

Band Booster Board Meeting

June 6, 2006

7:00 PM

The Ponderosa High School Band Booster Board of Directors met at the home of Lee Hopkins this last Tuesday evening. Those present included Lee Hopkins (president), Hannes Spreigl (vice-president), Dave Wick (director), and Joe Westerdale (secretary). The meeting was called to order by Lee who made some very positive comments about our annual banquet last month and the momentum that the program has gained in the last few months.

The meeting began with an animated description of the fall marching show by our director. It is easy to tell that he is very excited about the music and some of the drill ideas that he and his percussion instructor, Brian Graham, are generating. Dave, Brian, and Joseph have about half of the show written and hope to have it completed by the end of this month.

There was a discussion of the benefits of the charitable gift-matching programs which many companies offer to their employees. This conversation was prompted by the fact that one of our members had submitted an application for matching funds for a donation check which he had given to the band boosters. It was resolved that the board would try to increase the awareness of these programs among the booster members.

Following that was a discussion of the need to continue the booster organization's relationship with its alumni. Not only have they been source of knowledge and support, but many have expressed an interest in keeping informed about the program and its efforts. The board decided that they would approach Andy Shapiro to find out if he would be interested in chairing and alumni relations committee.

Next was a discussion of the need for the program to grow. Both from an economic as well as educational standpoint, it was decided that this has to be a goal for this program. The board would like to find an interested parent who would like to assist the Band Director with his current outreach efforts with Sagewood Middle School and the feeder elementary schools as well.

This was followed by a discussion of ways that the board could incent members to help manage some of their fund-raising activities. Fund-IT was a program that raised more the \$12,000 annually for the program, but was nearly a part-time job for one of our parents when this was the case. It was decided that the board would investigate the possibility of providing financial incentives to parents who would manage our fund-raising activities – provided that this does not jeopardize our non-profit 501(c)3 status.

The president proposed an idea for improving attendance at our monthly Booster meetings. He suggested that the board consider other venues, such as some of the local country clubs, where members could socialize following the business portion of the monthly meetings. This idea was unanimously supported and so we will be looking for a new location for the September 14, 2006 Booster Meeting.

Lee mentioned that Carole Gaeckle was hosting a Freshman Parent reception at her house on June 25th. Section leaders will be there to meet our new students and to welcome them to the program.

There was discussion about increasing student participation in boosters. It was felt that many of the decisions made by the boosters have significant impact on the students. Lee suggested we have a student on the board or at a minimum a student representative at booster meetings. Mr. Wick suggested this might be a job for the drum majors and offered to discuss the idea with them.

There was a lengthy discussion of how to structure fees for the coming year. While a few of the details are yet to be finalized, it was decided that it was in the best interests of the program to maintain as much continuity as was possible with fees. These will be announced in the next few weeks.

The president tasked the secretary with authoring a Mission Statement for the Booster Program before the next board meeting. Please be sure to email joe_westerdale@yahoo.com if you have some ideas that you would like to contribute. Finally, the board wanted to be sure that the activities director, Elizabeth Gardner, and the new principal were invited to the potluck in August.

Respectfully submitted,
Joe Westerdale, secretary