LNHS Band Boosters – Meeting Minutes – 9/7/2023

**Call to order**: 7:01pm by Amy McBride

Attendance: Board members: Amy McBride, Vicki Reinemann, Bobbie Hesketh, Jen and Kevin Bower, Becca Carroll, Amy Brant, Shannon Ryan, Emily Kokotovic

Band parents: 44 parents present.

**Introduction** of Band Booster Board, thank you to directors and staff, and encouragement to volunteer discussed by Amy McBride. A volunteer sign-up/interest form was passed around so that parents could select areas of interest and Vicki can use that to find help when we are short on volunteers.

**Treasurer’s report:** Bobbie Hesketh: Discussed that we currently manage 4 accounts. Still trying to collect all instrument rental fees for this year ($35). Bobbie can give all account balance info needed and can be reached at the band treasurer’s email address. Al kids should have $3,500 in their London accounts at this time. Final travel cost info should be made available in the next few weeks. We made $5,000 in interest in our money market account so far this year. Bobbie encouraged parents to check with their employers to see if their corporations offer a gift-match program for 99 Pledges donations. If any tax ID info is needed, Bobbie can provide that.

**Communications**: Becca Carroll: Becca discussed the updates to the website (lnhswildcatband.com) and explained that the goal is for this website to be the prime spot for all band info. She is working to update formatting and add photos. Instagram and Facebook accounts are also being updated often. Band photos can be sent to [communicationslnhsbandboosters@gmail.com](mailto:communicationslnhsbandboosters@gmail.com) Parents were encouraged to follow LNYDP on social media for parade info/updates.

**Volunteers:** Vicki Reinemann: Slides were shared to feature/explain each area where volunteers are needed. (Chaperones, bus parents, stand parents, parades, pit/prop crew, 50/50 ticket sales, concessions, trailer pullers, uniforms). Sign-up genius and how to get to sign-up genius on the website was covered.

**Fundraising**: Matt Leach was not present, so Mr. Brown covered this area. Currently, 99 Pledges has earned $16,120. The goal is still $18,000. This ends 9/30/23. A final email push has been sent out with personal links to share on social media. Butter Braids fundraiser begins 10/2 and runs through 10/18. Delivery will happen prior to Thanksgiving. Corporate matching for pledges was again mentioned.

**London updates**: Mr. Brown: London happens in 111 days!!! All traveler manifests are due no later than Friday, 9/8! ALL INFO ENTERED MUST MATCH EXACTLY! Currently there are between 225-230 confirmed travelers. All flights will leave from CLT and will most likely be on American Airlines. Roommate forms are also due 9/8. The first test email for London travel communication will go out at 3pm on 9/8 for students and chaperones. Chaperone groups will consist of 10 students per 1 adult for better maneuverability within the city. All final payment info will be made available over the next few weeks and the final payment will be due the first week of October. Per Mr. Brown, there are no Covid restrictions or vaccine mandates in place that would prevent students from traveling. Questions were asked about extra insurance available in the event of medical emergencies and Mr. Brown will look into this. Parents are encouraged to contact their bank (online) to order money if students want to carry pounds/cash with them. Turn around time on this is about a week, based on shared experiences. Cell phone data plans can be adjusted, and credit card/debit card carriers should be made aware of international travel to avoid issues in London.

For non-marching members: there will be 4-5 rehearsals to prepare them for the parade. Per Mr. brown, “They will be well prepared!” Uniform fittings will also take place.

A few parents asked about the Remind app. Mr. Brown is working to go through this and find duplicates so that he can open it back up to more to join. Remind will only be used in rare and very important cases. “Will be used very judiciously” per Mr. Brown.

Questions were asked about London daily itinerary and Mr. Brown may be able to send that out as early as 9/8.

Mr. Brown recommended Westminster Abby as a place to visit if time allows, as it Is not on the official itinerary.

Meals: Students will have pre-loaded debit cards and if they are wise with their spending, should have plenty to cover non-covered meals. There are a few meals not included in the travel costs.

A link will be sent out for how to purchase Grandstand tickets.

There are currently 118 students that will be marching in the parade.

Mr. Brown encouraged all other questions to be sent to him.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Next meeting to be held: 10/5/2023 at 7pm

Minutes written by: Amy Brant, Board Secretary

