Glenbrook North High School

Band Parents Organization Board Meeting Minutes

1/12/26 Zoom Minutes

Call to Order at 7:04

Attendance:

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

Student Band Staff: Harrison Cohen

Band Directors: Alex Baxmeyer & Dan Briggs

Approval of past minutes: Motioned by Pete, seconded by Cecille.

Student Band President (Harrison Cohen)

- Turnabout Theme - Chalet Getaway Video Reveal; don't need anything from BPO, things have been ordered from amazon and will unbox on Wednesday. Donuts from Dunkin would be great while decorating. Cecille will purchase and drop off around 9am the morning of turnabout (January 24th)

Band Directors (Daniel Briggs & Alex Baxmeyer)

- Finals before break moved auditions before break, audition results were posted last Friday.
- Curricular Band Changes - Have talked with other schools about how they structure band levels. Band 2 this year was very small. Moving forward, Band 2 and 3 will be single taught, but scheduled at the same time. They will learn the same songs and perform together. Band 3 will also learn and play an additional song with Band 4.
- Percussion auditions finished after break, freshman finished after winter break. One freshman got into wind ensemble. Some kids had more time to prepare for the audition than others. Percussion section can repeat audition if they aren't happy with their result. They will have new material so it's fair and can re-audition if they choose.
- Marching Band - Almost done compiling results of student surveys regarding

marching band. 3+3 Camp 5/27-5/29 (W-F) and 8/8-8/10 (Sa-M) or Full Camp 8/3-8/7. Kids preferred the continuity of the one week full camp. Both situations present problems for some kids regarding attendance.

BPO Band President (Betsy Decker)

- Freshman Night - went well! Thank you to people who attended.
- Google Folder with Roles - please fill out for your position.
- Need to start filling open positions for next year. Have some leads for incoming freshman parents
- Monday, Feb. 2 will be an OPEN/social meeting. Need someone to help plan it. Where? Could advertise it at the incoming Freshman Activity Night on 1/27.
- Feb. 19th Concert - Chambers concert will be virtual. Kids will record with new mics and will record videos/performance. QR code for donations can be advertised into videos or outgoing emails.
- Scholarship Committee - need to put that together soon.

BPO Board Reports/Transitions

Financial Report and Budget (Pete Herr)

- Current balances (as of January 12, 2026):
  - Checking balance: $11,753.50
  - Savings balance: $15,825.02 (includes interest of $30.15 earned for month of December)
- Credits
  - City BBQ proceeds - $87.81
- Debits:
  - Banquet (Hilton) deposit - $300.00
  - White Elephant hospitality - $27.70
  - Mailchimp monthly - $27.50
- Still working on EFC funds for kids to apply towards trip cost.

Fundraising/External Projects (Erica Sokolowski & Michael Latash)

- $850 from glasscard online sales coming soon
- Culver's Fundraiser - January 30th
- Lazy Dog - working on fundraiser for a whole weekend.
- New Form for School that needs to be filled out online for any fundraisers. B&B will find out if parents can fill out form directly or if it needs to be filled out by a GBN staff member. It takes 3-5 days to get approval.

Hospitality (Cecile DeLeon & Mike DeLeon)

- Banquet is booked.
- In contact with CTPO, maybe next year contract could be negotiated with them together to get a better rate for the 2 events.

Chaperone Coordination (Wendy Latash & Kim Sheedy)

- Thank you to Rob and Steve for coming to the incoming freshman night and to Rob for playing the drum! Wendy was there as well. Set up was different this year, school booth and PO booths were all in the same location (field house). Admin was thankful and interested in feedback from parents. Less intimate, hard to tell if we had more or less traffic. Felt like less of an opportunity to talk with people. But it was good to have BPO representation to talk with parents.
- Incoming Freshman Activities Night - 1/27 - Keep same format, focus should be on Marching Band and BPO. Will need 3-4 volunteers. Would be helpful to have info for parents with what to pay for when, how to sign up, get involved, etc…

Communications-Social Media (Stephanie Cohen)

- Nothing to Report, will post about Culver's soon.

Website (Rob Strickler)

- Working on sign for concerts/performances
- Looking into a management system for BPO or creating something to streamline a shared drive/system to organize information.
- Do we want to send out a BPO newsletter to all the Band Parents? Eva can create one and send out for the next few months and we can see how it goes.

Friends of the BPO/Spiritwear (Michelle Brown)

- Waiting for report on spirit wear sold.

Uniforms (Cissy Furusho)

- No Report

Marching Band Set Crew (Steve Hodgin)

- No Report

New Business

- None

Upcoming Meetings:

- 2/2/26 - Open Meeting/In Person
- 3/2/26
- 4/6/26

Adjournment at 8:17 Motioned by Rob, seconded by Erica.