

## MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 26, 2011 FINE ARTS BOOSTERS MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Jay Heydlauff. Members present included Mike and Natalie Haverdink, Leigh Adcock, Gina Gallus, Melinda Luzbetak, LeAnn Meehan and Julie Graber. Gilbert staff members included Greg Fisher, Chris Billings, Jenni Thomas, Wendy Nutini, Kaaren Rogers, Ashly Brown, Pam Vandenberg and Virginia Beecher.

Wendy Nutini was introduced as the new interim high school band director, who will be staying just until the end of the school year. She has a background in both vocal and band. She is currently also providing band lessons to 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Jenni Thomas filled in at the high school for a short time but is now back with her middle school bands; she also provides 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade band lessons. They are still short a 3/8 time band instructor, who would be in charge of band lessons only.

Mr. Billings discussed his plan for the middle school fine arts program, including the continuation and/or expansion of the jazz band, addition of a show choir, participating in OPUS every year, and eventually a middle school drama production, with possibly a musical at some point in the future.

Julie Graber stressed the importance of getting younger students to speech and drama events, such as Friends and Family Day or another practice or performance day. She thought maybe a special invitation to attend these event(s) might be nice. Mr. Billings offered early-out day assemblies for this purpose, but Mrs. Rogers reported that they had attempted that in the past and it was just too difficult to schedule enough students who are not in college classes or other classes they can't miss in order to perform at the assembly.

Mr. Fisher discussed ways for high school band and choir students to obtain more class credits. He praised the Tiger Voices group and wants to get more students involved in additional small group choirs. He discussed hiring an additional staff member to cover extra vocal music groups as well as individual speech, drama, etc. He stressed the importance of starting a Sound/Lighting/Tech club, which is already in the works. He wants to see more marching band, more jazz band(s). There will be jazz band this year, conducted by Wendy Nutini. There will be a search for a new high school band instructor, probably beginning in late February/early March, and a candidate who is well-versed in jazz, concert and marching band equally will be preferable. Mr. Fisher discussed ways we can lure old band students back, including offering them band lessons yet this semester (even though they may not be enrolled in band this semester), in the hopes that they will add band for the second semester. Band will remain at first period for this semester and next semester, to avoid scheduling conflicts, but may revert back to 5<sup>th</sup> period next year.

Pam Vandenberg talked about the SCRIP program, and how we need to get the word out to parents about how easy it is. A YouTube video with instructions on how to get started on SCRIP, with a link placed on the Gilbert website, was suggested and approved.

The October 7<sup>th</sup> Band Extravaganza (during halftime of the home football game) was discussed. See Gilbert school website for details, or ask a fine arts booster or staff member if you have any questions.

Wendy discussed the band's upcoming fruit/cheese/ sausage fundraiser and how she needs help with it. FAB agreed to help her with a team of approximately 10 people the day of the delivery (perhaps two shifts of 5 people, 2:00 to 4:30 and 4:30 to 7:00pm.) Several people said that Terese Baker may want to take over this venture and FAB members are willing to be scheduled to help. The sale starts November 7 with a delivery date approximately the second week of December. Mr. Fisher and others recommended that we double our efforts with this sale, and skip the butter braid bread fundraiser this year. He will tell FFA that they can take over the butter braids this year if they wish, since they lost their usual source of income this year.

The high school musical programs for "Bye, Bye Birdie" were planned out. Business ads will be \$100 for full page ads (approx. 5x7), \$60 for ½ page, and \$35 for ¼ page. Prime locations of back cover, inside front cover, and inside back cover will be \$200 for a full-page ad. Parents and friends can buy \$10 ads to congratulate the actors, or larger ads if they prefer. Several FAB members will check prices of programs at various printers, as well as obtain business names and addresses to contact regarding possible advertising in the programs. Teacher Linda Livingston volunteered to be involved with the creation of the programs. Students can be involved with the selling of ads, but need to have adults accompanying them. A flier was put in the October Gilbert newsletter; people are to contact Melinda Luzbetak if they wish to purchase an ad, or send the form and payment to the FAB post office box.

FAB generally provides refreshments at intermission during the Friday and Saturday performances of the musical. Gina Gallus will order cookies again from Fareway; Melinda has the napkins; Gina has the thermal coolers for drinks. We will have a donation basket near the refreshments.

Mike Haverdink gave a brief financial report. He handed out financial summaries to everyone. He reported that we have not been paid our share of the SCRIP monies for the past 2 years. Johna Clancy will be notified of this. We already have \$2,875 in memberships this fall, which is as much as we received for the whole 2009/2010 schoolyear. We will put up a table before and after the musical, and at intermission, to elicit more memberships.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm. Next meeting is Monday, October 24 at 7:00pm in the GHS teacher's lounge.