

## McCourt Middle School Band Booster Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2010

6:30 pm

McCourt Middle School Library

The meeting started at approximately 6:30 pm. Band director Paul Bowser, Band booster President Gail Dubois, Treasurer Beth McCarthy, Secretary Mary Alberg, and 2 parents were present.

Gail has been unable to set up a meeting with Dr. Morelle to discuss the direction of the middle school bands. Dr. Morelle does not return her messages.

There is a sign-up sheet for guitar lessons. The 10 week session costs \$61.72 per student and the cost includes lessons and a book. Hopefully, enough students will sign up so the course can be held. The maximum number of students is 10 per class.

Mr. Bowser has a website that can be found at [www.schoolrack.com](http://www.schoolrack.com). It is up and running, and he is still adding to it.

We still haven't heard from BAAM yet. We would like their help to buy a bass clarinet for the band. Mr. Bowser will try to contact them.

We still have 39 chocolate pops left from the Christmas concert. They were originally priced at \$1 per pop. We have sold some at the reduced rate of \$.50 per pop. Hopefully we will have sold the rest by our next meeting.

The treasury reports funds of \$3723.43. However, we need to pay the balance on the sweatshirt order to Windsor Sports.

The band is still in need of ties. We borrowed ties for the Christmas Concert from the high school. Mr. Bowser has a requisition out for new ties. We need about 25 ties and could order them from absoluteties.com for \$6.99 each for a total of \$174.75.

We are hoping to have band pictures taken in February and the cost would be \$12 per student. The student would receive a group picture of the band and an individual portrait.

We are hoping to have the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade band perform at B.F. Norton, Garvin and Ashton Elementary Schools in March to introduce band to these elementary school students and to get them excited about joining band.

We are planning to take the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade band to a Boston Pops Concert in May or June. We need to decide which concert to attend: Hooray for Hollywood (John Williams conducting, May 7), Pops 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration (May 14), Boston Pops Honors America (May 21) or a Tribute to Duke Ellington (June 4). Prices range from \$19-\$25 per person. A \$200 deposit is due as soon as possible to reserve the date we want. We plan to make

this a joint venture with North Cumberland Middle School. There are approximately 38 students from North who may attend and 31 students from McCourt. Chaperones will also be needed.

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade band will hopefully be going to the RI Philharmonic in the spring for a special performance.

We are also looking into a band trip to a Pawsox game in April or June where the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will perform the Star-Spangled Banner before the game. The students would get into the game for free, while parents and other family members would pay a reduced price. The band would receive ½ of the proceeds.

We are also looking into buying or making a banner for the band.

It is imperative that as many band parents and students attend the school committee meeting on Thursday, February 11 at 7:30 pm in the Trans Building at CHS since the music program will be discussed. Parents and students can sign up to speak at the meeting. The fate of the music program may be at stake.

The next Band Booster meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 23 at 6:30 pm in the McCourt school library.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:25 pm.

Submitted by Mary Alberg  
Band Booster Secretary