

Grissom Band Parents Meeting August 24, 2009

President Chip Ledbetter called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. He welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the year. All of the board members were introduced to the attendees. Chip explained that the minutes for the previous band parents meeting are posted on the Grissom Band website. If no one sees an error in the minutes, the minutes are approved as posted. The budget was presented with explanations of the changes from the previous year. Cherry Hovik made the motion that the budget be accepted. The motion was seconded and approved by all.

Kathy Francica, first Vice-President, oversees 9 committees. She introduced each of the committee chairpersons and reminded everyone that these committees need your talent also.

Chaperone chairpersons are Kandi Mair and Kathy Hathcock. Kandi reminded everyone that all medical forms need to be turned in. She will be updating Charms with the medical form status. There are sign up sheets for chaperones for both of the competitions and also for the away games.

Lisa Steves, Uniform chairperson, reminded everyone that she has sign up sheets also for those who can sew and for those who do not sew. There are only 2 uniforms left to alter. If you can help, we will be setting up the uniform carts and sorting shoes tomorrow at 9:00 am. Parents were reminded that once the kids are in uniform they cannot have anything to eat, ONLY WATER to drink and no leaning on the fences. These things can cause damage to the uniforms and we need them to last as long as possible. At game time, we will also need help with plumes for the hats and hanging up the uniforms after the game. Please send in two 24-packs of water for us to give to the kids at the football games.

Diana Akridge is our Transportation chairperson and takes care of scheduling all of our buses. She handles the buses for the away football games and for the marching competitions.

Truck chairperson, Howard Wingo, takes care of renting the equipment trucks and finding drivers for the trucks. Drivers are needed for the all of the football games and also for the marching competitions. He is trying to get a schedule filled out and will get it posted on our website.

Kathy Smith, Color Guard, stated that the guard uniform fittings are completed and the uniforms should be ready soon. They raised some money over the summer and purchased pompoms. They wanted pompoms for the routines that they have learned for the stand music.

Stadium chairperson, Keith Thompson, told everyone that about a dozen folks are needed to roll out the seat covers when the band starts wearing uniforms. There is a sign up sheet to help with this.

Rachel Albritton is the Hospitality chairperson. The 8th graders are being invited to the Thursday night practice and we want to provide a short mingle time for them with our band members. She asked for help with this event and has sign up sheets for cases of water and snacks for Thursday night, September 10.

Concert chairperson, Lee Smith, asked for help with the concerts. We sell tickets, collect tickets, and sell CDs and DVDs of the concert. The first concert is the Max Hammond Memorial Concert on September 12.

Mary Fountain, Sharon Hamilton, Kandi Mair, and Christy Kindred are the Banquet chairpersons. The banquet is scheduled for Saturday, May 15 at the VBC.

Kathy reminded everyone that they must have a Grissom pillow and socks. 3 pairs of white Grissom socks are \$4, combo pack of pillow and socks is \$12, and the pillow is \$10. Come on down and get them. Your kids will also need a pair of black socks to wear when in uniform. The black socks are \$3 a pair.

Chip Ledbetter reminded everyone that Susan Westendorf is selling football season tickets. If you buy the tickets here, the money stays here and is not shared with the other school.

Roy Malone is our 2nd Vice President and was represented by his wife June tonight. Roy has the several committees also under him.

Teri Mitchell is in charge of Publicity.

Kim Broyles is in charge of the Newsletter. The newsletter is published each month and contains lots on valuable information.

Historian Kate Jobczynski asked everyone to take pictures and share them with us. Many of the pictures will be used for the banquet. For every senior, we need a baby picture for the banquet BEFORE January 31.

Elaine and Scott Sampson are our Ways and Means chairpersons. If you have any ideas on ways to help with the band expenses, please share them with us.

Jan and Jeff Brewer are our Fruit Sales chairpersons. Fruit sales are the biggest fund raiser of the band. You don't really have to sell anything, because the fruit sales itself. There are 5 sales a year. About once a month starting with the weekend before Thanksgiving, there is a fruit sale. We sell oranges and grapefruit. These are good quality fruit. Please make sure that your address in Charms is up-to-date. You will receive a card in the mail in October with the fruit sale dates on it. You can help by working the sale for student credits, buying fruit for yourself, and promoting the sale on the bulletin board at work or with your neighbors. Details will be posted on the website in a few weeks.

SCRIP coordinator is Monica Pacey. The SCRIP program is basically a gift certificate program where you buy the gift certificate at face value. A portion of the purchase price is returned to the band. This portion is then split between the student's account as credits and the band as fund raiser.

VBC coordinators are Mary Fountain and Sharon Hamilton. You work concessions at the VBC for events in the arena. A credit of \$5.00 per hour is given. You must be 16 years old to work. We work almost every event in the arena. If you want to work send an e-mail to Mary and she will notify you of the events available to work. We are competing with other groups for the worker slots, so don't delay if you want to work one of the events. The credits are put into your student's account once a month, usually after we get the check from the VBC.

Cherry Hovik is the Spirit coordinator. The clothing orders are in. The marching shirts are \$15. She will place an order once each month. If you want one of last year's Landscape shirts, they are \$5. There is also some other stuff that you can purchase off the rack.

The Treasurers for our organization are Katrena Faddis and Alice Searcy. You should check Charms for any fee or credit information. The fees are pretty much paid for now. Credits for the VBC and the fruit sales are entered about a month after you work.

Director Bill Connell thanked everyone for being here tonight. If you have questions, talk to us after the meeting, or send us an e-mail. John Wilson was introduced.

John Wilson is a former GHS Band Parent. He reminded everyone that there is life after band. He is running for the State Senate in 2010. He wants to hear our concerns and answer any questions.

Bill Connell urged everyone to use the band calendar. There are links on the GHS Band website to the calendar. There are 7 performances between tonight and the next band parents meeting. Come out and support the Max Hammond Concert. There is no admission charge, but donations will be accepted. Any money collected will be used for instruments. The concert is September 12 at 7:30 pm. There will be a very quick run thru on Wednesday from 3:30-4:00pm. All performances are part of your student's grade. There are two marching contents – September 19 and September 26. We will meet mid-morning and go to Hendersonville, TN on September 19. After we compete, there will be a review of the performance with a clinician. On September 26, we will go to Columbia, TN. This is probably the oldest contest in the country. The competition brings in about 25 bands for the night competition. Most of the classes are based on the band size.

We have the Away Game Package again this year. The cost is \$25 for the 3 away games. We will have catered meals for the band here at the school before we load the buses to go to the game. Please put your child's name on your check and put it in the box in the band room.

Director Theo Vernon asked everyone to encourage the 8th graders to come to the rehearsal on September 10 and then to the game on Friday. They will perform pre-game and then sit in the stands and play with us. Both the football and contest band go to the marching contest.

A spring trip is being planned for ALL of the bands. This will be a competition trip. Johnny Thomas of Thomas Tours is here to present the schedule and answer any questions you have.

Johnny Thomas passed out information on the trip schedule for April 28 – May 2, 2010. We tell you what you are going to experience while on your trip. We personalize your trip with your directors. We strive to provide a positive student travel experience. We have 24 years of service and this will not be our only meeting. We will meet with you and the students closer to travel time and will offer packing and clothing suggestions and answer any questions that you have. You will have a tour guide that will be here and leave from Huntsville with your group. Chicago is a great city and very student friendly.

The bus company that we use has new equipment. On the day we arrive in Chicago, we will pick up a local guide which will give us the architecture and history of the city from a local perspective. We will touch, see and feel the windy city. The itinerary was reviewed by Johnny with those attending. The payments for the trip are broken up. The 1st payment puts your name on the list. It is due on September 30 and should include the \$65 for Billy Elliot if you plan on going to that musical. Please remember to send the forms when you send the check. Thomas Tours will work with the treasurers to get the student credits transferred from Grissom to Thomas Tours. Johnny asked anyone that if the payment schedule doesn't work for you please contact us. We will work with you. Communication is vital, so talk to us about any issues or problems that you have. Use the 800 number on the paperwork.

Chip informed everyone that Melanie Baeske is our web master and keeps our site updated with lots of information.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Kindred