

## BBOB Meeting Notes 3/1/2021

7:03 pm

BBOB President Jennifer Harmon welcomed everyone.

**Scott Wolf:** Solo and Ensemble Festival went great! He has noticed a huge difference in intonation and tone in students' playing. Coaching is going well and is making a difference. Students are keeping a positive attitude, even with the uncertainty on the horizon. Orchestra students are resilient. Coming in and ready to go. Wednesday this week, we have Erica Sotto (**sp??**) from US Military Band, classically trained from Juilliard. Doing Master Class with some of our students. This should be a great session. We would like to talk about bringing in a clinician to work on composition. Middle School update: we are holding a meeting this Wednesday at 7:30. Alan has a link for this meeting. Thursdays- drop by tuning time for students (middle school students.) When students come in to have instruments tuned, we will match them with a practice buddy. We had an elementary student sitting in on sectionals.

Romeo and Juliet: we are missing some wind players due to the pandemic. Trob (**sp??**) Scholarship- has been around for years. For seniors-performance and interview with one of the children of the original donor, Lucy. Lucy has flown in from California in the past. We have provisions in place for either virtual or in person. Deadline: March 25th. Lucy is the executor of the award.

Concerto concert might not be the best idea this year, due to the fact that it is large, long and involves so many students on the stage.

### Student Report

Savitri Anantharaman: We are ready to go for spring marching band. We still need more sign ups. We have been excited to get back into the classroom and play. Symphony Band is the group with the most engagement. We are still going game nights with upper classmen every few weeks. Band has been a fun experience this year.

**Alan Posner:** standard recommendation is to play 30 minutes maximum indoors. We start by playing, stop, Going back full time, we will look at going outside and using instrument covers. We will have tents out in the legacy courtyard to facilitate this.

**Catherine:** is Concerto possible? **Scott:** we don't have the personnel to pull it off. We would have students submit a recording and put together a virtual collage concert. Graduation: we may pull a smaller ensemble to play. Catherine: graduation will be at DTE. The only thing that is a question at this point is how many guests each student is allowed to have.

Alan: 55 signed up for spring marching band. 90 had said that they would be signing up. We are encouraging sign ups. Planning: spring "play through". Working with athletic department for a night in late May. We could use the courtyard, depending on numbers. We are also working on putting together a performing arts honors night. This could be an interactive zoom call. Some students achieved high scores. One student won the Concerto Competition. We have a Marine Horn player coming in to discuss auditioning Friday this week. Marine band does a March Madness event- a concert march in March. Jazz Band has been going great. We've been able to do an hour twice a week. They are sounding really good.

Jen: Do you need volunteers onsite? What is possible? In person, what can we be doing to help? Normally we would be coming to the 8th Grade event. Could we do this online? Alan: yes. Wed this week. There is a list of fundraising. We have a list of equipment we could use.

Kids love food, and this could be a motivator for them. We could end a rehearsal early and have pancakes or bagels.

Catherine: has spring Marching Band schedule been determined? Alan: a lot of this has to do with COVID, and there is a schedule but it is subject to change at this point. We are planning the multicultural celebration.

Scott: currently 1/3 of our students are coming into school. It is unlikely that more students will be in school when we move to 5 days a week in April.

### **Treasurer Report**

#### **Sarah Binkowski:**

Koeze fundraiser made 4000 dollars. So far this year we have 5000 in memberships. Some people opted to not participate in the fundraiser and donated money instead. We set aside 2500 dollars for spring marching band for expenses that the school district will not cover. Thanks to Alan for presenting to the school board and requesting increased funding. Our bank account is healthy.

Jen: Is the money leveling out? Sarah: last year we did make more money with the fundraising. By the end of May we made over 8000, and we had 12000 in membership. We also do not have expenses this year. No uniform/cleaning fees. We are down in fundraising and membership. We know that it is a strange year and families are undergoing stresses due to the pandemic. Usually we ask for membership fees when we are doing fall marching band. Because people paid online this year, we did not ask.

Jen: there could be another little boost: If people are going to be back in person, and we are having outdoor music where we can be together again, this may inspire people. Laurie (sp??) Nimko: calendar fundraiser. Donors choose a date during the month and gives the corresponding amount. We could think of ways we can make this a fun, competitive thing. Orchestra vs Band? Laurie: "Rake and Run" is where students rake or do outdoor work in neighborhoods, and can get donations (but there is not obligation for neighbors to pay.) Catherine: have the responsibility of getting a section filled could fall on a section, to take the pressure off of individual students.

Scott: how are we doing with the ask letter? Jen: we are looking at how to send this out.

Catherine: there is a Foundation. Our families have been encouraged to use the Bloomfield Hills Foundation as our Amazon Smile option, and the money that is made gets split up between.

Lara: could we create an ask video instead of a letter? We could create a short video, including our kids, talking about what inspires them, etc. Laurie: we could also thank people who have already donated.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm.