPB provided 5 volunteers
- Had 4 NHS LHS volunteers
- Believes BOA can be run with less volunteers after talking with the volunteer coordinator, and will talk to BOA about primary staff (i.e., recommended four ticket salespeople, but there were only two windows, so this a position that can be paired-down)
- Believes it can be run with 85-100 volunteers, which is easier to fill than 160 volunteers since some slots can be paired-down: will have recommendations in the President's book for next year
- **Booster Club Name Change**
  - Ashley will contact Kelly Spencer about the name change via e-mail
- **UIL Competition is on Saturday; Booster Club will cook out and decorate the cafeteria for UIL on Saturday, as well as decorate for the Senior speeches;**
  - Kayce's husband Roy is providing the mega cooker by Schlumberger
    - Band dads will be helping to cook the hamburgers and hot dogs around 10am that morning
  - Jessika is on the decorating team for the UIL sendoff and we will get started on that tomorrow morning; meeting tomorrow to start decorating; she will provide all the items needed to decorate poster boards, etc.
    - Jessika will order gold stars from Dollar Tree to avoid any issues buying them
    - Ashley will talk with Cody's balloons about balloons, as well as centerpieces for tables; may look into possibly doing balloon columns, but they are kind of expensive
  - Ashley contacted Coach Hartman and the football team via e-mail about being at LHS for the UIL Band send-off; no response from Coach Hartman, but the football Booster Club said they will try to make sure they are there
  - Misty with The Dolls confirmed that they will be there to support the band for the sendoff; hoping people/parents will there for the sendoff
  - Saturday morning: Band Moms/Decorating Committee will need to be there at 12:30pm to begin decorating and assist hospitality in setting up food serving line
  - Goody bags have been made for the bus drivers by Ashley's mom
  - Kayce asked about goody bags for the students; we will need 167-170 goody bags that will be filled with random treats; Kayce discussed making little tags like "let's make smore music" on the bags;
    - No chocolate
- **Other Committee Updates**
  - Pit Crew – No updates/Tom not present

### **Director's Report**

- Newsletter—he asked if there were any questions?
- Intersession week: there will be two rehearsals at Grande Stadium; one on Tuesday evening 6pm-9pm and Thursday morning from 8am-11am
- Grading Cycle ends on October 29<sup>th</sup>; this is an important date because playoff games will be based on eligibility on that day
- Covid Testing—there has been some pushback on Covid testing for UIL area contest; the district's response is that if the parents do not want their son/daughter tested for Covid, then the parent will need to take the

student to El Paso, book a room/stay with them in the room, and then transport them to the contest then take them back home.

- Parents will have to pay out-of-pocket if they do not want their child tested
- There could be false positives (students may be tested daily) and if so, they will not be able to travel with the band
- Even if a student previously had Covid and even has been vaccinated, they will still need to be tested
- Any positive-testing student(s) will not be able to travel
- Testing will probably take place (due to high number of band members) Monday or Tuesday and would like to be done by Wednesday or Thursday;
  - If anyone tests positive, they will test again the following day
- Area Contest Hotels and Buses—Mr. Dojahn reached out to Greenlight Group Tours and hired the tour director Apryl Black from the upcoming Florida trip; she has booked two hotels back-to-back: one hotel for the males and another hotel for the females (there's not one that can hold 170 people); she's still searching for buses, the cost doesn't matter: his goal is to get the band to area contest
  - The district will not start searching until after the region level (which will be too late); he would like to be able to turn in quotes the Monday after region contest for payment to be made for Greenlight Group tours before departure
  - Ashley will get with Apryl to ask about conference rooms or banquet rooms to feed the band there
  - The band will leave after school ends the night before Area Contest on the 30<sup>th</sup>; will depart after school ends since it's only a four-hour drive and performance is right after lunch.
    - The band will leave after school around 4:30pm/5pm on Friday; Mrs. Marin asked about what time the Freshman needed to be at LHS?
      - The freshman will need to be at the HS like a regular band day (Mrs. Marin asked if there would be any push-back for pulling them out early?) Mr. Dojahn suggested picking them up on the way out
    - Ashley suggested that we do dinner at LHS before we leave Midland to avoid having to find a place to stop and feed the students; the freshman would ride over after school
      - As long as the band leaves by 6pm and we arrive to El Paso by 10pm-ish, that will be okay because there is no need to get up early and he will allow the students to sleep in a little bit
        - Ashley suggested they get a snack or a goody bag for students upon our arrival to avoid having to feed again/stop somewhere else to
    - Jessika reminded about the time change (we gain an hour)
    - Tried to confirm buses and hotels with Apryl via e-mail, but she hadn't replied back
    - He asked that if parents bring son/daughter to band, to please have them there on time, as well as for the students who drive themselves to school since only 60% of the band was on the field on time (especially if they have something to set up)
    - He's counting down the morning rehearsals already (five more early rehearsals)
      - If they advance, then only one more week of rehearsals
- Exhibition at Grande will take place between 8am and noon on Saturday;
  - There are only two bands as of now; will have about three clinicians; we will watch the other bands march so they will have a practice audience; parents will be invited to watch and the gates will be opened for whoever wants to watch that morning
- **Mrs. Marin:** stated the Freshman are really fiery & she likes it! They're asking the right questions; she's had a really good few weeks of rehearsals; even more than the last two classes, they realize that they're "a part of this;" this is probably due to the fact that there are 52 students involved in the show, which is the highest number of the three years that she's been here and of those 52, only five or six are in the prop crew: the other

47 or 48 are marching or playing an instrument in some capacity, or spinning a flag which is kind of insanity to her knowing that about 90 of those kids are doing this for the first time ever.

Her goals for the freshman group were to set up sustainable systems and procedures that they'll be able to buy into and carry on for the next three years and then if we can get that buy-in & have the upperclassmen really buy into kind of what we're putting out there, what all we see in the next few years, and so far, they like what they see; and that started with the juniors, and each year we just have better buy-in, so the Directors are really excited!

- **Mr. J Gonzales:** Colorguard is going good; getting ready to start winter guard season; he realizes it's a topic for later, but he would like to continue the relationship that has been built with Jennifer Henshaw; they've talked about bringing her out and doing design for the winter guard show for the spring (which he's hoping to discuss at the next meeting!). He's looking forward to that because the team really likes her; there are even kids who aren't in Colorguard right now but they're like, "If she's coming back, yeah! I wanna join!" We're creating some systems here as well & they are really excited. He would like to get some more buy-in.
  - Jazz Band is going, but they're so busy with marching band that they don't really have an opportunity to perform anywhere, but they are going to start Christmas music pretty soon, and there is a Christmas concert on the calendar that they will be playing in as well.
  - Mr. Dojahn stated that the Colorguard is going through a culture change from last year's Colorguard director to this year's organization; he personally likes the way things are going now; the way things were being done in the past...the board wasn't very happy with the way the director hired was running things; he believes it shunned a lot of kids away, to be blunt. He feels like they're at Ground Zero where Mrs. Marin is talking about systems where we built now for like two or three years; Colorguard is still kind of like at year one, in a way. They're hoping to have 25-30 people in the future. They're breaking down barriers: there's more boy flute players and more girl tuba players in junior high; it's fantastic to break down barriers like that.
- Letterman Jackets—(Mr. Dojahn) as of right now, we're keeping the rules from last year because nothing has been set down by the school
  - there will be a fitting for seniors probably once marching band is over, so more than likely, they should get their jackets in January/February
  - everyone else that earns theirs (non-seniors) will be fitted probably in May
  - requirements to earn a jacket: have to make the region band, have to participate in UIL marching band and UIL concert & sight reading; cannot have any unexcused absences, must be a member in good standing; student must make a Division I on their solo
    - If students already have their jacket, students will be able to earn another letter (about 500 are stored in the library right now); Mr. Dojahn has a surplus of letters, but cannot guarantee the right letters will be available
  - MISD is going with a different company this year; the jackets are \$10 a piece for the school;

#### **New Business**

- There was no new business to discuss

#### **Next Meeting**

- Monday, November 8, 2021 at 6pm in the Band Hall, General Booster Meeting to follow at 7:30pm

Meeting was adjourned at 7:17pm.

RHD