

Heritage Academy Meeting MINUTES

October 18, 2011

7:00pm in Music Room

Attendance: E. Taylor, J. Taylor, S. Pope, P. Whetten, L. Bhella, J. Calkins, G. Iurato, E. Orton, E. Burgoyne, C. Kenny, N. Yadao, D. Mundy, C. Mecham, S. Liechty, Garth Liechty, Bradley Calkins, Tauni Orton, Lisa Crance.

Missing: R. Cluff.

Call to Order: Suzet Pope at 7pm

Adoption of Agenda: E. Burgoyne moved, L. Bhella 2nd, motion to approve Agenda passed.

Approval of Minutes: Janice Calkins. All Members present approved. Minutes are approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: L. Bhella. One check returned from parent's PTO dues which incurred \$12 charge (parent was notified but did not respond) will not be pursued, next year PTO might use debit card program, Directory Printer of \$750.26 was paid after meeting, and \$90.00 for Geography Bee was paid. Will e-mail reports to Board from now on. Minor changes made to the budget.

Mr. Taylor Comments:

- Had successful trips to the East Coast. The kids were wonderful.
- How many schools have their own history textbook? This was a ten year project with the *America – Land of Principles and Promises* textbook. The 7th and 8th grade students have a copy to take home. Has received lots of great compliments. They are available to purchase. Presold over 1000, 300-400 used at school. Retail for \$59.95. Will be \$40 through end of October.

Jared Taylor Comments:

- Mr. Melchin is looking for a JV basketball coach for boys and girls. If you are interested, please contact Jared or Mr. Melchin at wmelchin@heritageacademyaz.com. Would need help starting now through February.
- Instrumental program. Will start in January. Will have jazz, string ensembles, full symphony orchestra. Will incorporate vocals/choir, composition work by students. Will use the assets at Heritage, students can record their work and possibly put on iTunes.
- Festival idea – 70% of those polled at the latest instrumental concert were excited for a Friday festival. Dates are December 2, March 2 and May 18. They are on the school calendar. Would be held at Mesa Arts Center. Still working on the ticket prices.
- Heritage and alumni family holiday benefit concert. Will be December 29 or December 30. Brooke White other performers will be there. Will be held at Mesa Arts Center. Will be reaching out to alumni. Student groups performing. Nikki Yadao will help. Anyone interested should contact Jared at jtaylor@heritageacademyaz.com, wmelchin@heritageacademyaz.com or rdalton@heritageacademyaz.com. He will also have a signup sheet at the next PTO meeting.

Unfinished Business:

- Reminder that all information to be e-mailed be sent to current President before sending to Mr. Taylor for BrightArrow.
- DIRECTORY: Donna Mundy. Done. Same price as last year. Used the same company as last year. Very simple.
- NEWSLETTER: Eric Orton.

Clarify draft and due dates. Eric received an e-mail from a parent asking if the newsletter can be viewed on the website. Jared will create a page. Next issue will go out December 16. Need any additions a week or two before.

Calendar Items coming up:

- SPORTS AUTHORITY: Sally Liechty.

Thank you note from Cynthia Peters.

Spirit week good. The students liked the Fear Factor. Floats were cute. Tailgate party went well. Hoped they sold more food. Don't think they made as much as they could. Parents donated items. Half-Time was good.

What else does she need to help on? Volleyball t-shirts are done. Football banquet. Basketball food.

New Business:

- TRUNK OR TREAT: Christine Mecham: October 27 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Will send flyer out by BrightArrow. Good response on vehicles. What they are short on money will be covered by Dollars for Duds funds. Have already budgeted with Student Council. Will buy 400 hot dogs. Ellen will help picking up the food.
- Father/Son Activity: Eric and Tauni Orton: November 17 from 7:00 to 8:30. "Skit in a Bag"

Parent Comments:

- How are the fees decided for school trips? Due to increasing costs, there was not as much scholarship money available to keep the fees down, but they still wanted to give the kids a great experience with nice hotels and food, which saves time for more sightseeing. Mr. Taylor said that the kids appreciate the trip. He uses Legacy Tours. The rooms are split 4 ways. Costs \$1,620 per student. Trip goes from Monday morning to Saturday evening. They stay at nice hotels and eat at nice restaurants.
- Mandatory tutoring? A parent brought up whether or not to institute this at Heritage. A reminder was made that the school has a math lab class during school that students can take if they need help with any subject (not just math), and also math teachers are very accommodating for short tutoring before and after school if it is arranged.
- Homecoming pictures. When did they arrive? The Homecoming pictures came in yesterday (October 17).

Teacher Comments:

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Adjournment: 8:06 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 15, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Music Room

NEW COURSES BEGINNING JAN. 2012

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA- Audition required (see audition requirements below).
Approximately 60 students consisting of winds, brass, percussion, and strings. Students will tour, work with clinicians/professional artists, attend professional concerts, and perform in the community and at festivals. Requirement to audition for Regionals/Solo & Ensemble. 30 min/day practice required (5 days/week). Playing tests, written assignments, etc. will be given as necessary.

FOLK ENSEMBLE- Audition required (see audition requirements below).
Approximately 8 students consisting drums, bass, guitar, mandolin, piano, and fiddle. Students will tour, work with clinicians/professional artists, attend professional concerts, and perform in the community and at festivals. Requirement to audition for Regionals/Solo & Ensemble. 30 min/day practice required (5 days/week). Playing tests, written assignments, etc. will be given as necessary.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE/PEP BAND- Audition required (see audition requirements below).
Approximately 10 students consisting of winds, brass, percussion, bass, and piano. Students will tour, work with clinicians/professional artists, attend professional concerts, and perform in the community and at festivals. Requirement to audition for Regionals/Solo & Ensemble. 30 min/day practice required (5 days/week). Playing tests, written assignments, etc. will be given as necessary.

ENSEMBLE- Audition required (see audition requirements below).
Approximately 10 students consisting of bass, guitar, drums, keyboard, vocals, etc. Students will tour, work with clinicians/professional artists, attend professional concerts, and perform in the community and at festivals. Requirement to

audition for Regionals/Solo & Ensemble. 30 min/day practice required (5 days/week). Playing tests, written assignments, etc. will be given as necessary.

PERCUSSION/DRUMLINE- Early morning. Audition required (see audition requirements below). Approximately 10 students . Students will tour, work with clinicians/professional artists, attend professional concerts, and perform in the community and at festivals. Requirement to audition for Regionals/Solo & Ensemble. 30 min/day practice required (5 days/week). Playing tests, written assignments, etc. will be given as necessary.

MUSIC/MEDIA PRODUCTION- Audition required. Approximately 5 students who have been trained musically and are proficient in performance, note-reading, and music theory. Students will compose, arrange, produce, market, and record music. They will receive recording studio experience and be trained on Professional composition software. Projects will include original compositions and arrangements. Students will also receive training in music business and marketing skills/technique.

MUSIC APPRECIATION- No audition required. Students will be taught music history and learn about the various genres of music in the world. Students will be given written homework assignments and be assessed on their knowledge of music history. Students will also learn basic music theory and basic keyboard skills.

AP MUSIC THEORY- Audition required. For advanced students who are working toward a music distinction and would like to receive college credit for music theory.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

ALL ENSEMBLES- Students must demonstrate proficiency in

- all 2 octave major scales up through 4 sharps and 4 flats using the State Regional/All-State rhythm patterns.
- Excerpts, solos, or etudes of an advanced high school level or better (grade 3-6 music).
- Proper embouchure, technique of right/left hand

MUSIC/MEDIA PRODUCTION- Students must demonstrate proficiency in

- Music theory
- Performance at an advanced HS level
- Improvisational skills
- Creative expression through composition, etc

LESSONS

*Heritage will offer private instruction from qualified teacher who specialize in the particular instrument. Students who are not accepted in to one of the performing ensembles may take private lessons from these qualified teachers to prepare themselves for these ensembles. As soon as they are prepared, they may enter the ensemble. Each lesson will cost \$15 and will be held once/week after school or on Fridays during the day.

SUMMER CAMPS

*Heritage will host a 4 week long summer camp for each of the performing ensembles. These summer camps will be an intensive training on jazz, folk, pop, and classical music. **ALL STUDENTS ARE INVITED. NO AUDITION NECESSARY.** Also, students from other schools are invited as well. This camp will not only prep the ensembles for the upcoming year but also give new students an opportunity to learn the technique of the different genres of music. Students who meet the audition requirements during summer camp may enter the ensemble at the beginning of the school year. Camp fees per student are \$150.