

Colonel's Pride Band Boosters Association
General Board Meeting Minutes- October 3, 2022

A general meeting of the Colonel's Pride Band Boosters Association was held on Monday, October 3, 2022 at 7:00 pm. In attendance were: Monte Morgan, Erik Peterson, Stephanie Ritenour, Marcy Nelson, Jeffrey Rutherford, several band students and parents.

Noted that Matthew Carpenter video recorded the meeting in its entirety.

The Millbrook competition was cancelled with no reschedule date. Homecoming game is Friday, October 7, 2022. Dinner will be at 4:30 pm; step off is 6:00 pm. Pit crew needs to arrive before 5:00 pm. WE NEED EXTRA HELP FOR THIS GAME. PLEASE SHOW UP IF YOU ARE AVAILABLE!

Upcoming:

October 10, 7:00 pm- Jazz concert. All are welcome!

October 15 & 16- apple pie making! We need to move locations since power to the school will be cut off that weekend. More details TBA. Please check the signup genius to sign up. Adults- if you are willing & able to be a station manager, please let Melissa Veach know.

Monte asked Mr. Rutherford what position he would be helping out with for apple pies and Mr. Rutherford's answer was "quality control."

***Apple pie orders and payments are due Friday, October 7th! ***

October 22- assessment at Patriot High School in Nokesville, VA.

Performance time is noon; we should be done around 3:00 pm.

October 28- home game/ senior night. Senior parents admitted free. Please present your name at either the upper or lower gates for admission. Please plan to come out on the field just before halftime to be recognized with your senior.

October 29- JMU Parade of Champions; we don't know performance time yet. We will do brunch for the kids before they roll out. I'll send out a signup genius for brunch dishes.

October 30- Adrian is working on setting up a trick or treat fundraising event. More details soon!

November 5- Liberty competition. Performance time is 12:12 pm. Dinner will be at Golden Corral in Waynesboro on the way home.

Spring Trip- we are likely going to Williamsburg/ Busch Gardens. Trip dates are April 21-23. Details/ pricing is being worked on and will be announced once things are set in stone.

*** If you need more band shirts (t-shirts are \$20, hoodies are \$40), please contact Monte. He will be placing another order soon. ***

Band Director update & discussion by members present:

Recap of the Herndon competition, past football games. The students have been given access to the judges' comments on Google classroom for them to review. The question was asked by Erik if they will be sitting down and going over those or are the students expected to go through them on their own. Mr. Rutherford has a list of changes suggested by the judges and that he has shared with the band but stated the students can go through those on their own.

Mr. Rutherford stated that cell phones continue to be an issue and a hindrance to what we are doing in class, and asked that parents help curb the usage in class by whatever means necessary. Erik asked what the rules are for cell phone usage. Mr. Rutherford said he has asked the kids not to use phones in class.

It was suggested by Stephanie Ritenour that parents be called individually about their cell phone usage. Mr. Rutherford said yes he can, and "here I am asking" parents. Mr. Moore then read the FCPS cell phone use policy, which states that students may use cell phones between classes but not during instruction time if the teacher asks the kids not to use them.

Erik asked about the extra rehearsals, longer band camp, other options to get extra practice time in. Mr. Rutherford stated he's tried 2-week band camps in the past but it's difficult due to last minute vacations.

Monte stated that the football team and others practice five times a week, and it wouldn't cut it if they only practiced 1-2 times per week. Mr.

Rutherford said there is regular class time that is also utilized for practicing but Thursdays and Fridays are the only time to pull everyone together (band & color guard) but that they do rehearse everyday, using band and scope time. A color guard member stated that the exception is the color guard, because they are in a different class period. She stated that it doesn't help them if they don't practice with the band. Mr. Rutherford stated that's the schedule he was dealt.

At this point, Monte stated there are kids not playing or practicing or showing up. He stated parents put a lot of time in and there are still kids not

playing or practicing and there should be consequences.

Monte then said there should be more stand tunes, and stated someone told him Sherando pep band outplayed us at our own home game. Mr. Rutherford answered with "I have at least three new tunes to add to the mix of the tunes of what we already have." A color guard member asked what they're supposed to do because they don't know the music and don't have dances to them. Mr. Rutherford answered, "I don't know. This is the first you're asking me. I will make some recordings tomorrow and if you want to come up with something to go with them."

Mr. Moore stated there is an appropriate time to play in the stands for us, but Sherando wasn't held to those standards or rules and we have been very observant and not interfered with what the football team is doing. The visiting team can make all the noise they want but it wouldn't be appropriate to counter that noise.

Monte then stated there have been times when he walks through the stands and the kids are nowhere to be found.

Erik asked if there was a problem with keeping the kids there and the kids seem to be spread out. Mr. Rutherford said the kids should stay in the stands.

Mr. Moore explained how the timing goes within football games and there are appropriate and inappropriate times for the band to play.

Monte then stated we need to be more of a team, and we are tired of losing. What is being done to make progress because we have a long way to go before JMU. Mr. Rutherford agreed. Monte said we need to make changes, we have a lot of kids out, but we have parental support and we need to keep up the momentum. Mr. Rutherford said "we are working."

Jose Mendoza asked if Mr. Rutherford is showing favoritism of the band over the color guard. Monte clarified this- there are a lot of announcements for band but color guard doesn't always hear these and they don't feel like they are part of the band. This has been addressed before with no changes or progress made in this aspect.

Jordan Morgan stated the guard doesn't feel like part of the team within themselves or with the band. They don't feel like they fit in anywhere.

Melissa Veach asked "What can be done to make you feel more a part of the team?"

The answer was "attitudes." Attitudes within guard and with the band.

Monte said one of the judges said he couldn't tell who the trumpet player or baritone player was, and perhaps the guard could point in their general

direction.

Melissa asked if this was a change we could make happen and make the guard more immersed in the band.

Erik asked if Mr. Rutherford also teaches the color guard and the answer was that they are separate, no longer in the band class. Everything is separate and hard to resolve, and that after school rehearsals are the only time they can all rehearse together and that the color guard has no instructor working with them.

It was suggested that the color guard have an instructor.

Mr. Moore stated that's the importance of after school rehearsals.

Jordan said they only see the band four hours a week, making it difficult to practice what they need to, and where needed.

Mr. Moore restated the importance of after school rehearsals.

Monte said yes but the after school rehearsals are sometimes cancelled, like last Friday.

Mr. Moore said he sees we are moving away from this being a band booster meeting to more of instructional forum and that there needed to be a different forum for this. Monte said he already spoke to Ms. Fout about this. Mr. Moore said this needed to be refocused on being a band booster meeting with the function of supporting the band, such as baking pies and raising money and not to get involved in how the band is run and if there are any major instructional concerns, that is something that needs to be handled at another meeting. He asked that we move on with band booster business and if not, the meeting can adjourn.

Andrew Allen asked Mr. Moore who he was. Mr. Moore introduced himself as head of the fine arts department and coordinator of student activities and Andrew asked, "Do you help with the band?"

Mr. Moore said, "That is my department, yes sir."

Andrew asked again, "Do you help with the band? Are you in the band room when they're here?"

Mr. Moore said, "Yes I am, there's times when I've been in the band room, yes sir."

Georgia said she feels like sometimes Mr. Rutherford needs to be on the field, rather than up above looking at our shape overall. She feels like it would be more effective if he would actually call kids out on what they're doing wrong and tell them to fix it. She said she's frustrated because there are kids who aren't playing. She said he needs to be more specific and not be so general, otherwise it's confusing. She said she doesn't listen to other

students, she should be listening to Mr. Rutherford directing instead. Mr. Rutherford said he hears her now. She said she feels sections need to do check-ins with their music and that would help greatly with their playing. Joshua Nelson spoke up and said he agreed with Georgia and that cell phone usage didn't used to be a problem nearly as much as it is now and that they are a huge distraction and motivation is down because of it. He stated whether you practice 2 days a week or 5 days a week won't matter if cell phones are still being used. He stated his freshman year, Mr. Rutherford was "on top of" the cell phone usage and it absolutely made a difference.

Georgia then stated there needs to be more individuals called out on their lack of playing or lack of trying.

Kayleigh Zahn said kids who don't play or perform should be called out by Mr. Rutherford and not peers because they don't listen to peers.

Amy Knipe said she's tried to work with guard but some would rather sit on their cell phones.

Melissa suggested giving kids a zero for not participating.

Kayleigh said they need to be called out individually.

Mr. Rutherford said he's not going to argue with that.

David Spinar said he should do that with drumline as well and Nancy Spinar said all sections should be that way.

Corrin Germeyer said extra practices wouldn't necessarily be the answer since so many kids work or have extra activities but what about using scope time everyday to work on sectionals.

Mr. Rutherford said there are ways to do that. They could use the chorus room and if kids still needed scope time, they could still use it in the band room.

Jordan said that wouldn't have an effect on guard and wouldn't benefit them but what about adding an extra hour of practice to Thursdays & Fridays instead.

Mr. Rutherford said that certainly is a possibility.

Mr. Moore said he's hearing some great ideas from students and that's very encouraging and there's a lot of ideas here. He said he doesn't want to shut anyone down but this has gotten away from booster business. He said there are kids who learn differently, at a different pace and he isn't a fan of calling kids out individually because of this. He said people can address any issues with him or Ms. Fout.

He said he wants to wrap this meeting up since there is no further band

booster business.

Mr. Rutherford asked if there was anything else we needed to discuss.

DJ Foster asked how many students haven't paid their band fee.

Monte said six or seven but he would have to go back and look.

Mr. Rutherford thanked everyone for coming.

The meeting was not properly adjourned by the band president, as Mr.

Moore took over, without the authority to do so, and cut the meeting off at this time.

Respectfully submitted by,
Marcy Nelson
Colonel's Pride Band Boosters Secretary