

AAA Homeschool Band Parent's Meeting

January 13, 2011

Meeting started at 7:00 with prayer and Ann Beach reviewed highlights from the last parent's meeting.

Old Business

Review of Uniform Policy:

Ann reviewed the uniform policy since there was some confusion. The beginner uniform consists of a white button down shirt, black pants, black belt and black shoes. Intermediate and advanced uniform includes a tuxedo shirt, royal blue vest, royal blue rosette (girls) or bow tie, black belt, black pants, black shoes. Details are available on the AAA Band website http://www.aaaband.org/Uniform_info.html. These uniforms are used in any formal events such as the Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, ensembles and other formal events.

At All State, band members have the option of wearing a black blazer with their uniform and girls may wear a long black dress or their uniform.

Solo and Ensemble:

Barb stated that participants must decide if they are going to use Smartmusic or pay for accompaniment. There has been trouble with the organizers having an old version of smartmusic in the past, but she is assuming that will be straightened out this year. Students do not need a Smartmusic subscription to use Smartmusic as an accompaniment. They will have plenty of time to practice during lessons. If they would like to pay, it is \$20, but the band will pay \$10. Students will get to practice with their accompanist three times.

Band Practice:

Ann expressed concern that there needs to be more time for the band to practice with students in private schools. Barb said that they were considering having one rehearsal per month move from the regular 2:30 to 3:30 time to 3:30 - 4:30 to allow these students to attend. She asked for comments or other ideas. After much discussion, it was decided that, if the board of directors approve, the band will meet from 3:30 to 4:30 on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The board was to vote after the meeting and the band will be notified by email.

Treasurer's Report:

The band has \$4,006.27 in the bank. The treasurer estimates that the Pizza Hut fundraiser raised about \$150, pecan pie sales brought in about \$650, the yard sale netted \$300, Chick Fil'A raised \$185. These are preliminary numbers

Fund Raising:

Celia Acevedo is thinking of asking area businesses to support the band with money, gift cards or other items the band may use. She also asked for other ideas for fundraisers such as a silent auction, craft sale or bake sale. Next month Celia will bring a craft item that she thinks we can easily make and sell at various craft sales. Any fundraising ideas should be directed to Celia.

Barb may have a catering job for the band next New Year's Eve. She is involved with a dance band that will be hosting 4 dinner dances per year. They have a caterer for every event except the Dec. 31, 2011. The group seemed interested in this possibility and Barb will keep us posted.

Barb also mentioned that she has a freezer full of blackberries. We could make coffee cake to sell at Easter.

USC Band Clinic:

Since there are no students attending the USC Band Clinic this year, Barb would like the money budgeted to pay for the USC clinic to be used to help pay for the Limestone College Band Clinic. Ali, Hana, Sam, and Brad will be attending. There was also discussion as to whether the kids should wear their band polo shirts one day. Parents can look at the Limestone College Band Clinic website if they have questions about the dress code.

All State Results:

Barb explained that last week 14 students auditioned for Region 2. The high score in each level goes to All State. The levels are Junior, Clinic (9th & 10th grade), and Senior (11th & 12th grade).

Of the 14 who auditioned, 8 made callbacks. It is possible that everyone who auditioned will make All County. Four from the AAA Band made 1st chair with County Band. We will know region results after January 22 auditions.

The date for Aiken County Band is TBD. It will be either Wednesday, March 2nd or Friday, March 4th.

Homeschool Day at the Capitol:

Tuesday, March 8th AAA Band will join the Midlands Band to play on the grounds of the Capitol at 12:00. Barb pointed out that this day is very important for homeschoolers politically. Homeschoolers from all over the state come to the capitol, take tours, watch the senate in session, and visit their representatives. Homeschooling becomes less an abstract idea in the minds of political leaders and more memories of students and families they have met. This is our chance to express our concerns and show them how successful homeschooling can be.

There will be two rehearsals before the capitol, Tuesday, March 1st and Thursday, March 3rd in Columbia from 2:30–4:30.

Dacapo:

Barb explained Dacapo means from the beginning. This special event in May is for beginning students.

Prayers:

Barb requested that everyone pray for the kids going back for All-State Auditions. That everyone gets moved up and is able to play in something.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m..