



PLATT HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS BOOSTER CLUB

Booster Meeting Minutes – January 7, 2014



In Attendance:

Boosters Members: Shelley Bayer, Dawn Crane, Christine Flynn, Wendy Keene, Donna Mordarski, Tammy Noxon

Students: Kiera Flynn, Jon Noxon (*After drama rehearsal, while waiting for Moms to drive them home*)

Staff Members: Laura Boates, Mark Faticoni, Ethan Warner (*Stopped in during drama rehearsals*)

Secretary's Report – Dawn Crane highlighted some areas of her report that still need to be addressed by the Boosters or the faculty.

Treasurer's Report – Tammy Noxon reported that report is presented in a diff format which make more sense to her.

- Since all the fundraising money and accounting is being handled by Mrs. Boates, checks should now be:
Paid To The Order Of: PLATT Music, not *Platt Performing Arts Boosters*,
- Winter Concert Door Admission: Proceeds are split between Mr. Faticoni and Mrs. Boates. Boosters deposited money, so now we need to write each teacher a separate check to be added to their school accts.
- Student accounts should now be accurate.
- Dawn gave Tammy money collected from the Bottle/Can Drive in Dec. (*Approx. \$ 150.00.*) Not very successful compared to previous years. Chris gave Tammy money collected from other events that took place in late fall.

Staff Faculty Reports

Mr. Ethan Warner – Asked to provide his report to the group first so he could return to the play rehearsal. He reported:

- January 4th: Oddfellow's Playhouse Artistic Director; Discussed Character Development opportunities for developing the performance artist, what the playhouse has to offer, etc. There is a free Sat. writing workshop available for interested participants
- January 21 at 6 p.m. the National High School Shakespeare Competition will be held at Platt
Students will give a 20 word max monologue. 5 Judges will evaluate students. 1 winner is selected to attend the competition in Greenwich on March 5th. 6 students from are entering this completion.
- At the competition at Eastern previously, 88 students from 7 schools participated. 12 were awarded. Platt had 2 students who were awarded for their monologues; Michaela Phonkhomphon and Moriah Cruz.
- There may be a possible 3rd production offered this year; a brief 24 hour rehearsal/performance.

BLOOD WEDDING

- Order forms for T-Shirts will be available on Monday, Jan 14th
- Performances will be held at Lincoln, so Mr. Kalmick is measuring the stage this week so he can begin designing the set.
- Students are selling ads for the Playbill.
- Request the Boosters to sell Shout-Outs like we did last year for the "Annie" performances.

Mrs. Laura Boates - Reported:

JAZZ BAND:

- Schedule; Will have a more consistent time; Wednesday 6-8 p.m., now with Marching Band over.
- Register for class; More Focus is needed from participants. If majority can't focus and do not show investment in learning music, the band will meet when it is most convenient for her; Fridays after school. If this change is needed, a letter will go out to the parents of the Jazz Band members.

TRI-M HONOR SOCIETY:

- Should be a student-run organization. Mrs. Boates is the main advisor.
- Students are not leading and following thru with tasks as they should, despite her efforts to encourage it. i.e. service projects during the Christmas season.
- Mrs. Boates is considering terminating this program. (New students should have been inducted in January).

- If some students are really invested in participating in this organization and want to continue, perhaps she would consider working with them in a smaller group setting.

NEXT YEAR:

- There may not be any money available to support the extras in the music program. All that may be offered to the performing arts students could be in-class activities.
- **Parents are needed** to step up and attend Booster meetings and help with fundraising activities and events.
- **New officers will be needed** for two important positions on our Booster Executive Board; our ***Booster President***, Christine Flynn, is stepping down but plans to continue to work with the Boosters for another year and the ***Booster Secretary***, Dawn Crane, will no longer have children at Platt.
- *If anyone is interested in exploring any of these offices, they should notify Mr. Faticoni or Mrs. Boates, or they may send a reply back to Dawn Crane, our Booster Secretary.*

Mr. Mark Faticoni's Report

Holiday Concert: Report Time - Mr. Faticoni discussed his reasoning behind having students reporting after the start of the concert was because he was busy with directing an ensemble and would not be available to chaperone students in his room if they arrived before that ensemble was done performing. The Boosters expressed their conflict; a reluctance to close concessions and stop collecting money at the door, yet wanting to watch their children during the concert.

In the future, Mr. Faticoni is willing to recruit school faculty who may be willing to chaperone his students during the concert and he will have the students report before the concert begins. He hopes this will help the concession and raffle profits improve and funds from the door proceeds increase.

MATTRESS SALE: Mr. Faticoni reported we are splitting profits with the Platt Football program and that the parent representative from the Football booster Group was unable to attend tonight's meeting to hear the presentation. Below is a summary of what was discussed:

Sale representatives from the vendor, **Custom Fundraising Solutions** (CFS), that is actually selling the mattresses for our Mattress Fundraiser, on Feb. 8th, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., came for a presentation to explain the program to Boosters.

- Business History: 15 years ago; Candy/Knickknack vendor. 8 years ago, realized that everybody buys a bed mattress every 10 years, so changed the business plan in recognition of this. Began marketing mattresses as fundraisers.
 - Set up in the schools.
 - Low overhead.
 - Little advertising budget needed.
 - Parents don't take time out of their busy schedules to run fundraiser or ask the same people for support.
- In our area this year, they have held mattress fundraising sales for groups in North Haven, Cheshire, Sheehan High Schools. *(Many of the groups they work with are bands or sports teams.)*
- Vendor will provide a showroom of 23 beds, which potential buyers are able to lie on as they consider a purchase.
- All mattresses are brand new and made from U.S. materials. Sets include Mattress and box springs. Split box springs are available. Many are the same mattresses that high-end hotels buy. Cash, Checks, Credit Cards accepted. Free Layaway is also available.
- Name Brand mattresses are priced with a 30-60% discount off the retail cost; anywhere from \$200 - \$1,800 with a full, non-prorated manuf. warranty. 1-25 years.
- **STUDENTS MUST GET THE WORD OUT TO THE COMMUNITY, PROMOTE THE SALE AND EXPLAIN THE PROGRAM TO THOSE THEY INVITE.**
- Schools get % of sales and students earn funds when buyers turn in coupon showing student personally invited them.
- Students receive monetary incentives for referring customers that buy mattresses. Money is applied to student accts. Grand Prize Drawing if schl sells 50 mattresses or more, ea. student gets a ticket for ea. referral.
- A one-time delivery cost of \$75 to deliver any amt of mattresses, but with the coupon, they will receive \$50 discount, to compensate for part of the delivery cost. *(Delivery company will charge add'l \$100 to remove old mattress.)*
- Sale is on Sat., Order placed: Monday, Turn-Around Time: 12 Days later they begin delivering orders.
- 60-day Return Policy. *There will be a 15% Restocking fee applied.*
- If order address is outside delivery area, arrangements will be made to work with another group holding a fundraiser in that area to have purchase delivered thru their program.
- Vendor will provide 3-4 sales people and 1- 2 order writers, depending on size of expected response.

- Day of Sale: Students will promote at businesses/major intersections - hold up signs and bring add'l attention to event. Some students can be dressed in costume, if wish.
- Bake Sales/Concessions are welcome, to help supplement the sale. Sometimes it can be done in combination with another major fundraising event that attracts many from the public.
- Yard signs will be available if a student or parent wishes. **SEE MR. FATICONI IF YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO HAVE A SIGN TO PUT IN YOUR YARD TO PROMOTE THE SALE.**
- Flyers were handed out to the Boosters and Mr. Faticoni was given additional flyers and posters to distribute to students that request them. Additional referral coupons are available from him as well.
- Vendor provided business cards to the Boosters. If questions arise; contact Frank Cosenza; Phone: 203-809-4410 email: fjc77@comcast.net.

Old Business

- The 2nd **Illiano's Fundraiser** for this school year has been scheduled for **February 12th, 2014**. (*Wednesday before winter break.*) Dawn will provide Illiano's with a flyer, Donna will send out publicity requests in the school and community, and Mrs. Boates and Chris F. will connect a .pdf copy of the flyer to related locations on the internet.
- **Daffodil Festival**: We have been given permission to sell water bottles at the school while the public waits for their shuttle bus in front of the school. Students will man this concession. Water Bottle charge: \$ 1.00.
- **Casino** Trip – Looking at March/April. Chris F. still checking on this.
- **Car Show**: Sell Platt Towels at cost as souvenir for participating/attending. Chris F. still checking on this.
- **Jr. and Sr. Class Auction**: A basket has been put together for the Auction on Jan 16th.

TACO NITE FUNDRAISER - Chris F. reports that Kim P, chairperson, is unable to attend meeting tonight, due to Bd of Ed business, but plans to call a planning meeting for interested parents next week.

- Time: 6-8 p.m. Need parent and student volunteers beginning at 4:30 p.m.
- Tickets are now ready for faculty to distribute
- Lots of Raffle Prizes
- Students will be making up baskets. Need to know how many and what they include so items may be listed for each.
- Donna reports that the publicity has gone out, but that she hasn't seen anything in the paper. The Marquee sign does not show it. (*Need to check with Kim*)
- **Mrs. Boates asked if she could offer a discounted price to students at the Middle Schools as way to recruit them to see what Platt music has to offer.** (*Boosters will get back to her after conferring with Kim P.*)
- Platt students will receive community service hours if they volunteer to work.
- Pre-Sale Tickets will go into student accounts. Tickets at the door will be distributed into the Booster General Acct.

* Because we need to hold the next Booster Meeting *before the Mattress Sale* and on a day when the fundraising faculty rep., Mr. Faticoni, can attend, we are scheduling our:

NEXT BOOSTER MEETING: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd at 5:30 p.m. on PHS's stage

(** Please Note the Time Change)

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Crane; Secretary
Platt Performing Arts Boosters

Summary From Taco Night Planning Meeting

Tuesday, January 14th, 2014

(Email request was sent via CHARMS to all parents/students inviting them to help plan this event.)

In Attendance (6): Dawn Crane, Christine Flynn, Wendy Keene, Lori McDowell, Donna Mordarski, Kim Pandiani

- Kim P. expressed importance in knowing by Wednesday, Jan. 22nd, how many Pre-sale tickets have been sold, so she knows how many she can expect and should buy for.
- Kim P and April O. will be going to the wholesale distributor to purchase what she needs, once have idea of quantity tickets pre-sold.

Publicity:

- Posters: Mrs. Boates is arranging for posters to be hung up all over the school.
- Mr. Boates will give Discount Coupons to Middle High students she will visit next Wed/ Thur. (Kim P. is excited about Middle High students hearing Platt's musical talent and *perhaps they will bring a parent along with them.*
- Kim P has been assured that emails will be sent internally to the schls and to all those who work for the City.
- Donna M. reported that Front Porch News called her that morning to inquire about how to get tickets since it wasn't on the email she provided. "Tickets will be sold at the door" will now be included in the publicity.
- **Kim asks that all who can, send emails to contacts, include on facebook page and send invitations to come.**
- Kim will ask school to make announcements each day up until the event, next Friday.
- Marquee Sign needs to be updated with date and time for event. Donna not sure request went to correct personnel.

Other Info:

- 2 tables will be put together, instead of long rows. Makes for more intimate conversations, families can sit together.
- A discussion of specific tasks for adults/students needed on the evening of the event. Dawn will make a schedule and email specific parents to let them know we need their help.
- Wendy K. will copy Community Service forms and make available on table at front door for students to fill out and return for signature.
- Chris F. will get list of performers and student volunteers prior to event, so she can give out assignments.
- Students need to stop at ticket table of door entrance to see Chris F. about signing in/out, work assignments, community service forms, getting stamped for their meal passes.
- What other faculty plan to be available during the night? Anyone willing to volunteer to help in kitchen w/ serving?
- Kim P. will meet with Mr. Mont on Tues. Jan. 21 to discuss event, get his support and check on personnel who will be assisting; i.e. kitchen supervisor, custodians and what Booster responsibilities are.
- Raffle Baskets are being put together by the students – Kim P. needs to know how many and what items.

NEW BUSINESS

Idea to Explore for next year:

- **After-school club** for student run Pit/Tech Crews. Faculty Member to *advise/instruct students*.
- **Student Crews:** Boosters/Music Dept. would make a request of entire Platt student body for members to join the:
 - Marching Band ***Pit Crew***
 - Concert Production ***Tech Crew*** (*Lighting/Sound*)

Incentives: *Each member of the student crew teams would:*

- Receive Community Service Hours,
- Extra-curricular activity to add to resume list
- Pit Crew *attends all home football games for free if they are working.*
- Tech Crew *attends all concerts for free if they are working.*
- Valuable experience if interested in this particular field of study,

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Crane ; Secretary
Platt Performing Arts Boosters