



CUMBERLAND VALLEY BAND BOOSTERS
Cumberland Valley Marching Band
P.O. Box 173
New Kingstown, PA 17072

Band Booster Meeting
Thursday, July 20, 2023
7:30pm
CVHS Band Room

Attendance:

- Board Members: Ron V., Maureen D., Amanda N., Kristen W., Valerie R., Junie A., Nicole H.
- Other Attendees: Amy M., Dave M., Linda N., Kelly K., Laurie W., Kim V., Mario D., Derek S., Kirk S., Tonna A., Karen S., Nicole B., Bob T..

1. Call to Order - 7:33pm

2. President's Report

a. Status of Mr. Farkas and the Band

- i. Ron V. reported that the Board is trying to be as transparent as possible regarding the current state of the marching band and the Boosters. However, as of now, there are still a lot of unanswered questions about the season. We will try, though, to address any questions and concerns as best as possible.
- ii. Eric Farkas, the new Band Director, will be moving here this coming Saturday. Once he is settled, we should be able to get some answers and get a better idea of what the season will look like.
- iii. This is a very important time right now for the Band Boosters, with the goal of building a good partnership with Mr. Farkas, and also working to define the Boosters' roles and responsibilities. As has been stated before, our job is to support Mr. Farkas with running the marching band program - both the outdoor and the indoor parts of the program.
- iv. There are clearly still some decisions that need to be made about staffing and who/what the Boosters are going to fund. However, we need to wait for Mr. Farkas to make the decisions about who he needs and wants on his staff. He is the main driver of all decisions, including all staffing decisions.
- v. Additional information is needed about what positions can be funded by the District and what/why they haven't been filled in the past. Again, this is a conversation to be had with Mr. Farkas and the District. However, the Board feels that all available District positions should be filled (and thus paid for using District resources) rather than using Booster resources to pay for these positions. This will leave more funds for the Boosters to use in other ways to benefit the students.

b. Parent/Guardian Help and Volunteers

- i. **We need help! All parents need to plan to volunteer and lend a hand!**



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- ii. There are a lot of band parents, many of whom are at this meeting, who have been volunteering almost every week for years. Many of our regular volunteers also have students who will be graduating this year, and probably would like to watch them play at the games instead of always working concessions. It is time for more parents to step up, and also time for many of us to start recruiting fellow band parents to help and take over some of the bigger positions.
- iii. The band is almost at a crisis point for volunteers. If the Boosters cannot get enough volunteers to staff the concession stands, and staff them well, the School District will step in and will take over the concessions. If that happens, we will lose the majority of our funding. In addition, if we don't have enough chaperones, we won't be able to travel, and the first thing that probably will go will be the competitions.
- iv. **So please volunteer and help us to continue to be a great band!**

3. Directors' Reports - There is no Director's Report at this time.

4. Treasurer's Report

- a. The Financial Summary below, covering June 16 - July 20, 2023, was presented at the meeting.

CVBB Finance Summary July 20, 2023

Account	Balance	Available
Checking	\$18,002.94	\$18,002.94
Money Market	\$30,005.89	\$30,005.89
Cash on Hand	\$0.00	\$0.00
Credit Card	\$0.00	
Totals	\$48,008.83	\$48,008.83

Outstanding	Debits	Credits
Outdoor Staff 11/13/22	\$350.00	
KIDA Fees	\$75.00	
Remembursements	\$93.50	
Deposit		\$3,140.78
Totals	\$518.50	\$3,140.78

	Income	Expense	Total	Notes
Fry Wagon	\$8,723.00	\$1,465.25	\$7,257.75	
Other GF Fundraiser	\$980.78		\$980.78	
Other Income	\$919.00		\$919.00	Apparel
Other Income	\$126.58		\$126.58	Donations and payments
Echos Dome Fees		\$3,075.00	-\$3,075.00	Custodial Fees
Indoor Banquet		\$2,025.00	-\$2,025.00	Banquet catering
Administrative Costs		\$1,182.60	-\$1,182.60	Truck, bank fees, Paypal, Cash,
		Total	\$3,001.51	



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b. Financial Report

- i. There is currently about \$18,000 in our checking account and approximately \$30,000 in our money market account. So, our accounts are sitting pretty well right now.
- ii. We still have some expenses that need to go through including some staff and KIDA checks that have not yet been cashed, and a reimbursement that still needs to be made.
- iii. Overall, income during this period was about \$10,750, and expenses were approximately \$6,600, for a total net profit of about \$4,400. This profit was primarily due to the fry wagon proceeds. Other income that is showing was from uniform apparel that people purchased, although this is not actually profit as these funds go back out to pay for the apparel ordered. Expenses for this period included fry wagon supplies, as well as the guard uniforms that were purchased.
- iv. Other expenses that are coming up in the near future include maintenance and inspection of the vehicles and trailers, and other expenses that are specific to the show such as equipment, props, etc. .

5. Secretary's Report

a. June 15, 2023 Minutes

- i. Due to a computer malfunction, the June 15, 2023 minutes could not be completed and emailed to the Band Boosters.
- ii. These minutes will be presented at the August meeting for review and approval.

b. Contact Information

- i. Communication within this organization is vital, and how and to whom the Board communicates is an extremely high priority.
- ii. The Board is continuing to work on proper and consistent communication, including limiting access to information and setting standards for who "owns" and has access to the Boosters' different outlets.
- iii. As we try to streamline our systems, there has been a lot of duplication with emails and recently, as well as people accidentally getting left off of communications altogether. The Board asks everyone for their patience as we work through this process and figure out the best way to proceed.
- iv. If you do not get any communications from the Board for any extended amount of time, please reach out, or even ask your neighbor, to make sure that you aren't missing important information.

6. Committee Reports

a. Fundraising Committee

- i. Popcorn - The popcorn sale raised \$1,000 for the band. Great job everyone!
- ii. Fry Wagon
 1. August 9, 2023 - Winding Creek Back to School Night
 2. We still need volunteers!!



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b. Volunteers

- i. **We are in desperate need of volunteers for band camp and all of this fall's events!**
- ii. The Board will be sending emails, using FB, and will be sending flyers home with information about our needs.
- iii. It is easy to sign up to volunteer. The Board uses Time To Sign Up, an online volunteer management system that allows people to see all of the opportunities available for each band camp day, football game, and competition for the whole season.
- iv. Volunteer opportunities for parents/guardians include:
 1. Food Donations
 2. Feed the Band Helpers
 3. Chaperones
 4. Concession Stand Workers
 5. Fry Wagon Workers
 6. Committee Chairs
 7. Event Helpers
 8. Equipment Helpers
 9. Sewers
 10. Uniform Helpers
 11. The list goes on and on! Have an idea? Talk to us about it!
- v. Safe Food Handling Certification
 1. Currently, we only have one volunteer (that we know of) who has their Safe Food Handling Certification, and this is their last year with us as their student will be graduating.
 2. We are required by law to have at least one person at every game or fry wagon event who is certified. Otherwise, we can't prepare and sell food.
 3. Are you certified? Do you know another band parent or volunteer who is? Would you like to get certified and assist with this requirement for next year? Please see Amanda N. or any of the Board members for more information.

c. Echoes in the Valley - CV's Home Competition

- i. Echoes will be on October 28, 2023
- ii. The first planning meeting will be held during band camp, along with a New Parent Orientation meeting that is being planned. The exact dates and times of these meetings will be announced as soon as possible.

d. Uniforms

- i. Nicole H. reported that she and Jessica A. have been working very diligently to fit all of the band members with their uniforms for this year. Fewer than 25% of the musicians still need to be fitted.
- ii. With that said, though, we still need your help with uniforms! We will be in the band room almost every night during band camp from 3pm on, doing some prepping, folding and sewing of uniforms. So, even if you don't like to or know how to sew, please head out to the band room to help get our students ready for the season!



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- iii. If anyone knows how to use a sewing machine to make small repairs on different fabrics, the band could use your help too!
- iv. Uniform orders (shirts, jackets, gloves, shoes, etc.) are due soon. The forms were sent out via email, and paper forms will be handed out during the first few days of band camp. Please turn in your orders and payment as soon as possible.
- v. Neither Nicole nor Jessica will be able to oversee uniform fittings for next year. So, the Board is looking for a few people to start learning about the uniform process now so that we will be ready for next year. No sewing experience is necessary!
- vi. Nicole would like to thank the guard members and their parents/guardians for their patience. We are still working to get uniforms ordered and delivered, but it has been no easy task. So thank you!

7. New and Other Business

a. Chaperone Guidelines

- i. Ron V. reported that the Board is continuing to work on addressing the Band Booster chaperoning guidelines.
- ii. As noted previously, the guidelines need to align with the District policies and with how other organizations handle chaperoning. They also need to be streamlined and consistent.
- iii. Once Mr. Farkas gets settled, he, Ron, Dr. Blanchard and Dr. Rawls are planning to sit down and go over the band's chaperoning plan and we hope to focus on the best way to handle guidelines, clearances, accountability and expectations.
- iv. Parents asked about what will be included in the guidelines. Ron V. responded that the Board and the administration are looking to put together a rock-solid set of plans/instructions so that there is no uncertainty about roles and responsibilities. He noted that he doesn't want a parent or guardian to be able to say that something negative occurred, "because they didn't know better."
- v. One concern that was raised by parents was that chaperones for musicians and chaperones for guard members often have different expectations and duties. This led to a discussion about whether there should be separate chaperones for each group or if everyone should be intermingled on the buses and in chaperone groups. A similar question/concern was raised regarding the outdoor versus the indoor programs, and whether there should be different guidelines for each of those.
- vi. Additional concerns also were raised about the band and its lack of cohesiveness, with some parents stating that the musicians and the guard are very divided rather than one cohesive group, and are often treated differently. Guard parents further expressed that their children as guard members often feel left behind or forgotten.
- vii. After further discussion with parents about the best ways to proceed, Ron V. indicated that band cohesiveness and chaperoning guidelines are clearly two big issues that need to be addressed and that the Board will work with Mr. Farkas on them once he officially begins as the Band Director.



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b. Contact Information

- i. Several parents stated that they had concerns about contact information that was and is being collected, and who oversees that information. In particular, there were concerns about the medical forms that people submit through the cvbb.org website, who sees that information, and who the gatekeepers are for it.
- ii. Ron V. stated that neither the Board nor any of the Boosters see or have access to the medical forms or the medical information that is submitted on them. Although the link to the forms is on the website, the form itself goes directly to the Band Director, which in this case is Mr. Farkas. It is considered protected information and is not available to any other parents.
- iii. There also were some questions about when and how important medical information (such as severe allergies) would be shared with chaperones should it be necessary. Ron V. stated that these were questions for Mr. Farkas and ultimately should be addressed in the chaperone guidelines in accordance with district policy. The Boosters will work to keep parents informed as more information becomes available

c. Band Camp

- i. Details about band camp are still being finalized and clarified.
- ii. Parents should keep an eye out for emails and updates from the Boosters and Steve F., in the next few days and throughout band camp. Information also will be posted on Facebook.
- iii. Parent Preview - The parent preview of the show is usually held during the last few days of band camp. However, as of now, the time and date is up in the air. The Board will let everyone know as soon as we have more information.
- iv. We are excited to announce that there are quite a few new members in the marching band this year. The Board will be holding a New Parent Orientation meeting one evening during band camp. As soon as the details are available, the Board will let parents know.

d. Status of the Band

- i. Several parents addressed the Board about why two of the six competitions were eliminated from the band's schedule this year. They also want to know why the middle two competitions were eliminated, and if there is any flexibility in this decision.
- ii. Ron V. responded that Mr. Farkas said that it was Dr. Rawls who decided, and that Dr. Rawls said it was Dr. Blanchard who made the decision. However, no one has yet to give details or reasons why. Although Ron stated that he didn't know why either, he said that the Board would ask the questions and try to get some answers for the parents.

9. Meeting Adjourned - 8:30pm

- a. A Motion was made to adjourn by Junie A.
- b. The Motion was seconded by Nicole H.
- c. The Motion to adjourn was unanimously passed.



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The next Band Booster Meetings will be held on August 17, 2023:

Executive Session - 6:30pm

Band Booster Meeting - 7:30pm

Location TBD