

Barbara Ingram School for the Arts  
Parent Guild Meeting  
May 17, 2010  
7:00 pm

Prior to the Business Meeting, those present enjoyed a dessert and coffee social at 6:30 p.m. in the lobby of the school.

President, Rob Smetzer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following officers/committee members were present: Becky Arnemann, Treasurer; Julie Cade, Secretary; Susan Mowen, Arts & Academics Program Committee Chair, and Toni Webb, Campus Life Committee Chair. Also present Principal Thorsen and parents (sign in sheet distributed). Absent: Michele Fuller, Vice President and David Sheredy, Fundraising Committee Chair.

Introductions

Executive Committee members, administrators and parents present introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the Minutes from the April 19, 2010 Parent Guild Meeting was made and seconded. The Minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Arnemann reported there is a balance of \$8,100 within the account. To date, \$3,850 has been contributed by parents and \$4,250 from the community.

Contributions for the various departments are:

- \$2,050 Vocal
- \$ 400 Dance
- \$1,550 Theatre
- \$3,400 Instrumental
- \$ 300 Visual Arts
- \$ 400 General (All)

Becky stated we will be making a reimbursement from the General line item for the Teacher's Appreciation luncheon.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

### President's Report

*Hearts for the Arts:* Rob reminded parents that the deadline for the Hearts for the Arts contributions is June 1. We have established a relationship with a local company that has agreed to donate the plaque in exchange for advertising space in our programs.

*Open Position:* The Parent Guild will have an open position with the departure of Mrs. Toni Webb. Toni's daughter is a senior that is graduating this year, so Toni will be stepping down as Chair of the Campus Life Committee. Toni outlined some of the responsibilities of the Campus Life Committee which include working with the Student Government Association to guide and provide information to the students and report their activities to the Guild. This position also coordinates the calendar of campus events (dances, etc.). The Guild expects to fill the position by this fall.

*Planning Input:* The Executive Committee will be holding planning sessions over the summer and invited anyone interested to participate. Rob also indicated that the Executive Committee would like to conduct a survey to see what we have done well, what we could do better, etc. to better serve the Parents, Students and Faculty at Barbara Ingram. More will be forthcoming.

*Upcoming Events:* Tickets are currently on sale for multiple events and are available at the school and can also be purchased at the door of each event. Raffle tickets are also available for purchase and include 2 Series tickets to the Maryland Theatre's "Broadway on Potomac" Series (\$400.00 value); 2 VIP Passes to Blues Fest, Saturday, June 5th (\$250 value); Family Portrait donated by Youngblood Studios (package includes the sitting fee -\$250 value); and Gift Card from Outback Steakhouse (\$45.00 value). The raffle tickets can be purchased for \$5/each or 5 for \$20. The drawing will be held on May 27 after the Vocal Concert. New, incoming students have all been provided with one free ticket to the upcoming performance of their choice.

### Committee Chair Reports

*Arts & Academics Program, Susan Mowen, Chair*

Susan reported that Academically, HSA testing is all this week. She also reported that the spirit night at Buffalo Wild Wings on May 3 was very successful! According to BWW, most spirit nights yield on average about \$100. Our night resulted in a \$255 benefit for the vocal department. The raffle held that same night raised an additional \$100. October 27, 2010 has already been reserved for the next spirit night.

The spaghetti dinner fundraiser, also for the Carnegie Hall trip, was held on May 14, 2010 at Northern Middle School from 5 – 8:30 p.m. The students provided great performances throughout the evening along with serving meals, cleaning, etc. Susan thanked everyone for pulling together as a team for a very successful event where \$2010 was raised, not including \$370 in sold raffle tickets. The Guild and audience

applauded Mrs. Collins and asked that she express our appreciation to Mr. Collins for his hard work in the kitchen that night.

*Campus Life, Toni Webb, Chair*

Toni reported that Children In Need, a local non-profit organization, has gifted the school with an abundant supply 11 x 14 and larger paper that they cannot use. Toni explained that Children In Need collects and distributes school supplies and gently used clothing to local students. She suggested that the PG/SGA adopt this organization next year and collect donations on their behalf.

*Communications, Michele Fuller, Chair*

In Michele's absence, Rob reported on her behalf. Michele's report included statistics of communications. Since November 28, 2009, Michele has sent 200 emails to communicate various information; 50 emails were received from Teachers and 100 emails were received from individuals/parents requesting information, etc. The Guild has a constant goal of improving communications. Rob stated we will work to include more detailed information in our communications (i.e., specific dates, start times, what should be worn, etc.) as well as ensuring all parents are receiving communications. We also welcome suggestions to better utilize the website.

Marci Howes, who diligently works to maintain our website, was present to share the prototype of a new design for the site. Marci explained that the goal is to have the new site live by the start of the 2010-11 school year.

Parent Liaison Reports

Sheri Stewart, Instrumental Music Liaison, offered thanks on behalf of Mr. Hollin to the parents that assisted with Taste of the Arts. Parental help with costume changes and ticket sales is needed for the instrumental concert on Tuesday.

Pam Allen, Theatre Liaison, noted the event next week on Tuesday; the senior's recital and a pending June 1 event.

Principal's Report

Principal Thorsen is delighted with the active role the Parent Guild is taking and developing.

Principal Thorsen outlined several goals. These goals include having a working one-year calendar to be ready for the start of the next school year and developing a standardized policy for concert ticket prices and start times.

He also discussed events that will be occurring over the next several weeks. The senior recognition service had to be changed due to a district-wise conflict. Principal Thorsen also addressed the proposed theatre event on June 1 that was mentioned

earlier. He explained that the event is tentative and thus not yet advertised. Other event details and final exams must be coordinated. The Visual Arts Department reception at the Fine Arts Museum was held this past weekend. One of our students took second place in recognition. The closing reception for this exhibit is May 30 at 1:30 p.m.

Principal Thorsen stated the school will be doing more with working artists and performers to show students how to connect to a career track in the arts. The School will be host to an Arts Synergy Conference this weekend that will involve weaving arts and media into what students are studying academically.

The State Treasurer will be part of a tour visiting the school on May 26, 2010.

Finals will be held June 1 through June 4. As previously stated, the senior recognition ceremony is June 2. Books will be collected from students June 7 and June 8, the last day for students, awards and recognitions will be distributed during an assembly.

Principal Thorsen expressed his gratitude to Dr. Morgan and the community for recognizing the need and providing financially for tuxedos, gowns and dance attire for the students.

Reporting on Taste of the Arts held last week, Principal Thorsen stated that \$1,600 was raised from this event. The event provided good experience for the students in performing in intimate settings as well as bringing awareness to the restaurants and community.

Principal Thorsen announced that through the generous donations of the Foundation, \$4,900 has been made available and designated for the vocal students' trip to Carnegie Hall. In order to access the funds, the Parent Guild must formally accept. Rob called for a motion to approve and accept the \$4,900 donation. Motion made by Brian Flook and seconded by Marci Howes to accept and authorize access of the funds as presented by Principal Thorsen. Unanimously approved.

#### Other Business

June 4 North High and Smithsburg High will be closed due to graduation ceremonies, therefore buses will not be operating from these schools (to Barbara Ingram). Principal Thorsen indicated that alternate arrangements are pending.

A tentative date for the Carnegie Hall trip Parent meeting is June 2.

Linda Kelly suggested that parent liaisons provide assistance to the teachers in distributing posters and tickets for performances.

More information is forthcoming regarding distribution of various photos taken by students at the Gala and from the big shoot-style photo event on May 13.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Next Meeting

Monday, August 23, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Cade  
Secretary