

CHOIR BOOSTER BOARD MEETING APRIL 7, 2003

Meeting:

Attendance: Aaron Olson-Director; Jean Krukowski-President; Theresa Dalen-Vice President; Nancy Parris-Treasurer; Susan Morimoto-Secretary; Barb Bostic-Board Member; Cynthia Overson-Board Member; Karen Santo-Board Member; Colleen Slice-Board Member. We also welcomed in attendance Booster members Beth Pogatchnik, Greg Meyer, Ron Overson, Cal Butteris.

Secretary's Report: Cynthia Overson motioned to accept the minutes. Motion was seconded and carried.

Financial Report: Need to pay approximately \$4100.00 for 2002/2003 Activity Fees to the School District. Nancy Parris suggests that the kids pay their Activity Fees directly to the School for the next season, handling it the same way all other activities do.

All 2002-2003 bills are paid with the exception of the bills listed on the Treasurer's hand out, which include: Bus to Totino; CD mixing, cases, art work, etc; Solo and ensemble costs; Orpheum bus; and Awards, for an approximate total of \$2200 to \$3400.

Anonymous donations of \$1,000.00 came in; Mr. Olson thought that should be \$2,000. Besides Mr. Olson, who knows whom these donations are coming from? We need to formalize a procedure to handle these donations properly.

The State has mandated that Booster organizations keep their books separate from the School District. If this is something we need to do, perhaps we should look into purchasing a program like Quick Books Pro to go forward. Nancy Parris will get more information on this before the next board meeting.

We received \$1602.00 from the Band for 2001 and 2002 Yuletide proceeds. Jennifer Gulsvig was paid a net of \$500.00 for her work with Show Choir this year. Our lighting bill for the Show Choir Spectacular was \$2344, we paid \$880, they discounted \$1400. We should send them a Thank you card.

Account Balances are as follows:

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| • 2002-2003 Power Company Show Choir | \$16,084.93; |
| • 2003-2004 Power Company Show Choir | \$ 4,542.00 |
| • Waconia High School Student Accounts | \$ 7,242.78 |
| • Waconia High School Dormant Accounts | \$ 4,374.57 |
| • Waconia Choir Boosters | \$ 3,163.51 |
| • Clearwater Student Accounts | \$ 2,821.56 |
| • Ron Larson Scholarship | \$ 509.95 |

This does not include outstanding balances in accounts payable or receivable. The Ron Larson Scholarship CD is \$3,073.34 at Security Bank, 3.17% yield, matures 9-3-03.

Cynthia Overson motioned that the financial report be accepted, Theresa Dalen seconded, motion carried.

Old Business:

Fundraising Updates:

Little Caesars: Karen Santo reported that this fundraiser has gone out to both schools and is due back 4/9/03. At Clearwater this includes only the 7th and 8th grades. Karen also mentioned that we could

make more profit if we did the Little Caesars fundraiser in the fall. Nancy Parris and Susan Morimoto offered to help collect orders. Linda Stanton told Mr. Olson she would also help.

Cynthia Overson asked that we skip ahead on our agenda to the National Competition, for the sake of the additional people that had attended the board meeting for that purpose. At that point we skipped over Fundraising updates on the Golf Scramble, Spectacular, Corporate Sponsorships, and the 2003-04 Power Company camp dates and tryouts.

National Trip: Mr. Olson passed around a sheet with cost breakdowns for five possible trips to a National Competition, for the upcoming season of 2003-2004. The costs are broken down per student, with the total per student amount absorbing the cost of 2 directors and 8 chaperones. Fame in Orlando, \$706.66; Show Choir Nationals in Opryland, \$507.71; Showstoppers at Disney, \$917.81; Fame in Branson, \$470.50; and Fame in Hawaii, \$1,423.84.

Cynthia Overson voiced concern over costs, and passed out copies of emails that she received, in response to the email dated 4/1/03 that Mr. Olson had sent to Board members, regarding the cost of a National Trip. Cynthia forwarded that email to all Power Company families on 4/2/03 at 4:30pm, in an effort to talk this over with her constituents, as directed in the 4/1/03 email from Mr. Olson. Mr. Olson was concerned about Cynthia sharing this information prematurely. Cynthia stated that she only forwarded the 4/1/03 email after Mr. Olson had emailed everyone (All Power Company families, including board members) on 4/2/03 at 11:06am with cost estimates for next year that included a trip estimate of \$600-1,400.00. Beth Pogatchnik added that the kids had found out about the possible trips, which included Hawaii from Mr. Olson in class. Mr. Olson said he felt this would motive the kids for the Little Caesar fundraiser.

Concerns were voiced, from around the room, about Marching Band also having a trip planed for this upcoming year. Families could have one or more children in both Marching Band and Show Choir. Many felt that to take a trip in the upcoming 2003-2004 season was to soon. It was suggested that Power Company needed more time to raise money, plan, and coordinate with other groups

Theresa Dalen expressed concerns about the timing of such an undertaking. With the current state of the economy this could be an extreme burden on many families. Theresa also mentioned that it might seem inappropriate when the School District is struggling to make drastic budget cuts and increase fees, due to the large deficit they are faced with. Both Ron Overson and Cal Butteris voiced similar concerns.

Mr. Olson expressed that he felt that now was as good a time as any to go to a National Competition. He felt that it was not possible to work around Marching Band, and that there were always going to be budget issues at the district level. Mr. Olson felt that the success of the group in this past 2002-2003 season determined that they were ready and deserved to go on to a National Competition. Mr. Olson also pointed out that Spring Break will be much later than usual in 2004, allowing Power Company to get a National Trip and the Spectacular in before Spring Break. Making this a perfect year to do this, since Mr. Jeska has indicated that Spring Break in 2005 will be much earlier. Jean Krukowski added that a National Trip had been discussed for a long time, and this should come as no surprise.

Mr. Olson stated that he knew that Hawaii was not going to be an option but he included it anyway. As for Showstoppers Disney, Mr. Olson had discussed this with Damon and they both decided that this would be a big chunk to bite off. This will be Showstoppers 25th Anniversary, so there will be a big draw. There are also a lot of rules and regulations for Show Stoppers. When discussing Fame – Branson, Mr. Olson said that he felt like the kids would get more bang for their buck at Show Choir Nationals – Opryland, with only an approximate \$38.00 difference. Although Mr. Olson said that either Show Choir Nationals - Opryland or Fame - Orlando would both be good trips, he felt like the timing for Fame – Orlando fell the best for scheduling.

The board agreed that Show Choir Nationals- Opryland would be the most reasonable trip. There was discussion about trimming down the budget for next year to help supplement the trip for each student. Possibilities to reduce the budget included reducing our costume expenses by keeping the dresses another year, reducing transportation and entry fee expenses by eliminating at least one over night

competition, and going through the budget line by line to see where we could cut in other areas to make this trip more affordable for the kids. It also has to determine what the chaperones will pay if anything. Treasurer Nancy Parris felt that her proposed budget and Mr. Olson's proposed budget were too far apart to make good decisions. Nancy did mention that there might possibly be a surplus that could be used towards the trip, but did not feel comfortable committing until she had a chance to go through and get the final numbers. More fundraising was mentioned as another possibility.

Also discussed was a plan to form a subcommittee to discuss future trips. How Often? Goals for future trips – Franklin Central, Indianapolis 2005.

A motion was made by Nancy Parris to go to Show Choir Nationals – Opryland in March of 2004, with the stipulation that the students will not be charged more than \$700.00 plus the cost of student activity fees, to include the National Trip and Show Choir fees, and the Boosters will strive to bring the cost down lower if possible. If the trip cannot be realized for this amount or less it will not be taken. Barb Bostic seconded the motion. Motion carried

JV Show Choir: Going ahead with it if possible.

Fundraising 2003-2004: Staging to do a competition would cost approximately \$4,717.00. Mr. Olson would like to do a Haunted House.

2003-2004 Budget: Nancy Parris feels it is important to start a finance committee. She would like at least one other person involved besides Mr. Olson and herself to have a more thorough understanding of the numbers. Susan Morimoto will meet with Nancy Parris and Mr. Olson to reconcile the actuals for the 2002-2003 season and to work on the budget for the 2003-2004 season for the next board meeting.

NEXT MEETING MAY 4, 2003 AT 6:30 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM.