

Decatur Band Boosters

Mission: The Decatur Band Boosters Association is dedicated to enriching the quality and enjoyment of Decatur High School Band students by donating our time, talents and resources to assist with fundraising, chaperoning, band program needs, and the promotion of band student excellence.

Contact: decaturbandboosters@hotmail.com

Web Site: dhsbands.org

Decatur Band Boosters Meeting Minutes **September 16, 2015**

Meeting called to order at 8:20 pm, ~30 attendees (parents and students)

President (Pro Tem) Brad Johnson welcomed the group and thanked them for staying after the Decatur Open House. He was especially pleased with the number of students in attendance and noted this is the sign of a strong band and Booster year. Brad introduced the Pro Tem Officers Liz Austin (Vice President) and Wendy Musiak (Treasurer). Brad noted that officer elections will be held at the October meeting. Anyone can run for any officer position, but we are especially in need of a Secretary for this year.

Discussion items:

Your organization - All parents and band students are already members of the Decatur Band Boosters and are encouraged to attend meetings each month. The more participation we have from both parents AND students, the more ALL will benefit from the Boosters efforts. We are an IRS registered 501(c)(3) organization.

What we do – In short, whatever we can to benefit instrumental music education at DHS. This includes but not limited to: Fundraising, Chaperoning, Marching/Concert Assistance, Scholarship Funding, Clinicians, Music, and anything else we can think of.

How we communicate - we have a website (dhsbands.org) that is updated regularly throughout the school year. This is a prime source of information you can access at any time. Our band calendar is posted on the site, as well as key contact information. The Boosters make extensive use of emails sent out by distribution list. If you are not receiving emails, send an email to decaturbandboosters@hotmail.com and let us know. We'll get you on the DL. Decatur Bands also have various Facebook pages (Decatur Jazz Band, Decatur High School Bands, DHS Band Parents, Decatur High School Band Boosters) where information is posted. Facebook is convenient for supplemental information, but we do not consider it to be a primary communication source.

Meetings - After polling the group, it was decided to continue to hold the Booster meetings on the first Tuesday of each month, unless there is a conflict. Our meetings are recorded by the Booster Secretary. The minutes are reviewed and usually posted on the website within a week of the meeting.

Fundraising - This is a big trip year for the band program. Current plan is to for the band to head to Disneyland to perform and workshop over Memorial Day weekend next spring. This is a fantastic experience that all band students should have the opportunity to attend. It is the goal of the Boosters to raise enough money to provide a travel scholarship that reduces per student cost by at least \$200 for this trip (more if possible). To do this, our target is to raise \$8-10K this year. This is possible! Although significant donations come from band family members, whenever possible we will try to raise funds using

events that attract donations from sources beyond Decatur band families (i.e. community members rather than parents).

Big Band Showcase - we will hold another Showcase this spring. It is not too early to begin thinking ahead. We will need a volunteer to be the BBS Chairman. Brad will work closely with them as a guide/mentor. Since the system of 'focal' people worked so well last year, we will do it again this year. Also be thinking of sources for auction item donations.

Thank you-

Joe and Melissa Preiser- for writing the marching drill for this year's Homecoming halftime show, and for coaching at this year's band camp and Tuesday night marching rehearsals. The students are really progressing quickly and the show should be great.

NEW BUSINESS:

Scarves – In past years we have made and sold orange fleece scarves at football games as an easy fundraiser. Brad showed an example and asked if anyone were was willing to make and sell a few at upcoming games. There were no volunteers at the meeting.

Next Meeting – Topics will include (but not limited to):

- Officer Elections
- Budget
- Big Band Showcase
- Other Fundraisers

ACTION ITEMS:

- All meeting attendees were asked to consider if they would like to serve as a Booster officer. We need a secretary this year.
- All meeting attendees were asked to consider volunteering to help with the Big Band Showcase, and to start thinking about possible sources of auction items for this event.
- All meeting attendees were asked to consider other possible fundraisers (both ASB and Booster) the Boosters can run or assist with this year.

Meeting adjourned approximately 8:49.

Next Booster meeting: Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at 7 pm in the band room.

Submitted by Brad Johnson