

**NPMA General Parent Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 22, 2022  
InPerson Meeting at NPHS, Room A033 at 7:30 pm  
Meeting called to order at 7:36 PM by President Annemarie Thornton**

**Welcome and Approval of January General Parent Meeting Minutes  
Alicia Hayes motion to approve; John Hayes seconded motion, all in favor.**

**Directors' Report**

Mr. Santanello shared that we are in a really good place overall in our programs compared to other schools in the area. This is due to students being great troopers, staff and parents. Lots of programs are struggling financially, and of course, we are as well, but not nearly to the extreme that he has heard from other groups. Many groups have half of the participants than they had previously.

We have very full jazz bands, and had to make cuts this year.

NPWP (Indoor Percussion) has 24 members and NPVE (Indoor Guard) has 14 members. The middle school program has 16 members which makes us optimistic, huge potential for growth.

Important item he is keeping his eye on: What is our reach, i.e. How many kids are involved and what can we offer them?

More than anything else, would love to see students, teachers and staff be met with grace. All people are having personal struggles both in and out of the program. Everyone will make mistakes as programs adapt and grow during this "return to normal." No one is here to get famous or make money. But the kids are doing it for the right reasons and staff and parents are here and involved for the right reasons. For example, this is Mr. Santanello's first spring, despite his having been here for three years. He's never been to a Memorial Day parade, or a graduation. Please, again, treat each other with patience and grace as we move forward.

Jazz Band is performing this weekend at Steel Stacks in Bethlehem on Sunday. Show starts at noon, NP performs at 1:45. Will be a really fun event.

Marching Knights camp had a huge turnout and there were lots of interested kids.

Q: Where can we find a schedule for jazz? A: On calendar, but will also put in bulletin

**Mr. Haddad:**

Went to our first competition in 2 years. Before penalties we would have been in 4<sup>th</sup> place but with penalties we got 5<sup>th</sup> place.

4<sup>th</sup> place was great for who we were up against; there were 1-2 who are now Open Class groups that we have competed against in the past.

We had no floor, no uniforms. We did have props, so thank you to those who helped paint and build our props.

For everyone's awareness, the group requires more than the 15 minutes the host gives us for warmups; students need enough time to warm up hands/feet/become mentally engaged. At most schools, this means warming up outdoors because they do not have indoor space for all of the groups. Unfortunately, we were not prepared for the length of time practicing outside. Mr. Haddad did reduce the time once he realized kids were not properly prepared for weather/wind. Will have a meeting tomorrow with some key volunteers to discuss and will send out better detailed schedules.

Group received the floor mat & uniforms should be in within the next 2 weeks.

### **Executive Officer Summary Reports**

- **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President / Fundraising – Andrea Hinderliter**
  - Future fundraisers
    - Clothing Drive - Looking at a Saturday in May  
Possibly May 21, we are paid by pound, great reason to clean out your closets. Take clothes, shoes, soft household goods (think linens), stuffed animals.
    - Trivia Night - May (more information to come soon)  
Will discuss further at March Exec Board meeting down. Originally planned for Mothers' Day Weekend, but that is also weekend of Senior Prom.
    - Duck Regatta
      - Need to find a place to hold (needs running water)  
Would like creek, but possible to do in pool with kids splashing
    - Dine Arouds in the works
      - Gran Rodeo
      - Panera Bread - March 31st
      - New Britain Inn
      - Pour House - March 7th @ 5-9pm (Dine in or take out)  
Must mention North Penn Music Aides
      - Miller's Ale House
      - Chipotle - May 18th @ 4-8pm

Can order in app and use code—look for code to be published on social media and in bulletin

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President / Publicity/Sponsorship— Barbara Tracanna**  
Unable to attend; nothing to report

- **Treasurer – John Ashley**  
***NPMA Treasurer’s Report January 2022***

Accounts have been reconciled through the month of January. Balances as of January 31, 2022.

- o Checking= January Closing Balance \$56,304.59
- o SC Market= \$19,660.17
- o Holding Money Market= \$5,003.59

**Income for January +\$8,347.05**

*Scrip - \$2.3k, Donations - \$2.4k, Participation Fees \$1.5k, Fundraising - \$2.1k*

**Expenses for January -\$10,832.36**

*Scrip - \$3k, Show Expense - \$6.9k*

- *Overall donations are now within \$1,900 of budget. We are not aware of any other expected matches at this point. There may possibly be another \$500 match coming through but not positive. “Within spitting distance” of budget*
- *Back in December, there was an Alumni gift for \$3k designated for winter percussion. In January, we received a matching gift for the \$3k. Giver’s intent is to designate \$1k to WP Dayton trip, a portion to compensate for the math error discussed below to bring Activity Fees to \$450, and the balance to the General Fund.*
- *Compilation done. Has been filed with IRS—Annual report has been sent to the Commonwealth of PA as per our requirement of our non-profit status..*

**Any questions should be sent to [npma.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:npma.treasurer@gmail.com)**

- **Assistant Treasurer - Alicia Hayes**

- Everything has been deposited (\$20,000+ between two events—Knight of Jazz and Indoor Guard Home Show)
- Went to Blue Box before meeting and there was another \$250
- **Recording Secretary - Deb Neild**
  - KOS chair needed. Date is October 15.
  - Facilities have been reserved for the date
  - Per Mr. Santanello: wouldn't budget any differently but this has the potential to be really big. Cavalcade of bands has shrunk, so it should be easier to attract bands. This event will be open for registrations within a couple of weeks; Mr. Santanello has a meeting with USBands coming up. The nearest competition would likely be in Central Jersey; there may not be another competition that weekend in PA.
- **Corresponding Secretary - Jen Diffley**

Nothing to report

### **Unfinished Business**

- **Band Banquet update (Sunday, May 29th)**

Although this is Memorial Day weekend, the kids are marching in the Memorial Day parade so most people should be home that weekend which is why we chose this weekend.

Should be a net neutral activity and no cost to NPMA—event should pay for itself with ticket sales. In the past, tickets have been roughly \$40 pp and student credit can be used to pay for tickets.

  - Program Book, Pins, Steins
  - Jenn Karpf is willing to run this event; approved per Executive Board. She will be looking to set up a committee to help plan and execute.
  - She has contacted a DJ, will cost \$475 (updated; previously noted as \$450)
  - Ticket sales will cover cost as noted above
  - Empress Room has been reserved. Empress Room is a banquet hall in St. Helena's Church in Blue Bell, PA.
  - Set-up at 4, doors open at 5:30 p.m.
  - Parents can attend the banquet. What typically happens is that parents stay for the first two hours to see the awards and then leave once dancing begins.
  - Looking for ideas for recognizing Kitch and 50th Anniversary
  - Program book has been started.

- Ads, baby pictures, section ads, etc. due April 1. Sections should be outdoor (NPMK) groups  
All details about ads, etc. are posted in bulletins. Still need Drum Major info from Seoyeon Lee & Gitae Choi.
- There had previously been a question about folding cost of program book into cost of banquet tickets and the answer had originally been no. This has been reconsidered, as all kids who go to banquet would then get one and kids who do not attend can purchase a book directly at a specified cost. This will be discussed by Exec. Board and answered more concretely at next meeting. Jenny has not yet gotten a cost back from printer to determine cost of book.

### New Business

- Summary of Knight of Jazz and Indoor Guard shows
  - Cashless payment went well when internet worked. A large thank you to John Ashley and Tori Shaffer for setting up cashless system.
  - Feedback from parents at meeting who worked tickets: While the majority of people paid cash, there were a number of very happy people with the option of having cashless payment/accepting other forms of payment. People did have sticker shock and some walked out, but if you consider the fact that you can see 32 groups and enjoy a night of being entertained, it's a great price.
  - Also noted that many NPMK/NPWP kids worked in Concessions and they were great—very helpful, hard working, polite.
  - \$1632 total cashless sales for Guard Show
  - \$167.75 total cashless sales at KOJ
- Acknowledgement of Eric Kitchenman's retirement (as part of Band Banquet?)
- Next season is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of NPMK so looking for as many ways as possible to acknowledge/celebrate that.
- New information on NPVE and NPWP fees (each \$450) - information below taken from Jan Parent mtg
  - NPVE (14 students): **\$803** was the base budget
  - \$125 to be allocated from Bag Bingo revenue reducing fee to \$678
    - This came about by taking \$4375 from Bag Bingo revenue and directing it to the 14 and 23 indoor students. Remaining profit directed to NPMA general fund.
  - Exec Board building scenarios to distribute revenue from 2/5/2022 Indoor Guard show:
    - Profits up to \$8K will be directed back to indoor programs resulting in an additional \$216 reduction in student fees

- Profits from \$8-12K will be directed into the NPMA general fund
  - Profits >\$12k will be directed back to indoor programs
  - Did very week at Indoor show but not over \$12k
  - High potential for Indoor Guard program fee to be \$450  
(\$803 - \$125) - \$216 = **\$462. Was kept at \$450 because that is what was quoted to parents and committed to by NPMA.**
- NPWP: **\$918** is the base budget (using 23 students, December information was based on 22 students)
  - Same \$125 and \$216 reductions applied to WP
  - Gift received providing further reduction of \$130 for each WP student
    - High potential for WP program fee to be \$435  
([**\$918** - \$125] - \$216) - \$130 = **\$447**
    - Kept at \$450 because that is what NPMA committed to.

**Post meeting clarification: The per student base fee calculated off of the WP complete budget is \$956 not \$918 as stated above. Taking the reductions as listed result in an activity fee of \$485. In addition, please note the Bag Bingo revenue had a calculation error (used 35 instead of 37 students) and impacted both Guard and WP amounts as shared in Tuesday's meeting. Corrections are noted above. Fortunately, we received additional donations bringing down both programs to an activity fee of \$450. Any questions reach out to NPMA President or Treasurer.**

**Mr. Santanello: Music families should not have to pay \$900 to be in both NPMK and Indoor programs. He is entering discussions with the School Board and School district to discuss a comparison of the money given to other groups, particularly when it comes to staffing. Currently, NPMA pays for all staff and that is a huge chunk of the budget, but the suspicion is that other groups do not have to do this. Mr. Santanello stated that we could get cheap staff to work hours and hours with our children, but you get what you pay for. Quakertown SD, kids pay \$150 for marching band and \$100-\$125 for indoor and the district significantly subsidizes this.**

**Mr. Santanello also stated that we should not be in a position halfway thru indoor seasons discussing student membership fees. As a result, we are going to restructure how we plan; this should have been hammered out in July when the budget was built and certainly by September when the budget was presented.**

- Close-out discussion on fees for VE and WP programs. Both set at \$450.



- Question regarding Calendar Fundraiser - will that money go to Charms?
  - Yes, because of the hugely successful Guard show, all that money can go into Charms.
- 50th Anniversary
  - Alumni are collecting memorabilia
  - KOS tent to walk through to see memorabilia
- NPMK camp Friday, February 18, ~35 students attended.
  
- General Elections - nominations in March, voting in April
  - For 2022-2023 Season for Executive Board and Committee Chairpersons
  - Must have attended 3 meetings since July
  - Questions? Please review info in bylaws or ask current chairperson
  - Training available
  - Nomination emails need to be sent to the publicity email ([npma.publicity@gmail.com](mailto:npma.publicity@gmail.com))
  - Public notice will be included in the bulletin. There will be clear expectations noted of positions that are available. There will also be a link to the bylaws where position descriptions, qualifications are all outlined.
  - All positions available but some board members wish to retain their positions. Sewing and Uniform positions remain open along with expected Concession chairpersons. Rose kindly stayed but does not wish to hold the Uniform position any longer. Her last child graduated 2 years ago. Sewing has been vacant all year, as Katy Joyce's last child also graduated 2 years ago.
  - May come down to each family having to hem their own pants. The pants are generally going to be too long for 95% of the kids. A team would be great, but we need to have a point of contact (Chairperson) to organize the team. Rose sat and hemmed pants for 8 hours and had them ready for the next day. In the past, students who take sewing have helped in hemming.

### **Upcoming Events**

- General Parent Meeting Tuesday, February 22nd at 7:30 p.m.
- NPVE and NPWP practices and performances

### **Elected Chairpersons Summary Reports (As Applicable)**

- **Quartermaster – Kris Neild / John Hayes**
  - Work day will be scheduled to do final clean up probably when warmer.

- Theater has a show production at the end of April so they will probably reach out prior to that so they can access their props and other belongings.
- John Ashley is now approved to drive the box truck (THANK YOU)!
- Need drivers and crew members for indoor programs and will need drivers and crew members for NPMK.

- **Refreshments (Concessions) – Victoria Shelly / Jerry Kosmin / Lisa Pyle**

- Jerry and Lisa expressed gratitude to parents/students who helped at KOJ and Indoor show and also to all families who donated items for bake sale.
- Looking for two other concessions coordinators. Tori runs concessions like a well-oiled machine but she cannot do it alone.
- Concessions netted \$25,000 for the year and is the largest contributor to the budget other than student fees. This activity is essential to the success of NPMA.

- **Sewing - Posting is vacant**

- **Uniforms - Rose Durkin** I spent time two weeks ago fitting students for PMEA district band. It was unnecessary as they did not use their uniforms. I was able to inventory all of the black competition pants and put them into storage. I reinforced the hem, numbered each pair, measured and labeled inseams, and listed everything into the charms account for next season. I would still like to put on hangers. I am currently awaiting the arrival of indoor percussion uniforms for alterations. They are not due until March. I have heard nothing of interest from anyone to fill my position for next year.
- Black pants have been repaired, labeled, and sorted.
- See above comments regarding Uniforms and needs to be successful.

- **Student Financials – Jenny Platt**

GLScrip - \$1496.21 - (October 24th reports through January 17th)

**Total Student Credit: \$1,496.21**

**Fund balances January 31, 2022:**

Student Credit: \$10,289.17

Knights In Need: \$8,619.11



Directors Fund: \$0  
Trophy Fund: \$205  
Instrument Replacement Fund: \$0

**Indoor Programs:**

Indoor Percussion-All fees have been updated in Charms, students have been updated, waiting on info for 2 new members not listed in Charms

Indoor Guard - All fees and students have been updated in Charms

Q: How do we register for Indoor Programs? No payment slips went out for Indoor Guard (NPWP did receive a packet with payment slips/dates)

A: This was discussed at one of the meetings with Matt, and dates were given verbally. Can go into CHARMS and find out balance. You can hit the "Transfer funds" button and an email will go to Jenny to transfer your funds.

\*\*Mr. Santanello: That will all be different next year. Communication and registration process will be improved.

Q: What else can seniors use \$ for, and can \$ be donated?

A: CHARMS money/credit cannot be refunded. A graduating senior can transfer their CHARMS balance to another student or transfer to certain funds (Knights in Need, Director's Fund, General Fund, etc.)

***Next General Parent Meeting - March 21, 2022 in A033***

Have had success in the past with virtual meetings; would like to do in-person meetings but allow for streaming. Can do in A033. Want to allow for streaming because when we did virtual meetings we had 40 attendees, but this meeting only had 17. Will send information before the next meeting.

In attendance: \*Annemarie Thornton, \*Kris Neild, \*John Hayes, \*Alicia Hayes, Rebecca Weaver, Liz Lieb Overton, Greg Hinderliter, \*Andrea Hinderliter, \*Jennifer Diffley, Augustine Auch, \*Jerry Kosmin, \*John Ashley, \*Jenny Platt, Gretchen Schneider, Susan Mooney, Audrey Papula, \*Lisa Pyle, Joe Santanello, Sean Haddad