

Avon Grove Instrumental Music Boosters

Parent and General Meeting

September 9, 2024 at 6:30pm in the AG Middle School Cafeteria



Attendees

Officers: Wendy Feller, Tascha Peterman, Matthew Miller, Shailendra Pendse, Susan Burns

Directors: none

Members: Natalie Campbell, Scott Dixon, Vicki Dixon, Jason Feller, Rachel Karnes, Kate Kelmeles, Heather Miller, Eric Peterman, Robert Ruddy, Elizabeth Sheibe, and Connie Viering

Call to Order

President Wendy Feller called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Minutes

August meeting minutes were presented for review. No changes were noted. Heather Miller entered a motion to approve minutes that was seconded by Eric Peterman. Minutes were approved by a voice vote.

Music Department Directors Reports

- AGHS Choral Director Amanda Wilcox:
 - Tri-M is being established for the 2024-2025 school year. Induction for all members will be October 24th. This event will be held at 7:00 PM in the auditorium and is open to the public. Students must have a teacher recommendation and meet a GPA requirement to be nominated and accepted into Tri-M.
 - Armonia and Tenor-Bass Choir are our after school ensembles. These are open to all people in the school with no audition, experience or curricular class necessary. The first meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 23rd for Armonia and Tuesday, September 24th for Tenor-Bass Choir. If you know a student who would benefit or be interested, send them along!
- Krista Umile:
 - **PMEA District 12 Auditions** - Any sophomore, junior, or senior enrolled in a curricular ensemble course is eligible to audition for this honors ensemble. If interested, please have your student talk to the appropriate director for what they are auditioning for:
 - Band = Davino
 - All band players automatically are considered for both band and orchestra. If they are at the top of the list after auditions, an invite to be a part of the PMEA Full Orchestra is then extended.
 - Choirs = Wilcox
 - Orchestra (string players) = Umile
 - **AGHS String Orchestra to perform along the UD Symphonic Orchestra in the Spring!** More details TBA!
 - **AGHS Chamber Ensemble** - This ensemble is an extracurricular ensemble (smaller group of string players) that plays not only in the seasonal performances

but also outside those performances. If there is an event that you think AGHS Chamber Ensemble would be good for, please reach out to Krista Umile.

- Michelle Adcock, Color Guard Director:
 - The AGCG Fall Guard is working hard with the rest of the AGMB to learn and improve their fall show. They just had their first performance in costume and they looked fantastic!
 - Last week Michelle met with a few parents to go over the work to set up our "AI" props for the AGMB productions. They had some great ideas and we're looking forward to continued work bringing them to life/light!!
 - This week, members will be participating in the activity fair to recruit for the Indoor Guard. They're hoping to spread the word about color guard now so it will be familiar when we send out recruitment announcements later this fall.
 - They are all set with the date and facility requests for the MAIN Competition on 2/15/25. Once things begin to settle with marching band we should begin work on both of the indoor shows (color guard and percussion) - this year they are only a week apart and will be here before you know it!

Treasurer's Report

Expenses for August total \$15,508.00

- \$6,660.00 Battery Instrument Purchase
- \$1,200.00 Cashbox for Fry Trailer 8/23 game
- \$2,480.00 Tires for the truck
- \$1,133.00 Marching Band Shoes

Income for August total \$8157

- \$5,500.00 8/23 game deposit

Budget review

- Fry Trailer net income \$3,149.00 or 19% for the season
- Marching Band \$2,252.00 or 15% above income but within program budget
- Make Music Happen Fund \$2,290.00 or 114% of annual spend due to finely implemented fund transfer capability and 2 years of backlog processing.

Marching Band Membership Fee Collection

- 14 student payments are outstanding for \$2,590.00 in total.

Old Business

- Committee Roster - the roster has been updated and the executive committee member emails are updated and assigned to the correct person. Shout out to Bob Ruddy for taking on communications and updating our spreadsheet and to Eric Peterman for keeping our website up-to-date.

- Spiritwear Sale Update - Natalie Campbell is our new spiritwear chair. The recent sale yielded over \$1500 worth of orders with a profit to AGIMBA of nearly \$270. The plan is to do another spirit wear sale prior to the holidays, so keep that in mind for holiday gifts.
 - There was a request for samples for the future for sizing reference. Wendy or Natalie will look into this with the vendor. If possible, we could have them available at a future AGIMBA meeting for those interested.
- Battery Equipment status - The battery equipment is slowly arriving and will continue to do so into November.
- Band Camp Recap
 - Thanks to Brian Burns and Jason Feller for opening the fry trailer and to Susan Burns for providing ice cream as an end of the day treat for the band members. Thanks to Jessi and Thad Spencer for talking on water duty and providing popsicles!
 - Skating Party - There was a good turn out for this event and it was reported that the students enjoyed it. There was a concurrence that we should keep this event next year.
 - Pool Party - also a good turn out and this is local so it is a nice way to end the second week of camp.
 - Other ideas - bowling alley, stream the DCI show in the auditorium. If you have other ideas, let Wendy know.

New Business

- Show props/equipment: Michelle met with some parents about the props. We need batteries to make them light up and work will be done to stabilize the props. The plan is to have them ready for the first competition.
- Volunteer Status - Volunteer sign ups are being managed through Sign Up Genius (SUG). There are three separate SUGs: 1) home football games, 2) away football games, and 3) competitions. They can be accessed through the AGIMBA website here: [ways-to-volunteer.html](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/ways-to-volunteer.html)
 - We still need volunteers for the fry trailer and burger station for this Friday's game. Volunteers can enter the stadium the game for free. Volunteers should provide their name at the ticket booth and check in at the fry trailer for home games. Other details are available on the SUG regarding available jobs, descriptions, which roles require clearances (chaperones) or other approvals, and information about when/where to report.
- Fundraising
 - Schoolfundr discussion included the following feedback:
 - AGIMBA and the MB should collaborate on roll-out.
 - Reduce pressure on the kids to enter friend/family contact information..
 - One parent shared that their student sent the fundraising link to family in lieu of inputting the contact information and this went well.
 - Members would like more details on how long contact information is stored and if it carries over into future campaigns.
 - Can we configure the software to reduce the number of repeat emails and texts?
 - Consideration should be given to a more targeted campaign that specifies how raised funds will be used (ex: a new fry trailer, battery equipment, etc.) vs. a general campaign.

- It would be helpful if the conversation with the band members centered around how they can share their passion for the band and how the funds will be used in communicating with potential donors.
 - If you have other comments or ideas, reach out to Wendy.
 - We have information from a fundraising poll that was sent last year that can be considered. On next month's agenda we will consider the need for a fundraising committee and have discussion about our financial ideas.
 - Shailendra shared that some companies will match donations - maybe we can encourage people to look into this and see if their company will do donation matching.
- Bylaw Amendments/Review - The bylaws are posted on the website here: [forms-and-info.html](#). We will be reviewing them at the next meeting, so feel free to take a look at them and share any suggestions you have for amendment.
- Senior Night - October 25th
 - Parents of seniors will not be available to volunteer at pre-game (for @ 15 minutes) on senior night as they will go down on the field with their seniors. We have 11 seniors in the band this year. Historically, the moms have been given a corsage or other flowers and someone takes photos on the field.
 - Liz volunteered to take pictures
 - Wendy, Tascha and Susan will get flowers - discussed ideas, including giving a rose to any/all parents of seniors.
 - We will coordinate with the parents to be there and send an email for them to meet at the fry trailer at 6:30. AGIMBA gives the flowers to the mom. They enter on the back side of the field.
- Committee Expectations/Requests - discussed creating guidelines for committees and what they should include:
 - Consider marketing and audience if you are running an event
 - Is a SUG needed? If so, communicate in advance - Bob can help
 - Budget/Purchases - primary committees have an assigned budget - check in on this. If it is something new, the treasurer needs to be involved to prepare for the event.
 - If you will need a cash box, ability to accept payments through Square or other financial needs, involve the treasurers early. A month out or as soon as possible to ensure everything is in place.
 - Need to restructure the budget for new things.
- The home game scheduled for Friday 10/11 was rescheduled to Thursday 10/10 in observance of Yom Kippur which begins Friday evening. The middle school band students will be joining the marching band for this game. Mr. Haney asked for middle school chaperones. It was decided that AGIMBA will do something welcoming for the middle school students. We can have treat bags at the fry trailer in a basket or something similar. Tascha will lead this.
- Although there is no school on 10/14 the kids still have rehearsal. Therefore, it was decided that we will keep this for the AGIMBA October meeting date.

Committee Reports

- **SCRIP/RaiseRight** - Several families have purchased gift cards through RaiseRight. The next order is due 9/25. Eric requested consensus to disable the 'ship to coordinator' option after holiday gift card orders are placed. Outside of the holiday, we get few

physical card orders because most vendors have e-card options, so disability this feature will save money. There was consensus to do this.

- RaiseRight now has a shop online option that offers 1% back and can be used in conjunction with a gift card. Eric will request more information on this so it can be shared with families. Heather reported that she used this option - you first buy the gift card, then spend it through the shop online link.
- **Homecoming** - This year, the game is Frida, 10/4. All other Homecoming events are on Saturday, 10/5. This includes the 5K Red Devil Run, booths, and the parade. Form to register for homecoming is out. The parade starts at 11:00 a.m. We will not be opening the fry trailer on Saturday. Possible options include selling pretzels and water and having a game (human slot machine was discussed). We will sell seat cushions and can sell other items like pins, magnets and shirts. Jason needs to know a week prior if we want him to order any food. We could ask people to donate items and we will need volunteers (parents and band members) for the booth. If we decide the booth can accommodate the human slot machine, band members can participate in that. Wendy and Rachel will look into details regarding the table fee and if we have to pay double for two tables or to expand our footprint.
- **Fry Trailer** - Jason shared that based on feedback, some changes will be made. Feedback included:
 - Rearrange and reorganize the tables in front of the trailer and the condiment station to improve flow and efficiency
 - open at 6:15
 - communicate better about timing to make sure there are enough fries for the half-time rush.
 - The district has an updated policy and food/baked goods cannot be made at home. Jason will check with the district to see if the cookies can be baked in the kitchen, or we will need to make them onsite at the fry trailer.
 - This will also need to be considered for the baked goods at the winter events.
 - We need to make fewer cookies as there was a surplus at the first game..
 - We went through 11 cases of french fries.

Matt expressed concerns about our return on investment because there was excess food at the end of the game. Consideration could be given for discounting food at the end of the game. He is concerned that giving food away cuts into profits for the music programs. It was discussed that adjustments will be made based on first game sales.

- **Band Banquet** - Liz shared that she is requesting the AGHS cafeteria and auditorium for Friday, 11/22 to host the banquet. The spaces aren't available the two weekends prior due to the fall play. The committee will be considering ways to recognize the seniors and may request pictures from parents. Feedback from students was that the slide show was too long last year; it will be shorter this year. Liz will collaborate with Bob to create a form for submissions. There were many leftovers last year, the committee will be considering ideas, including just doing desserts. Liz will be scheduling a committee meeting later this month, date is TBD.
- **Santa Breakfast** - committee is set, but still open to new members. The Santa Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, December 14, 2024 from 8:00 - 10:30 a.m. It was determined that we will request custodial support from the district and pay for kitchen support.

- There will be a sensory santa meet and greet in the afternoon. Amanda Wilcox is coordinating, but it will be affiliated with AGIMBA.

Next Meeting: Monday, October 14, 2024 at 6:30 PM in the AGMS Cafeteria - meetings are open to all families with students participating in music programs.

Fall Upcoming Important Dates: (also on website)

Month	What	Date	Time
September			
	Home FB game- performance	9/13	7:00 PM
	Away FB game- performance	9/20	7:00 PM
	MB Competition- Rustin	9/21	3:00 PM
	Away FB game- performance	9/27	7:00 PM
	MB Competition- Unionville	9/28	6:00 PM
October			
	Homecoming game	10/4	7:00 PM
	Homecoming Parade and Booths	10/5	
	Home FB game- performance	10/10	7:00 PM
	MB competition- Ridley	10/12	6:00 PM
	AGIMBA General Meeting	10/14	6:30 PM
	Away FB game- performance	10/18	7:00 PM
	MB State Championships	10/19	6:00 PM
	Home FB game- performance	10/25	7:00 PM
	MB State Championships (Upper Moreland)	10/26	6:00 PM
	Trunk or Treat- Marching Band/Guard	10/30	8:00 PM
November			
	MB Friends and Family Show	11/2	10:00 AM
	Marching Band Nationals	11/9	
	AGIMBA General Meeting	11/11	6:30 PM
	Indoor Guard Interest Meeting		
	Indoor Percussion Interest Meeting		
	Band Banquet	11/22	
December			
	AGIMBA General Meeting	12/9	6:30 PM
	Santa Breakfast	12/14	
	Concert Band Winter Concert	12/11	7:00 PM
	Choir Winter Concert	12/4	7:00 PM
	Orchestra Winter Concert	12/10	7:00 PM

AGIMBA Executive Committee		
ROLE	NAME	EMAIL
President	Wendy Feller	agimba.pres@gmail.com
Vice President	Tascha Peterman	agimba.vicepres@gmail.com
Secretary	Susan Burns	agimba.sec@gmail.com
Treasurer	Matt Miller	agimba.tres@gmail.com
Assistant Treasurer	Shailendra Pendse	agimba.tres@gmail.com
Committee Chairs		
Communications	Bob Ruddy	agimba.comms@gmail.com
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Homecoming	Drum Major Parents	rachelkarnes@hotmail.com
Band Camp	Wendy Feller	agimba.pres@gmail.com
	Liz Scheibe	Elizabe9@yahoo.com
Band Banquet	Liz Scheibe	Elizabe9@yahoo.com
Devil Fry Trailer	Jason Feller	jason.r.feller@gmail.com
	Brian Burns	bmburns@hotmail.com
Santa Breakfast	Wendy Feller	agimba.pres@gmail.com
Fundraising	Wendy and Jason Feller	agimba.pres@gmail.com
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