

## BAW General Meeting Agenda

January 8, 2019

7:05 Call to order: Cassee Biondo, Co-President. Board members present: C. Biondo, F. Biondo, Parkhurst, Loya, Berns, Silverstein, Hupe, Thomas. Also present Megan Hoelscher, Band Director at Indian Woods MS, for a special presentation.

1. Approve minutes from December 2 meeting—approved!
2. Shout out of Thanks!
  - a. All who attended Dine to Donate at Panda Express last month
  - b. Alumni and others who attended Alumni Pep Band last Friday
3. Treasurer's report—we have a balance of \$20,814 in the bank, and \$1280 in our PayPal account. Final revenues from the silent auction: \$3852, and the spaghetti dinner: \$2755, for a total of \$6608 total income from the event.
4. Past events:
  - a. Pep Band Season has begun—check emails for game assignments
  - b. 12/13 Winter Band Concert 7:00 Call time on stage for photos WE 6:00, SB & CB 6:15
  - c. 12/18-21 Final Exams
  - d. 12/20 5:00-9:00 p.m. Dine to Donate Panda Express 12210 W. 95<sup>th</sup> Street, Lenexa
  - e. 12/22-1/6 Winter Break
  - f. 1/4 Alumni Pep Band
  - g. 1/6 State Band Auditions in Salina
  - h. 1/7 Back to School!
  - i. 1/8 Band-Aides meeting
5. Upcoming events:
  - a. 1/9 Piano Festival Entries Due—we have no entrants this year
  - b. 1/15 Pep Band Black Call time 5:15 pm
  - c. 1/18 Pep Band Gold Call time will be posted on board in band room Friday
  - d. 1/21 MLK Day—no school
  - e. 1/25-26 Sousa Honor Band
  - f. 1/28 Viking View—8<sup>th</sup> graders visit SMWest—will need some band students and color guard to talk to the 8<sup>th</sup> graders about band
  - g. 1/29 Pep Band Black Call time 5:00 pm
  - h. 2/2 Regional Piano Festival
  - i. 2/5 Band-Aides Meeting
  - j. 2/8 Pep Band Senior Night—we need a non-senior parent to chair this committee!
    - i. Duties include—adapting football senior night program to pep band
    - ii. Ordering flowers
    - iii. Compiling the end of the year program for the band banquet
6. Director's Report Mr. Hupe—Overland Express is learning new music, next payment for New Orleans trip is due 1/11, all adults have been approved as chaperones through the MVP program.

Special presentation: Megan Hoelscher, band director at Indian Woods MS, gave a presentation on the need for a district-level resource specialist for Fine Arts. She and Mr. Thomas are working together to get the information out about this need.

Under Dr. Hinson's aegis, the decision was made to restructure the district office, and all resource specialists for every academic discipline were eliminated. Instead of resource specialists, instructional coaches were placed in each high school and middle school, and coaches were assigned to a few elementary schools each.

Resource specialists were experts in their discipline—math specialists knew math curriculum, teaching standards, and were experienced in teaching math. Fine arts resource specialists were artists and understood the challenges and standards unique to teaching fine arts, etc. The resource specialists were on the district level to provide cohesion in curriculums and to inventory and monitor the use of supplies and equipment in each school. They helped determine the budgetary needs for their areas, and were able to provide long-range planning in specific disciplines on a district level.

Instructional coaches are specialists in their own fields, but are expected to provide support for all disciplines at their site. Depending on the discipline, educational approaches are different for many subjects. Since it's impossible for the instructional coaches to be experts in every discipline, many teachers do not receive adequate support from a knowledgeable, experienced educator in their field. Instructional coaches also do not have any knowledge of or input regarding budgets.

Without resource specialists on the district level, 'extra' projects that can enrich our students' lives will be ending soon. The summer band program, which had been organized by Ms. Hoelscher for the past few years on her own time, will cease to exist because of the amount of time involved. District-wide band festivals, whether marching or concert band, should be organized on a level higher than band directors in the schools. Middle school solo and ensemble competitions will no longer be held, because they are also handled by band directors instead of a district coordinator.

Mr. Thomas has been working part-time with the district for the past 18 months, to try to handle some of the issues that weren't getting done, but it's not enough time to get the district-level tasks done. These extra duties sometimes pull him away from the classroom for meetings.

SMSD has 150 fine arts teachers who have no common curriculum or district-wide goals for their departments. No oversight nor cohesion is provided. No inventory control is practiced—we have musical instruments that are in need of repair or replacement, but no one at the main district office to advocate for the fine arts departments on the matters of budget.

On the athletics side, we have a district-level Athletics Director, plus AD's in every high school to help with athletics budgets, equipment inventory, repair and replacement and uniforms. Megan and Mr. Thomas feel that the fine arts should have at least one person in the district office to oversee fine arts operations, budget, inventory and curriculum also.

Please spread the word about the immediate need for a Fine Arts Resource Specialist in the district main offices. Hopefully enough discussion can happen to make the administration add this much-needed position immediately.

Adjournment 7:55 pm