

PHS Choir Booster Club Board Meeting
August 7, 2023 at 7p
PHS Choir Room

In Attendance

Board Members: Mr. Kessler, Ms. Vondette, Amea Isom, Shayla Alkire, Jessica Bailey, Laura Torres, Jenaya Alkire, Kathryn Alamia, Audra Anderson, Dustin Anderson, Rebecca Aronson, Priscilla Cavazos, Adam Curow, Melisa Curow, Tanya Eble, Aimee Mittelsted, Linda Roberts, Pam Van Maaren

Adult Guests: Corina Argueta, Kristi Duplichen, Angela Estes, Dana Ferrar, Naletta Galbraith, Sara Garza, Cristina Gonzales, Christy Guenther, Dorinne Hammans, Sara Johnson, Mary Alice Maclan, Casey Mancuso, Ashley Mrite, Claudia Paredes, Gus Paredes, Mandy Rodriguez, Blanca Salinas, Celeste Smith, Shanna Tate, Rose Thurston, Debbie Walton, Bekah White, Jeff White

Approval of Minutes: Pam Van Maaren moved to approve the minutes from the July 17, 2023 Board meeting. Priscilla Cavazos seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Call to Order: Amea Isom called the meeting to order at 7p.

Council Report ~ Jenaya Alkire

(Choir Council members introduced themselves.) Our first event will be **Welcoming Party on September 9th from 5p – 10p**. This event is a good opportunity to meet other Choir members. Everyone will split into teams and play games and eat pizza. **Tickets go on sale through the Choir website, August 21st for \$10**. September 8th the price will go up to \$15 and then be \$20 at the door. Information about this event will be given during each Choir class.

Mr. Kessler said that Choir Council were representatives for each Choir student. If a Choir student has any questions about what’s going on in Choir, or events coming up, they should contact one of the Council members.

(Upper class Choir students then gave the Freshman Choir students a tour of the school.)

Mr. Kessler’s Report

(Mr. Kessler and Ms. Vondette introduced themselves to the parents.) This year we will not be using the “Remind” app for communication. Instead we will be using the **“Band” app**. Information about the app will be given to students when they start school on Tuesday. The app will also be used for communication with parents during our spring trip.

Spring trip will be April 5th – 8th, and we will be going to Washington D.C. There will be a **Trip Information meeting on August 21st at 7p in the Searcy Cafeteria**. The cost of the trip for students is \$1,600, and for parents it is \$1,750. The trip is not required.

We will be moving away from the Charms calendar and instead use a standard calendar that can be found on the Choir website.

The Choir’s first performance, where everyone will perform, will be the **Kick-Off Concert on September 14th at 7p**. There will be important Choir information for the parents at this performance.

Each student has a \$40 Choir fee that has to be paid at the beginning of the year. This fee covers a Choir t-shirt, uniform cleaning, choreography fees, and accompanist fees. Students that are a part of the Free Lunch program, have the \$40 fee waived. Other expenses that might come up would be contest entry fees, extra Choir t-shirts, and tickets for events; such as, Welcoming Party and Banquet.

President's Report ~ Amea Isom

All of our meetings have been scheduled for the year, and we will have that information on the Choir website. **If you plan to volunteer, you need to complete the PISD Volunteer Application.** A link can be found on the Choir website.

Executive Committee Reports

Vice President ~ Shayla Alkire

August 22nd is the start of the Vertical Fundraiser. This fundraiser is strictly donations. Students do not have to sell merchandise. It is structured so that the fundraising company gets 10%, the Choir Fund gets 25%, and 75% goes to the Choir student's ledger. The money in the kids' ledger can be used toward the Choir trip and any other Choir fees.

September 16th we will have a Car Wash. 100% of sales will go to the Choir student's ledger.

Treasurer ~ Laura Torres

Just outside the door, we have merchandise for sale, as well as information on how to become a Booster Club member.

Welcoming Party tickets will be available online August 22nd. The price will be \$10. After September 8th, the price goes up to \$15, and at the door they will be \$20. That cost includes a t-shirt and pizza.

There are several people on the Board that have kids graduating this year, leaving empty positions that will need to be filled for next year. Tonight is a good opportunity to hear what each Committee Chair does, and if there is a position that you are interested in, this year would be a good time to shadow that person, so that you can help next year.

Secretary ~ Jessica Bailey

Make sure that you add your name to the attendance sheet. We also need your address, phone number, and email.

Committee Chair Reports

Each Chairperson will give a description of their job. If you hear something that you're interested in helping out with, please let us know.

Community Service ~ Tanya Eble

We usually do two to three community service projects per year. We've done clothing drives, book drives, as well as other projects. Usually we advertise our community service projects in the programs that are handed out at Choir events. If you're interested in helping out, please let Tanya know.

Fan Grams ~ Aimee Mittelsted and Kathryn Alamia

At Choir performances we sell individual, wrapped roses, and candy cups. We will need volunteers to help assemble everything before the shows.

Concessions - Pam Van Maaren and Audra Anderson

We will need help throughout the year selling concessions at Choir events. A Sign-Up Genius notification will go out prior to events, so that you can sign up to help at a time that works for you.

Merchandise - Aimee Mittelsted

We sell Choir merchandise at events, and we have new Choir shirt design that we are currently taking pre-orders for. This year the hoodie comes in three different colors; black, gray, and maroon. We also have Choir shirts from previous years for sale at a discounted price.

Uniforms – Jessica Bailey and Linda Roberts

Uniforms are the dresses and tuxedos that the Choir students wear for performances. We will need help on the day that we do fittings. We fit several students at one time, so we will need help making sure that everything fits, that uniforms get hung back in the closet, etc. You do not need to know how to sew. Also, we have found a seamstress, and a back-up seamstress.

Students will need black dress shoes and socks for those wearing tuxedos, and black dress shoes for those wearing dresses. Preferably flat; no heels.

Membership -Laura Harrington and Tanya Eble

In Laura's absence, Shayla reported that Membership is an important part of our fundraising. Your membership can be purchased online, and there are different levels to choose from. Each level of membership comes with something; i.e. a car magnet, a sticker, a lanyard, etc. The money that we raise goes to help fund several student events. If you're interested, there are QR codes on the table just outside the door. Once we verify your membership, we will get your Booster items together, and deliver them to you.

Musical Liaison – Audra Anderson and Dustin Anderson

October 3rd is the Musical Interest meeting. The musical is a huge production that involves Theater and Choir. We will need a lot of parent volunteers to help put the musical on. We have to build sets, props, and more. Last year we did *Descendants*. This year we are doing *The Little Mermaid*. We start preparing in October, with shows being the first week of January, and the last week of February. We build a float for the Pearland Christmas Parade, we prepare 11 musical meals for the kids, we have a sponsorship drive, car washes, need for seamstresses, stage help, and community events.

Publicity ~ Jessica Bailey

Publicity entails getting our name into media through newspaper, television, and social media. If anyone has contact names, or works at any of these media outlets, or you would just like to help out, please let me know.

Scholarships ~ Tanya Eble

We offer three scholarships, The Jim Black Memorial Voice Lesson Scholarship, The Senior Scholarship, and The Summer Camp Scholarship. The Voice Lesson Scholarship has been renamed in memory of Dr. Black's husband's death. This scholarship is given at the beginning of the year, and applications will be due August 25th. Anyone can apply for a scholarship, but the voice lesson scholarship does have a need based requirement. If your child is interested in taking voice lessons, please apply. We will need at least two volunteers to help Tanya look over the applications. We have two vocal coaches; Dr. Black (our female vocal coach), and Mr. Gallagher (our male vocal coach). Voice lessons are usually done during the school day.

The Senior Scholarship is given at the end of the school year near graduation, and The Choir Camp Scholarship is also done at the end of the school year for summer camps.

Senior Recognition ~ Rebecca Aronson and Kathryn Alamia

At each event, we give special items/gifts to the seniors, just to help make their last time participating in that event more special. You do not have to currently have a senior to help us out. This year we have around 33 seniors.

Banquet ~ Amea Isom

Due to scheduling, this year we will have to have Banquet on either a Friday or Sunday. We are looking at May 10th, or May 19th. It's a very fun event, and the kids have a really great time, as well as the parents. This year, the Banquet will probably be at The Houston Gardens, and we will need lots of help with planning, decorating, and more.

DSA (Dinner Silent Auction) ~ Shayla Alkire

This year DSA will be a little different than what we're used to, but it will be a great fundraiser. We sell tickets to this event which include, dinner, performances from the kids, and an online auction. This event is separate from Banquet. DSA is a fundraiser, and Banquet is a celebration at the end of the year for the kids. As soon as we have some things finalized, we will share that information.

Lock-In ~ Melisa Curow/Adam Curow

We do a lock-in for the students where we provide pizza and games. Last year we invited eighth grade students that would be joining our choir the following school year. They got to meet current choir members and see the school. We are looking at doing that again this year.

Region/UIIL Events ~ Linda Roberts

We have approximately six competitions that the students audition for. At those events, we provide food for the kids that we buy, prepare, and take with us to the competitions. We travel with them to the schools and set up the food, so we will need help from volunteers. We also provide support for the kids and help them with anything they might need, because those days are long days. I won't be here next year, so I need someone to learn the ropes and take over for next year.

We also host Pre-UIIL here at the school, and we're responsible for putting together all of the food for the judges. Information for those events and times will be sent out.

Sponsorships/Spirit Nights - Priscilla Cavazos

We talked a little about sponsorship already. You can look on our Choir website and see the different levels of membership, and any, and all, donations are very welcome.

Spirit Nights are every month. This is where we have a designated night that we can go to a restaurant in the community, and a percentage of your bill will go to the Choir. **Our first Spirit Night is going to be August 23rd at Freddy's on Pearland Parkway from 4p to 8p.** We have Spirit Nights planned every month throughout the year.

Wrap ~ Up

Amea's motto this year: ***"All Hands on Deck All of the Time."*** Never feel like your help is not welcome. **Our next meeting will be August 28th at 7p here in the Choir Room.**

Meeting Adjourned: Amea adjourned the meeting at 7:55 pm

Minutes recorded by: Jessica Bailey ~ Secretary