Glenbrook North High School

Band Parents Organization Board Meeting Minutes

8/25/25 Minutes

Call to Order at 7:03pm

Attendance:

BPO Board: Betsy Decker, Cecile DeLeon, Erica Sokolowski, Pete Herr, Eva Footlik, Kim Sheedy, Wendy Latash, Michael Latash, Stephanie Cohen, Rob Strickler, Cissy Furusho, Steve Hodgin, Michelle Brown

Student Band Staff: Harrison Cohen

Band Directors: Alex Baxmeyer & Dan Briggs

Approval of past minutes: Motioned by Wendy, seconded by Shelli.

Guest: Susan Pipal - Travel Agent

- 7 spots left for students to join trip
- Chaperones Set - 5 chaperones committed
- Concerts - March 22nd near Seville, March 24th near Cadiz
- Guest: Susan Pipal - Travel Agent sue@blueprinttours.com
- https://blueprinttours.wetravel.com/trips/gbn-band-spain-and-portugal-2025-26-tour-blueprint-tours-inc-53269720

Student Band President (Harrison Cohen)

- Excited to be band president this year
- Freshman class is big and outstanding, very enthusiastic and have been participating and building a great community (going to Culvers after practice)
- Corn Sale coming up

Band Directors (Daniel Briggs & Alex Baxmeyer)

- Summer was great!
- Andre and Harrison have been great leaders and everyone has been great at receiving feedback
- Will touch base and debrief after Marching Band season to review the schedule changes with Band Camp and plans for going forward
- Tue/Th rehearsals have been going well, working on polishing and building the show
- Lancer/Joust Competition on 9/6 - Planning to bring 3 songs; performing around 5:30pm
- Will need to load trucks for competitions on Friday nights (all after football halftime shows) and will need chaperones/helpers to supervise kids. All competitions this year follow a Friday night game, Saturday contest.
- Jazz Auditions are done - kids did great, both Jazz Bands are set (lab and ensemble)

BPO Band President (Betsy Decker)

- Open House/Parent Night - Betsy and Pete will be there, if you can stop by and help at table while your kid has an SRT, that would be great - will have QR code to join, advertising corn sale, magnets

BPO Board Reports/Transitions

Financial Report and Budget (Pete Herr)

- Financial Audit of last fiscal completed on August 24th with Pete Herr, Rob Strickler, Steve Hodgin, and Betsy Decker. Things look good.
- Current numbers:
    - Checking balance: $7,155.27
    - Savings balance: $15,656.61 (includes interest of $77.71 earned for month of June & July)
- Settled with Aaron Kaplan (paid by BPO),
- School picked up costs for Color Guard and Kevin Ray (which BPO has paid for

in the past)

- Will have budget to review by mid-October

Fundraising/External Projects (Erica Sokolowski & Michael Latash)

- Corn Sale - October 5, 10am-2pm
- Gift Coupon Book - has them physically here, will need to teach kids what/how to sell so they can raise money for their trip
- Talked to School of Rock and Bach to Rock about sponsorship
- Studio Spin Fundraiser - Eva will plan
- Pretzel Sale with CTPO this fall
- Food Fundraisers - what would be good dates for those? Culvers on a Tu or Th after band practice when kids are already going?
- Bean Bar/Eataco - Wendy reached out to them
- Hornstash will be a sponsor, B&B are recommending Hornstash to students.
- Erica should contact Dana Millman in student activities to alert to fundraisers dmillman@glenbrook225.org
- Erica will type up a timeline of fundraisers to give to B&B

Hospitality (Cecile DeLeon & Mike DeLeon)

- First football game and competition coming up, Cecille will get snacks, clean out and fill coolers

Chaperone Coordination (Wendy Latash & Kim Sheedy)

- Game and Contest coming up - sign ups will come out for loading truck, volunteering at games and contests
- Dry Run Sign Up for volunteers went out already. Dry run will be this Thursday on the lot (not field). Parents should come at 7:45pm.

Communications-Social Media (Stephanie Cohen)

- Promoting anything that is sent to her, also promoting in local fb groups

- Needs instagram password to cross post, Rob will help Alex with retrieval tomorrow night

Website (Rob Strickler)

- Website
    - updated with new look & feel (Green/Yellow, merges to rainbow)
    - Questions:
        - add content & details to section/page about “being a Roadie” and “Football Chaperones”, “Competition load-ups”?
        - Posting Fundraising links?
            - Bronze level: "We’re With The Band” section of the website?
            - Silver level: banner? (Production vendor? — could use same vendor for sideline signage banners)
            - Gold level: truck magnet? (Production vendor? — could use same vendor, bulk order)
            - Trip level: t-shirt logo (could use that file for the LED sign)
- Show LED signage play space (WLED & panels)

Friends of the BPO/Spiritwear (Michelle Brown)

- Thank you to everyone who helped with the boathouse sale - B&B, Rob, Stephanie, Betsy! 13 sales!
- Spirit Wear Ordering Page is Up
- Friends of BPO - 17 friends, went up late on optional fees (options for higher levels), 4 families joined at the $100 level
- Will make a push for “Friends” at the first concert

Uniforms (Cissy Furusho)

- 12 kids fitted with uniforms, need to do about16 more
- B&B will have them sign up during freshman band tomorrow for an appointment to get fitted on W or Th

- Rob and Cissy will be there Wednesday after school
- Cissy and Eva will be there Thursday at 5
- Would love to train whoever will take over for her next year, this year

Marching Band Set Crew (Steve Hodgin)

- Thursday Night will be on the lot (not the field)
- Pit should be easier for set up this year, the tech/electrical has been streamlined, less to plug in and kids can be more independent with placement and set up

New Business

- none

Upcoming Meetings:

- 9/8/25 Zoom
- 10/6/25 Zoom
- 11/3/25 Zoom

Adjournment at 8:12 Motioned by Stephanie, seconded by Cissy.