

SSIMS Music Booster Meeting Highlights October 14, 2009,

Next Meeting Wed., Nov. 18, 7:30 PM

1. **Mr. Dawson** welcomed the parents and introduced **Erik Domaas**, Music Booster co-chair with **Gordon Brown** helping as co-chair and note taker. We need help with socials and fund raising efforts, thanks to Sari Mott, Jeep Fortuna, and Liz Dunn for volunteering to work tables during the parent conferences on November 11 and 12!
2. **Erik Domaas** began by emphasizing the shortfall in funding this year due to County policy changes – no student fees allowed, only charges for trip related expenses. This leaves a deficit of \$6,000 at the start of the year. Fortunately, parents have already stepped up to donate ~\$1,000 and the PTSA has committed to contributing \$500 to the music program (160 band and orchestra students + 70 chorus members). Bake sales and other fund raising events will be needed to meet the needs for the program to buy music and maintain the instruments. He thanked attendees for donations, and urged everyone to seek additional contributions. Please consider \$25, \$50, or more, or a monthly donation through the school year.
3. **Mr. Dawson** began by thanking the Boosters for their financial and outreach efforts – he also encouraged additional donations of unused instruments that he can get repaired. He described several successful instrument repairs (at very reasonable cost) to date, and explained his own instrument loans for students (vibraphone, for example). He wants to build up the program and asked that parents promote the music program to encourage new student participation.
4. **Mr. Domaas** recapped last year's fund raising successes briefly. **Mr. Dawson** said he favors the following fundraising activities: chocolate, cookie dough, and subscription sales.
5. The **Music Boosters website** (<http://ssimspta.org/music.html>) will serve as a news box: general messages, schedule and calendar of events, fundraising events and volunteer opportunities, and the Instrumental Handbook will be available as a PDF file for downloading. (Pending Item)
6. You can also reach the **Music Boosters website** link from the SSIMS home page – follow the links from "Departments" button to "Academics" to "Music" for Rehearsal Schedule and News and upcoming Notes. For regular email updates to your home or work, please join the SSIMS Music Boosters **listserv** (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ssimsmusicboosters/>).
7. **Loaner instruments** are available for a suggested donation of \$50 per year.
8. SSI **music folders** have been provided to the students.
9. This year, **practice sheets** will be sent home on Fridays: 120 minutes of practice will be required each week, and parents will be asked to initial the sheets each week.
10. **Concert attendance** is mandatory and this year **matching shirts and skirts with the SSI logo** will be purchased from Lands End. Contact Mr. Dawson ASAP.
11. Before school **jazz band rehearsals** (probably at 7 am) will be on two of three mornings (Tu, Wed, Th), depending on the student's instrument.
12. More information will be provided during class on the **honor bands, orchestras, and chorus** events occurring at the county and state levels.
13. **Dr. Alice Dillon** introduced the new **SSI choral program** and encouraged parents to pass the word on the new program. She reviewed homework memorization assignments for upcoming

concerts, and announced an **after-school chorus on Thursdays** for students whose schedules do not allow a regular class. She mentioned an opportunity to sell drinks at the school dance on November 20, 3 – 4 pm. Booster parents volunteered to help (Sari and Jerry).

14. **Music Calendar:** Tentative

Ice Cream Social: Friday, October 9, 7 pm – thanks for coming out to support the program!

DCC Advanced Orchestra Concert: Wednesday, October 28, 7 pm, Northwood HS.

Fall In-school Music Performance: Wednesday, November 25, 9 am, in the Field House.

Union Station: Advanced Orchestra, performance and lunch: TBD.

City Place (downtown Silver Spring) Holiday Performance: Advanced band, chorus, orchestra?, Wednesday, December 9, 11:30 am – 1 pm. Chaperones will be needed!

Winter Concert:– Dress Rehearsal Monday, Dec. 14 Call times to be published. The concert is Wednesday, December 16, Northwood HS. Boosters are planning to provide Bake Sale, video orders and Raffle.

County Honors Bands – practice 5 times and perform in December: All-county jazz band for 7th and 8th graders – audition Monday, October 6; All-county junior band/orchestra for 6th graders – auditions on Mondays; All-county band/orchestra for 7th and 8th graders – audition Tuesday, November 11.

Sweet Solos – Dress rehearsal (+ desserts) for solo and ensemble: Thursday, February 25, 2010 at 7:30 pm.

Solo and Ensemble – solo & ensemble festival performers: TBD – March 2010.

District Festivals: TBD – first week of April, 2010

- MCPS intermediate, second bands festival: second or third week of April, 2010.

Pep Rally – Friday before MSA test (15 minutes of music just for schoolmates).

Spring Concert: TBD, probably May 12 dress rehearsal and concert at Northwood HS.

Spring Trip – Music in the Parks, Hershey Park: Friday, May 28, 2010.

Music Awards Banquet – at Field House, humorous awards ceremony and food and dancing, Friday, June 4, 2010.

15. **Concert dress** – boys: black tie, white shirt; girls: Lands End white blouse, black pants or skirt or gauchos. Unique Thrift (at Hillandale Shopping Center) on New Hampshire Ave. was recommended. A Land's End order will be placed in October – notice will be sent home.

16. Upcoming **fundraising** efforts include (Erik Domaas): We need a Fundraising Chair, please volunteer!

- Chocolates or cookie dough or magazine subscriptions this year
- Bake sale and raffles at concerts
- Panera Bread night (Monday or Tuesday evenings); Cheeburger Cheeburger night (Burtonsville); Z pizza in downtown Silver Spring, a possibility – these worked pretty well last year

17. Need **stage hands** for setting up at concerts; talk to Erik or Gordon.

18. **Next SSI Music Booster meeting date:** Wednesday, **November 18, 2009** at 7:30 pm.

19. Musical Notes – Rehearsal schedule and News and Notes:
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/ssims/departments/music
