

HSE Royal Guardians Boosters Meeting

August 26, 2020 – 7:00pm - Zoom Video Call

Attendance: *President*, Sheri Elfreich; *Vice President*, Kim Weber; *Treasurer*, Jim Pearce; *Student Accounts*, Joann Kolesar; *Secretary*, Jill Halverstadt; *Director of Bands*, Audrey Torres; *Assoc. Director of Bands*, Ed Roush; *Guard Director*, Dylan Daugherty and 10 parents logged in.

Meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by Audrey Torres

Welcome- Kim Weber welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting. Participants were asked to type any questions they had during the meeting in the chat.

Director's Report

- **Marching Band Updates**

Show- Mrs. Torres began with an update on marching band. The students are working hard, and the show is coming together. The show, entitled "It's a Beautiful Day," is more relevant than ever with all the challenges we are facing today. The Mr. Rogers theme has us focusing on the bigger life lessons of kindness, empathy and finding the positives in tough situations. We will be adding snippets of U2's "Beautiful Day" later in the season.

Stadium Night- Parents are welcome to start coming to our Thursday night practices held in the stadium. The band will do a run through around 8:45pm and having an audience helps to prepare them for tomorrow's game. Please wear a mask and follow social distancing guidelines in the stands.

Football Game- Mrs. Torres praised the athletic directors for working with her to ensure that the band will have performance opportunities and that parents can watch. Students will report to the practice lot at 6:30pm wearing parade shirt and black shorts. Seniors will wear the uniform. No meals can be served, so be sure to eat before coming. There will be no pregame festivities as in the past due to safety protocols. Parents are to park in the south lot and meet the band at the south gate at 7:30pm. Please wear a mask and remain socially distanced. We will enter the stadium together for the halftime performance (no ticket needed). Parents are to spread out on the track keeping socially distant. Siblings and other family members may come (we haven't been told they can't), however, please be cognizant of others are trying to get a good view as well.

Senior Night- Seniors will be honored following the halftime show. Parents/escorts and seniors will meet at the north end zone where they will have their photos taken by parent, Joe Pereira. They will walk to the 50-yard line where the directors will be standing and then down the 50-yard line while the seniors' info will be read. Mrs. Torres has received all 21 senior surveys. All students will be dismissed after the senior recognition except for the drumline which will stay in the stadium to play.

- **Band Class Updates**

Safety Protocols- Mrs. Torres discussed the Open House video that explains how they are preparing for safety protocols for when students return to the school. Special PPE has been purchased to mitigate the spread of aerosol emissions: bell covers and specially designed face masks with slits for playing a wind instrument. Cotton cloths will be used for wrapping the woodwind key holes and puppy wet pads for collecting liquid released from instruments. Donations of the puppy wet pads would be greatly appreciated. Percussion are to wear regular masks and have their own sticks and mallet bag. Larger, specialized equipment will be sanitized in between classes. We are fortunate to have a large band room to accommodate the 6ft social distance needed between students (7 ft for trombone players.)

Smart Music Program- Mr. Roush has experience using this program. The standard subscription purchased gives teachers access to a wide range of music to assign to students to work on. Students can work on the music independently as well as with a recorded winds band accompaniment. Students will receive accuracy grades on their submitted recordings and may resubmit as many times as desired to achieve a higher score. For an additional \$10.00, students can upgrade to the premier program which gives them access to all the solo and ensemble titles that the teachers have. Students interest in this upgrade can email Mr. Roush or Mrs. Torres.

Guard Director's Report

- **New Directors-** Dylan Daugherty and Hannah Para introduced themselves to parents. They have a strong background in marching with several DCI color guards. Dylan reported that the students are working hard, exploring new techniques and equipment, and making progress with learning drill for the show.
- **Band App-** This app is utilized for guard specific information: videos for drill, technique, and instruction, drill sheets and other information to be shared. Parents and students are welcome to join the app. The link was posted in the last newsletter and you can also contact Dylan (dougherty@hse.k12.in.us) or Mrs. Torres for information.
- **Open Rehearsals-** All band students are welcome to use the guard rehearsal time to practice. We ask that you are respectful and remain in view. Parents or students may watch rehearsals at a distance that isn't disruptive to the students. An audience watching is good pressure for the guard to perform.
- **Recruitment-** The guard is still actively recruiting new members to join. Want guard to be a healthy environment for students.
- **Friday Football Game-** Guard will wear parade shirts and black shorts. Makeup is natural. A parent is coordinating masks for the entire guard to create a unified look.

Treasurer's Report

- **Balances as of 8/26/20-** Checking: \$70,723.86 and Savings: \$22,394.83. After season's expenses are paid, we expect the balance to be what we had prior to the marching band season. Jim expressed that the directors did a great job managing expenses and fee reductions.

Student Accounts

- **Fee Payment Status-** The second payment of \$125 was due July 31st. 92% of our students are current/in good financial standing. 8% of our students are not current/in good financial standing.
- **Final Payment-** due August 30th. Some parents paid for the season in full before fees were reduced. Joann Kolesar will be emailing those parents soon to offer two options: 1. Keep the money in the account for future fees or 2. Receive a refund for the amount overpaid.
- **Parade Shirts-** Joann reminded parents that students will receive the parade shirt only if they are current with fees (paid up through July 31st payment).

Committees

- **Mattress Fundraiser-** Sheri explained that we are waiting to receive final confirmation for holding the mattress fundraiser in the band room. An advertisement banner will be placed on the corner of 116th St and Brooks School Rd. one week prior. Students do not have to be at the fundraiser but are asked to help advertise it with sharing the flyer on social media. If the fundraiser isn't permitted, the fundraiser will be moved to the spring.
- **Mask Fundraiser-** We are looking into selling masks with the lion logo and need to decide if it should be a stand-alone sale or if it should be rolled into the spirit wear sale.

- **Spirit Wear-** We are in the final preparations for opening the online spirit wear store. It will include apparel for RCG, Percussion, Color Guard, and HSE Bands. We will also offer a show shirt and a show patch. Once we receive and approve the proofs, the online store will open.
- **Scrip-** Vicki Triplett is our new coordinator for Scrip. Information about how to use Scrip to help pay fees is on the website.
- **Dine to Donate-** The Panera Bread fundraiser was not successful. Our next restaurant fundraiser will be with Ale Emporium on September 15th. Once a flyer is received, it will be shared in the newsletter.
- **Varsity Letters-** Surveys were sent out to students to complete to determine their eligibility for a varsity letter and/or honor bar. A distribution date will be communicated soon. 2020 seniors can still receive their letter/honor bar and can contact Mrs. Torres to arrange pick up.

Other Items

- Mrs. Torres offered to stay on the Zoom call to answer questions.
- Jenny Banks suggested that Mrs. Torres create an Amazon wish list to include the puppy wet pads and any other needs the band program may have. There is a Facebook page dedicated to helping teachers that she can post it on.

Next Meeting

- **Board meeting-** Wednesday, September 16th
- **Royal Guardians Boosters Meeting (Parents)-** Wednesday, September 23rd
- Meetings are on Wednesdays for now because we are still virtual and does not interfere with rehearsal schedule. Once we can hold meetings in person, we will switch back to Thursdays so that after meetings, we can go watch the end of rehearsal in the stadium.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:47pm