

## **Band Booster General Meeting - August 18, 2020 6:30pm via Zoom**

In attendance: Brandon Dietert, Ashley Moore, Stacie Landwehr, Ralph Leal, Heather Harrison, David Eckert, Kyle Day and parent list at end of minutes.

### **Call to Order/Introductions/Logistics:**

Brandon Dietert called the meeting to order at 6:32pm and introduced the Booster Executive Board and Mr. Eckert.

Heather Harrison provided the link to sign in for the meeting & to sign up to help this year.

Ralph Leal asked everyone to remain muted during the meeting and to type questions in the Zoom chat. He also introduced The Unofficial Guide for "Rookie" Unicorn Marching Band Parents, which is essentially a handbook for new parents with the information we all wish we'd had when our students were Freshmen.

**How You Can Help:** Ashley Moore asked everyone to consider helping Boosters fundraise this year by signing up for the Fundraising Committee. Ralph let everyone know that due to Wurstfest's cancellation, we will receive back any money paid to Wurstfest for this year. This is the Booster's largest fundraiser of the year. Heather asked for people to help with chaperoning & serving meals at the football games that Mr. Eckert would explain in his section. She also shared ways to get connected via website: [www.unicornband.com/boosters](http://www.unicornband.com/boosters) and on Facebook in the Unicorn Band & Guard Boosters group. Last, she announced that Booster meetings will be held every 3rd Tuesday in the school months, either via Zoom or in the big band hall if we were to meet in person.

### **Director's Comments, David Eckert:**

*Communication:* Make sure you're getting the weekly newsletter - if you're not, then we need to make sure you're in the Charms system.

Contact information for the directors is as follows:

Mr. Eckert - [deckert@nbisd.org](mailto:deckert@nbisd.org); Mr. Day - [kday@nbisd.org](mailto:kday@nbisd.org); Mr. Flores - [jaflores@nbisd.org](mailto:jaflores@nbisd.org); Mr. Turner - [cturner@nbisd.org](mailto:cturner@nbisd.org); Ms. Williams - [klwilliams@nbisd.org](mailto:klwilliams@nbisd.org)

*Band Registration:* There have been many issues with Charms with passwords and uploading documents. School code: unicornband; password: Student ID. If it asks you for a user ID, your account needs to be reset, so reach out to Mr. Eckert. The newsletter contains a video on how to upload documents. If you are having issues uploading documents, you may email them to Mr. Eckert, but please attempt to upload first.

*After School Practice Schedule:* Month of August & September - just like summer band, there will only be brass on one day, woodwinds on another. Percussion & Guard will meet each day, Monday, Tuesday & Thursdays. More specifics will be released in the next newsletter.

*Football Season - UIL Athletic Decision:* Bands, dance teams, etc will not travel to away games. We have only 5 home games. Homecoming will not have a halftime show. We are not being

given more space than normal in the stadium, but we must reduce the number of people in the stands. We are limited to ~100 students, not the ~300 we have in the band. Percussion & Guard will be on the track. For the foreseeable future, we will have a production that will include alternating performance bands; information provided to Mr. Eckert today from administration/athletics is that **not all students will perform at each home game**. The visitor side of the stadium will be open to visitors (also UIL decision) to allow separation to occur. **We will have a show to perform, no props, not a normal competition, but it will be fun!**

*Competition Schedule:* BOA cancelled; Texas Marching Classic competition cancelled; **UIL Region Marching Contest is scheduled for November 19th** - we do not know if we will be able to travel at that point nor if we'll make the district decision to attend.

*Remote learning with band rehearsal (during the school day and after school):* This is an ever changing topic. Mr. Eckert sent out clarification via email that remote students will not be penalized for not attending classes in person, but to be able to participate in a performance band in the fall, they need to attend outdoor after school rehearsals. If your NGC student attends their school day band rehearsal, they will be shuttled to the High School for after school rehearsal unless you transport them.

*Finances:* We have done a lot to reduce fees this year (usually \$225, includes uniform cleaning, gloves, etc but we won't be wearing uniforms this fall due to hygiene and distancing). This is why the polo was required from the Big Frog band shop. There is still time to purchase if you have not yet. **The Fair Share Fee is reduced to only \$100 this year** (to cover techs that we've used to date to provide a quality program and instruction).

*Spacing & Safety in the Classroom:*

Seats are spaced in 10' intervals - big band hall allows for 45 students distanced (wind ensemble size), however they are splitting ensemble between band hall and auditorium, rehearsing for only 30 minutes at a time, per study, so will not perform the entire class period; face coverings will be required that allow playing for wind instruments. There is a study on aerosols with musicians, but with containment such as a face covering with a mouthpiece opening. Design was provided in this last week's newsletter. Mr. Day discussed further measures addressing spit valve emptying, small group work, hand sanitizing, breaks between playing, was also notified that the high school has some HEPA filters in certain larger areas.



*Band Periods:*

Alternating A/B block with 7 periods:

A Day	B Day	Instructional Time (Daily)	10 Day Instructional Time/Planning
1st Period (8:50-9:45) Daily	1st Period (8:50-9:45) Daily	55 minutes (daily)	550 minutes
2nd Period/Announcements (9:50-11:35)	5th Period/Announcements (9:50-11:35)	100 minutes (daily)	500 minutes
3rd Period/Lunch (11:40-1:40)	6th Period/Lunch (11:40-1:40)	90 minutes/30 minutes lunch	450 minutes
A Lunch (11:40-12:10)	A Lunch (11:40-12:10)		
B Lunch (12:10-12:40)	B Lunch (12:10-12:40)		
C Lunch (12:40-1:10)	C Lunch (12:40-1:10)		
D Lunch (1:10-1:40)	D Lunch (1:10-1:40)		
4th Period (1:45-3:15)	7th Period (1:45-3:15)	90 minutes (daily)	450 minutes
Empower Hour (3:20-4:20)	Empower Hour (3:20-4:20)	60 minutes (Advisory)	

NBHS: 1st Period - Wind Ensemble; 2nd Period - Concert II; 3rd Period - Concert I; 4th Period - Symphonic Winds; 6th Period - Jazz Band

NGC: 5th Period - Symphonic 1; 6th Period - Symphonic 2 (slightly different times for NGC, but same periods)

Both campuses: 7th Period - Color Guard & Pit (essentially freshman percussion)

*Pre Football Game Meals:* Prepackaged, likely served & eaten outside in shade before meals; boosters still working out details. Allergies and dietary needs will be addressed on a case by case basis to include vegan/vegetarian options. There will be 5 meals served, as there will be 5 home games. Fees will be reduced from \$200 as in normal years. Ability to opt out of meals provided by boosters? Mr. Eckert said this is not an option, to ensure that all students are fed and it does not become a safety concern. Students are required to purchase the meals through the Boosters. The food will be healthy, to include fruit & veggies.

**Proposed Budget Presentation,** Brandon Dietert & Stacie Landwehr: The proposed budget was presented. The Board and Mr. Eckert has cut a lot from the normal budget and made changes as they come on a nearly daily basis. Approval will not occur until September General Booster meeting. Even though Wurstfest, our biggest fundraiser of the year has been cancelled, we are hopeful to bring some new fundraising ideas to life. We have had to make some tough decisions this year, including cutting scholarships. We did have to take on the expenses for this year's planned show, Uprooted, but we will be able to carry over those expenses and show materials to the 2021 competition season. Student fees are now included in the Band Booster budget, they are combined so that we can provide the convenience of taking credit cards, as the band has not been able to do that through the school. **Please review the proposed budget after the minutes in this document.**

**Additional fundraising needs to provide a balanced budget this year is approximately \$31,000.**

**The floor was opened for general questions & comments:**

*Fundraising ideas/comments copied & pasted:*

- \$30k/300kids = \$100/kid... to not have to do any actual (time consuming) fundraisers
  - If they do have a football season - maybe we can get a parking space to two allowed to the band and we can auction off as a fundraising item
  - Set up a mechanism for parents to just donate what they can
  - Fundraising suggestion - virtual silent auction
  - Set up a recurring donation on PayPal
  - If you don't want to purchase a fundraising item or attend one of the monthly spirit nights at a restaurant, please donate what you would have spent!
- Have yall had to go over the fundraiser list Anna Minshew sent a few weeks ago? I'm not sure if it is feasible this year, but I think the March-A-Thon was a fantastic fundraiser idea!

*How to donate:*

[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?token=NOkDJYY3y6s1JiTUr\\_XasSiaAAu1TkEG3BrIUK\\_6aCf2dsY2bNiB9cRjn4gdsJwxm0vuv0&country.x=US&locale.x=US](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?token=NOkDJYY3y6s1JiTUr_XasSiaAAu1TkEG3BrIUK_6aCf2dsY2bNiB9cRjn4gdsJwxm0vuv0&country.x=US&locale.x=US) , click the link on the Booster webpage, or donate via Paypal app to [unicornbandboosters@yahoo.com](mailto:unicornbandboosters@yahoo.com)

*Forms to join band boosters and district volunteer background check forms:*

<https://www.unicornband.com/links-to-documents> - please turn them in to Mr. Eckert ASAP!

**Meeting adjourned** at 7:33pm by Brandon Dietert.

**Mr. Eckert stayed on the Zoom call to answer questions:**

Will you be attempting to keep siblings together at games with performance band separations? Percussion & color guard will be at every game. Wind players will be separated only. Some SLT will be at both. Some remote learners may not participate, until we know who will participate. Not a top band/bottom band, but an A band/B band. **Uprooted will be next year, there will be a production with a fun show reveal within the next week, hopefully. This is a surprise for students.**

How and when do we pay fees (Fair Use and Meals)? Since things have been changing and were not in place yet. We will be reaching out shortly about when to pay band fees soon.

Meet the Unicorns? There will not be a Meet the Unicorns event this year, but we hope to do a Unicorn Band Family Showcase this fall with a meal served as a fundraiser (hamburgers, hot dogs, veggies burgers, veggie dogs) and to make sure that band family can see the performance show separate from attending a football game.

Will seniors be at every game? Doubtfully. We need to limit numbers to be as safe as possible. We are very limited on space. We don't have a huge senior class, so we can try.

Senior Night, who will be allowed to walk? There is no information from the school yet.

After meeting Q&A concluded at 7:56pm.

**Parents/attendees who signed in:**

Sherry neeley	Rick Donovan	Stephanie Green
Heather Schraeder	Tania Halmos	Javer Ramírez
Kristey Kelley	Jon Parrish	Brenda Zamora
Heather Mayer	Alicia Rossbach	Kristin Martinez
Vince Koegle	Javier Ramirez	Ralph Leal
Ashley Moore	Amy Halatin	Kristy Hurst
Michele A. Shelton	David Sollohub	Patricia Cortez
Debbie Vance	Sherry Neeley	Juan "Richard" Cortez
Shirley McDonough	Heather Sollohub	Tina Redanz
Cassandra LeClair	Anna Minshew	Janna Kelsey
Leticia Velasquez	Elizabeth	Karen Hopkins
Claudia Villagomez	Christine Gonzalez	Karen Castillo
Robyn Writz	Elaine Almquist	Heather Harrison
	Denise Fertig	

*Minutes submitted by Heather Harrison, Board Secretary.*

New Braunfels High School Band Boosters Association  
Proposed 2020-2021 Budget

<u>Income</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Band Fan Shop	\$ 6,000.00
Spirit - Blue Out Shirts	\$ 5,000.00
Student Meals (Pre-Game)	\$ 14,000.00
Membership	\$ 2,500.00
Patron Sales & Donations	\$ 1,000.00
Spring Fling	\$ 5,000.00
Night of Jazz	\$ 2,500.00
Scholarship Fund	\$ 0.00
Student Fee Expenses	\$ 28,200.00
Band Banquet/Decorations	\$ 3,000.00
Additional Fundraising Needs	\$ 31,310.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 98,510.00</b>

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
<u>Awards</u>	
Scholarship Fund	\$0.00
Band Banquet/Decorations	\$6,500.00
<u>Directors-Fall Production</u>	
Music	\$4,800.00
Drill for Show	\$0.00
Props	\$0.00
Logistics	\$0.00
Technical Support/Field	\$6,000.00
<u>Directors-Needs</u>	
Hospitality/Spirit	\$400.00
Field Supplies	\$250.00
Contest Parking	\$0.00
Event Hospitality (solo/ensemble Hospitality)	\$150.00
<u>Colonguard</u>	
Guard Director Supplement	\$14,000.00
<u>Colonguard supplies</u>	
Marching Season	\$0.00
Winter Guard	\$2,500.00
Winterguard Showcase	\$500.00
<u>Facilities and Equipment</u>	
Trailer Supplies	\$100.00
Care Crew & Supplies	\$750.00
<u>Operations</u>	
Uniform Maintenance	\$50.00
<u>Fundraising expenses</u>	
Blue Out shirts	\$2,500.00
Wurstfest	\$4,900.00
Night of Jazz	\$2,500.00
Spring Fling	\$1,500.00
Band Fan Shop	\$0.00
<u>Other</u>	
Bank Fees/Merchant Fees	\$4,000.00
Tax Returns & Filings	\$500.00
Insurance	\$1,500.00
Office Supplies	\$300.00
Website	\$160.00
Quickbooks-Cloud	\$750.00
<u>Uncategorized</u>	
Student Meals (Pre-Game)	\$14,000.00
Senior Parent Night	\$200.00
Spirit Committee	\$1,500.00
<b>Student Fee Expenses</b>	<b>\$28,200.00</b>
	<b>\$98,510.00</b>