

GVMPA General Meeting
September 3, 2019

Choir rep report—Jack Shadl, President of 2019-2020 Chamber Singers. Students are learning their music well; bonded through music and activities. Preparing to perform in the candlelight event at Disney in December. Jack modestly reported that Bennett Resnick and he (Jack) will represent Great Valley in the National Choir. Great achievement for them both!

President's Report—Tom DeTulio

Thanks to all who volunteered and/or attended Marching Band Preview Night on August 22, and special thanks to Julie Haefner who coordinated a joint "kick off" picnic on August 23 for the football team, marching band, and cheerleaders.

Tom met with Ashley Vogel, GVHS Choir Director. They had a very collaborative discussion on several topics including:

- Sending a choir representative to GVMPA meetings to better integrate the success and needs of the choir into the regular discussions of the Association
- The idea of creating committees including choir parents to work on facilitating student music projects
- Choir program needs: a new Piano, LED (cooler) lighting in the auditorium

Elementary School Instrumental Music concerns

- GVMPA Exec Board met with Will Shafer, General Wayne music teacher regarding the impact of the deficit of one-half of a music teacher, redirected to teach STEM as of last school year. More on this topic later in the meeting.
- The negative impact on all of the elementary music teachers is significant
- Compiling and analyzing data to potentially present to district office
- Will make general comments at next week's instrumental music information night (September 9th) to encourage parents of elementary music students to seek out GVMPA

August 28 Disney Meeting

- Unveiled new website as one-stop source for all things GV Music
- Continue to encourage volunteerism/fundraising/donations
- 2nd Payment due tomorrow (September 4)

Snack Shack Business

- Alex's Lemonade Stand
- Freezer
- Football / Soccer
- First game ran smoothly – revenue, however, was light...\$3K

MB T-shirts distributed – some still available

Volunteers

- Sign-up Genius working well, available with a couple of clicks from GVMPA.org.
- Most of fall needs have been created in Sign-Up Genius—check it out!
- Be mindful of clearances—please pursue clearances now so volunteer opportunities are available.

- Thanks, again, to Christine Tseng for Cavalcade meal coordination—**please sign up to help out to feed the band before they head out in competition.**

Website

- Launched late August
- Very proud of the team
- Great source for students/parents/potential sponsors and donors
- Feedback appreciated

Designer Bag Bingo

- Reluctantly have chosen Saturday, May 2nd, since there are just too many conflicts on Spring Fridays this year.
- The team has acquired some **luxurious designer bags** already!

Fundraising

- Mums – orders due September 9th
- Coffee fundraiser coming soon.
- Poinsettia's launch early-mid November
- ShopWithScrip ongoing
- WaWa ongoing

Jackets – orders due September 9th

Band Student Representative —Katelyn DePaula— warm ups from music on iPads are very efficient, saving paper, and going well. Each of the ensembles are working on new pieces and invigorated. More than half of the Marching Band Show for Cavalcade Competition, “Wolves,” is in place.

Instrumental Music Director Report—Sean Cohen. This week was orientation for most students. In downtime, the musician students watched “Avatar the Last Airbender.” Loving the music, Mr. Cohen contacted the composers to let them know about the following at Great Valley; in turn the composers shared some of the music! Music for Christmas on King is next up for learning.

Starting to plan for Indoor Percussion.

Tom thanked Sean for persevering though his first year so amazingly (and let it slip to the meeting that Sean became engaged over the summer. Hearty congratulations to Sean!).

Treasurer's Report—Alex Nikas. See Treasurer's Report, uploaded to GVMPA.org. Good sponsorship for GVMPA but we need to start cultivating more. Light income for the shack at the first game. Odd—it was a nice weather evening. Spending some money on designer bags for Designer Bag Bingo on May 2. GVMPA paid for the drum majors, Claire Chen and Tyler DeTulleo, to attend Drum Major Camp. Treasurer's Report moved for acceptance, seconded and approved.

Financial Secretary Report—Matt White. Buy Mums; sell Mums! We also need a good idea for the spring raffle. Sales dwindled last year after several years of raffling off Broadway tix. Looking for summer activity or early fall activity. Really need volunteers to pick up mums from the grower in Earl, PA, 45 min drive. It's a beautiful farm with animals.

Choir Director Report—Tom read a note from Ashley Vogel to the Association, reporting:

- Great start to the new year with pre-season rehearsals for chorale and chamber singers
- Disney trip preparations is busy and exciting. If parents want to pick up their child in Florida, for safety, there will be one day and time to do that (probably Saturday at 11pm).
- Chambers was hired to sing at the Milanj gala on October 25th.
- Mrs Vogel is very proud of Bennett and Jack for qualifying for the National Choir, which will be held in November in Orlando. (So are we! Awesome B and J!)
- Chamber singers are working on preparing/testing for PMEA district chorus auditions

Unfinished Business—Tom—Student project—update the perpetual plaques with winners since 2012 of noteworthy music awards.

New Business—Elementary School music faculty shortfall. The Teachers have been coping with being short by 0.5 teacher position, resulting in the other teachers hustling from school to school, elementary students in 25-min lessons with students playing different instruments, etc. Dan Gofredo, Assistant District Superintendent, indicated to GVMPA VP Danielle Werkeiser last year that the district was pursuing a backfill or other music resources to relieve the elementary music teachers, which has not occurred. Mr Shafer is gathering data on student attrition rates, etc. Participation in music program is up with greater pressure on the surviving teachers. Matt observed the situation as akin to a cascading failure in engineering terms.

Shack report—Danielle Werkeiser. Waiting for inspections. Authorization expires this month. Bought a new freezer. Thanks for all of the volunteers. The shack cannot run without you!

GVMPA website—Laura House-Kelly—is alive. The team is still working on several features, but please start using the site to keep up on news and activities of interest to music parents. Special recognition given to incredibly generous help byGVHS student Shrey Pandya, who donated countless hours to help Laura and Jen Anderson to completely remake the GVMPA website.

Volunteers—sometimes the work is easy; sometimes harder, but all the programs benefit greatly from parent participation, and the Marching Band simply could not compete in Cavalcades without the active support of parent volunteers. Thanks! And Keep Volunteering!

Senior Night—Julie Haefner—October 25. Julie is the chair of Senior Night for the Football team, Cheerleaders and Marching Band. She is working with a rep from the football players parents to design a bouquet for seniors in all three groups to present to their parent or guardian at the game.

Next Meeting—Tuesday, October 1 at 7:30 pm. Ciao for Now.