

GBN Choir and Theatre Parents Organization Meeting

September 1, 2015

The meeting was held in the Green and Gold Conference Room at Glenbrook North High School. The meeting was called to order at 6:06 P.M.

Present at the meeting:

Chad Davidson, Andrew Wallace, Julie Ann Robinson, Lindsey Berman, Nancy Frese, Ellen Westel, Christine Hultman, Patricia Dolins, Sue Frieden, Lori Kwolek, Bonnie Schoenberg, Laura Horwitch, Meghan Rosenfeld, Ling Wang, Laura Schmitt, Debbie Wilensky, Linda Redstone, Cheri Kates, Heather MacDonald, Jeannie Chang, Missy Levine, Marla Lampert, Esther Kelly, Larna Cohen, Julie Snyder, Tracy Meyer, Elyssa Siegel, Sally Norlie, Laurie Shults and Carol Currie

I. Welcome and Introductions

CTPO President, Nancy Frese, welcomed everyone. Each person introduced him or herself, said what their position is in the CTPO (if applicable) and the ages of their children. Chad Davidson noted that this is his 17th year at GBN. Andy Wallace was married over the summer and Julie Ann Robinson is engaged to be married on July 2, 2016. Congratulations to all three! Julie Ann introduced us to GBN Science teacher, Lindsey Berman, who will be directing the Fall Showcase, The Ugly Duckling, and working with Comedy Troup this year. The Ugly Duckling is an original piece that was written by students. The actors will practice for about 2.5 weeks before the show runs from 9/17/15 through 9/19/15. The intended audience is approximately 2nd graders.

II. May Meeting Minutes Approval

No corrections were offered for the May 2015 meeting minutes. Ellen Westel moved that the minutes be approved and Elyssa Siegel seconded the motion. We voted and the motion was unanimously approved.

III. GBN Faculty Reports

Chad Davidson started off by commenting on how many new people were in attendance and thanked the group in advance for all of their efforts throughout the coming school year. The help of CTPO parents allows Chad, Andy, and Julie Ann to focus on the kids. Chad explained that Andy Wallace works with all of the curricular choirs, Chad works with some of the choirs and Julie Ann Robinson teaches the Drama classes.

The voice faculty introduced themselves to students during classes on August 31st and (today) September 1st. Forms are available to sign up for voice lessons at www.gbnchoir.com.

Chad pointed out that there are many ways to keep up with the choir department events. People can look at the calendar at www.gbnchoir.com, and they can follow them on Facebook and Twitter.

Ladies First auditions happened over the past two days and the results will be posted at www.gbnchoir.com on Friday.

Students (Chorale only) must sign up for IMEA auditions by this Friday (9/4/15).

Chad commented that there seems to be good chemistry in the choirs this year and that there are lots of great kids in the choral programs. Please note that there are announcements EVERY DAY in choir and kids still do not always deliver the information home.

Both A Capella groups (Fermata Nowhere and Ow!) performed at the Freshman Orientation and Loyalty day.

Checkbook fundraising has started.

Wardrobe distribution will be coming up soon. Curricular choirs will have their fittings during the school day.

The tour proposal for 2016-2017 has been submitted. Choir students and inducted thespians will be able to sign up for the tour if they want to go. Stops will include Munich, Prague, Vienna, Salzburg, and more.

Julie Ann reported that Comedy Troupe has 9 seniors and 1 junior this year.

The Ugly Duckling will run on September 17th through the 19th. There will be no meals on Monday due to the Jewish holiday. There may be practice over the Labor Day weekend.

Arabian Nights will run from 10/1/15 through 10/3/15. There will be meals on September 28th, 29th, and 30th.

One Acts auditions are tonight. The show will run from October 15th through the 17th.

Julie Ann will collect \$20 when shows are cast to cover the cost of t-shirts and pizza or other food.

Julie Ann spoke about Technical Theatre – Joel Monaghan will work in the shop with kids on Mondays after school. It is a great way to be involved with the shows.

There is some new staff to announce. Casey Clack, from the English department (ARC tutor) will help with props for Arabian Nights, One Acts, the variety show and the musical. Amy Ticho will help with One Acts and Thespians.

The Thespian Theatre Club will meet on September 9th in the CPA lobby.

Inducted thespians can sign up now for TheatreFest in January. There are 25 spots. Julie Ann would like a response from thespians by 9/11/15 as to whether or not they would like to go to TheatreFest.

IV. President's Report

Nancy thanked everyone for being at the meeting and indicated that there are still positions within the CTPO where help is needed. A Chaperone Chair is needed to help recruit volunteers to chaperone concerts. Depending on where the Techny concert is held this year, chaperones may be needed for that. We need help with refreshments. This job requires asking parents to help sell snacks for Cider and Song, the Jr. High Choral Festival, and other events. For the Tour, we need a "Special Events" chair. This will be a two-year commitment because the tour is not until the 2016-2017 school year.

Nancy requested that discussion at meetings be minimal in order to get through all of the business. If there are items that need more discussion, committee meetings can be held to hash out the details and then report back to the CTPO as a whole.

V. Vice President's Report - Communication and Publicity

Christine Hultman reported that we send email blasts via Vertical Response. The newsletter will be released three times during the year and there will be monthly information blasts. Publicity includes hanging the posters for the plays. She passed out posters for *The Ugly Duckling* at the meeting. Ordinarily, posters are available to be picked up from Christine's porch at her home.

VI. Treasurer's Report

Tracy Meyer reported the following account balances (actually reported on 9/9/15 via email):

Choir	\$8,298.62
Theatre	\$7,116.22
Money Market	\$21,768.48

VII. Fundraising / EFA Report

Patricia Dolins reported on the EFA (Earning Fund Account). This account is for fundraising money earned and is recorded by the specific student who earned the money. The first fundraiser is the Booster Shot Checkbook. They are on sale now. The cost is \$30 and, of that, \$15.90 goes into the EFA of the seller. The checks have a cumulative value of over \$500.00. There is a form on the website that **MUST BE USED** when ordering checkbooks so that Patricia can track EFA earnings by student. Butterbraids will be available to sell soon.

A student who wishes to apply EFA earnings to the cost of a tour, or the choir or theatre banquet **MUST USE THE FORM** to indicate the transfer of funds out of their account. EFA funds are also transferrable to band or orchestra for use on one of their trips (or other expense). Again, **THE FORM IS REQUIRED FOR SUCH A TRANSFER TO TAKE PLACE.**

VIII. Membership Report

Lori Kwolek and Sue Frieden reported the following membership numbers:

Choir	45 members
Theatre	11 members
<u>Both</u>	<u>51 members</u>
Total	107 members

They reminded us that the names of members are printed in programs. This should be announced at Parent Night in the Classroom as an additional incentive for people to join.

Volunteers were requested for Parent Night – to make an announcement about CTPO membership during Treble Choir (2 sections)

For blocks 4-5, Lorna Cohen volunteered

For blocks 6-7, Heather MacDonald volunteered

Membership money (dues) goes for things like having the piano fixed and providing a small stipend for chaperones who go on the tours.

IX. Refreshments Report

Lauri Shults said that the October 16th and 17th dates are difficult for her and Susan Schueler to cover and they will appreciate help with those show dates (One Acts).

X. Wardrobe Report

Esther Kelly indicated that curricular choirs will receive their uniforms two days during the school day. She will let people know when this will be and will enlist help when she has the days and times.

XI. Chaperone Report

Tracy Meyer reported that Cider and Song will be the first event where chaperones are needed. The date of Cider and Song is 10/29/15 so she will recruit volunteers as that date gets closer.

XII. Show Meals Report

Heather MacDonald will be speaking with the directors about show meals. Check the website for meal ordering information (www.gbntheatre.com). The information for *The Ugly Duckling* is already posted (as of 9/9/15).

XIII. Banquet Report

Julie Snyder reported on the choir banquet. In the spring (2015), the banquet was held at Allgouers. Graduating seniors received a blanket, baby and senior photos were projected, and there were about 200 people in attendance.

Elyssa Siegel reported on the spring theatre banquet. 160 people attended the event, which was held on the CPA stage. This event attracts more kids and fewer parents (usually mostly parents of seniors attend). Kids do skits, Julie Ann gives a thoughtful speech about the graduating seniors. Duffle bags were the gift in 2015 and enough were ordered so that they can be given in 2016 also. The 2016 Theatre banquet may not be on the stage. May 11, 2016, is the likely date of the event.

XIV. Scholarship Report

Ellen Westel explained that scholarships are used to help fund choir or theatre summer camp costs and scholarships are also given to some graduating seniors.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Currie
Secretary

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2015, at 6:00 P.M. in the Spartan Conference Room at GBN.