IOWA CITY MUSIC AUXILIARY

*Board Meeting*

February 25, 2019

7:00 p.m.

ICCSD Board Room

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY SECRETARY

THESE MINUTES WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE BOARD AT ITS NEXT MEETING. PLEASE REFER TO THE MINUTES OF THAT MEETING FOR ANY CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO THESE MINUTES.

Members: President: Christine Blaumueller

Vice President: Katharine Senn

Past President: Deborah Wagner

Treasurer: Francine Rath

Secretary: Mona Parekh

Information Officer: Bill Emerson

District Music Coordinator: Jon Welch

Representatives and Directors Present: Chris Blaumueller, Deborah Wagner, Francine Rath, Jon Welch, Bill Emerson, Mona Parekh, Karen Charney, Marc Janssen, Sandy Kacena, Jamie Bagan, Martha Terry, Denise Zumbach, Janis Deyak, Jill Anderson, Mary Murphy, Laura Green, Jeff Charis-Carlson, Mandi Bozarth, Heidi Pierce, Kristen Taylor

**1. Welcome and Introductions:** *Chris Blaumueller* led the meeting to order at ­­­­7:05pm. Introductions were made.

**2.   Approval of February Agenda:** *Francine Rath*moved to approve the November agenda.  *Martha Terry* seconded the motion. The motion was carried by the majority.

**3.    Review of and Approval of November Minutes:** *Sandy Kacena* moved to approve the November minutes.  *Bill Emerson* seconded the motion. The motion was carried by the majority.

**4.     President’s Report: Christine Blaumueller:** Chris will discuss in depth in Old and New Business during tonight’s meeting.

**5. Vice President’s Report: Katharine Senn:** Katie was not able to attend, however, she sent her report to Chris. Chris Blaumueller read her report:

-We have a confirmed Iowa City Music Auxiliary Concert Date at Liberty High for a fundraising/awareness event: Friday, May 3rd. Save the date! Annie Savage is our point person at Liberty. I will be contacting the committee to begin rocking and rolling on planning out this event in the next week.

- The [Facebook event](https://www.facebook.com/events/2012736575515350/) has been created for the Spring Car Wash, it would be greatly appreciated if everyone invited friends to the event and shared it out.

-Next steps will be to add the Spring Car Wash to community calendars such as Little Village, Press-Citizen, Hoopla, and Think Iowa City

-Huge thanks to Bill Emerson for getting all of our donors on the website, next step is to add our business donors

-Email has been drafted to go to all ICMA parents, via each music director's mailing list

-In March, another ask to corporate donors will take place.

-Do we have any graphic designers in our midst that would volunteer their time to our organization? Please send any names or ideas to [content@iowacitymusicauxiliary.org](mailto:content@iowacitymusicauxiliary.org) by March 1st.

**6.   Treasurer’s Report: Francine Rath:** Please look at financial report for details. If we make $11,000 this year, we will have $8,000 to start for the next year. However, our goal is to raise $30,000 so we have more than enough money to start next year. Jon says he will investigate the district rule to bus students for a curricular choir event. We are sending out a second letter

**7. Secretary’s Report: Mona Parekh:** Three items. One, sorry for not send out the February Director’s Google Form link, this will not happen again. Two, I noticed you have sent your director’s reports to my email, I will cut and paste them in February’s minutes. A few of you have sent me reports for January, I will cut and paste these reports in February’s minutes. Three, my son had to make a decision and not continue with choir next year, we will need a secretary for the next school year.

**8. Information Officer Report: Bill Emerson:** First, Maureen Young has agreed to take on the responsibility and training for being the new Information Officer for next year. She will be invited to attend the executive meeting before our meetings. Second, our website is updated and you can see all the donors. We have 4 families that contributed over $1000, and 1 family donated $5000. The average donation was $155 with 1950 letters sent out, with approximately 246 responded with the average donation of $155. Third, the conversation of the “Insert” we must consider the amount of wasted paper. How many inserts should we print? Do we have the budget to print? Francine indicated that we have the monies to print. Since schools have canceled many concerts due to weather, does it make sense to print 1800 “Inserts” for just a few concerts left? We could add the link to the bottom of the program. April 1 the “Inserts” will be printed as of February 1 donations.

**9.   District Performing Music Coordinator’s Report: Jon Welch:** First many concerts have been canceled and rescheduled and directors are working very hard to include concerts this winter. Our goal is to stay in the black this year, moving forward, we recommend that we include parent representation from each high school. Please email Francine if you are interested in being part of this budget committee. Second, we need parent advocates to address the district especially with possible budget cuts coming down the pipeline. With possible cuts, we need to band together and vocalize how important these programs are to the school community.

**10. Past President’s Report: Deborah Wagner:** Nothing new to report.

**11. Old Business: Spring Car Wash/ Officer Nominations:** First,Please look at the handout regarding the vice president responsibilities. Chris has included the responsibilities for all three positions as the Vice President position is a three year commitment (ie Vice President, President, Past president). Just to summarize, we need a Vice President, Secretary, and a Car Wash Specialist. Second, the Car Wash confirmed date is Saturday April 27, 2019. The three locations are: HyVee 1st Ave. (East side), Morman Trek (West side), North Liberty (North side). We need to get site chairs, and better maps. We are only collecting donations, no pledges, and parents only to collect money, a Sign Up Genius will be sent out with a shortened schedule 10am – 3pm; with two hour shifts: 9:30 – 11:30, 11:30 – 1:30, 1:30 – 3:30. Students to create signs and hand out “Thank You Slips” after car has been washed. A sign up genius to be sent out 6 weeks prior to April 27, which is right after Spring Break. Chris has an appointment with Mark to see what supplies we currently have.

**12. New Business:**

**13. Director’s Report:**

City High Band **(Myron McReynolds):**

City High Choir **(Tyler Hagy):**

City High Orchestra **(Megan Stucky):** City High Orchestras are busy rehearsing for the 38th annual Dessert Concert in Opstad Auditorium on March 13th at 7:30pm with a reception following in the cafeteria. Tickets are $12 and can be purchased through the Music Office at City High. The feature of the evening will be Phantom of the Opera with Symphony Orchestra. There will be many other works including: The Best of Abba, The Lion King and a crowd favorite...The Orange Blossom Special! Hope to see many of you there!

City High Orchestras are getting prepared for their Winter Orchestra Concert on Wednesday February 6th at 7:30pm in Opstad Auditorium. Symphony Orchestra will have guest artist Pam Weest-Carassco on harp. There were a record number of 10 freshman selected for the Kennedy Honors Orchestra to be held on Saturday March 2nd. Congratulations 9th graders! Please save the date of March 13th for our 38th annual Dessert Concert fundraising event! The students have been working on putting together a great evening of music, entertainment and of course...desserts! We have also announced the destination of the next Europe tour. The City High Chamber Orchestra will be going to Leipzig, Prague and Vienna over spring break 2020 to celebrate Beethoven's 250th birthday!

Liberty High Band **(Ryan Arp):** February 2019 has been a weird month. The Liberty Band has wrapped up another successful season of Pep Band and was prepared to give their band concert - only to be cancelled due to the weather. The band produced a video and program that was sent out to Liberty families in lieu of rescheduling a concert. This concert was one that was to be shared with North Central Junior High.

The 2nd Annual Liberty Jazz Festival was held on Friday, Feb. 15. 30 bands performed at Liberty that day from 22 different schools across Iowa. This is quite the undertaking and the support of Liberty band parent volunteers makes it happen and I am extremely thankful for such wonderful support.

Liberty Jazz Bands will all be performing at the SEIBA Jazz Festival on Saturday, March 2 at IC West. On March 5 the Jazz Ensemble performs at the Corridor Jazz Project concert at the Paramount in Cedar Rapids then at our Liberty Jazz Night on March 7th with choir and orchestra groups. The jazz season concludes with our postponed Liberty Jazz Cafe featuring bands from North Central and Liberty on Saturday, March 9th.

With 2nd Trimester wrapping up, we are looking forward to our trip to Kansas City in April as well as our awards concert on May 1st and our performance at Large Group festival on May 4th.

Through all these snow days, the students have really done excellent work despite the disruptive weather. I am extremely proud of them and look forward to preparing for our next and much warmer concerts!

Respectfully Submitted,

Ryan Arp

Liberty High Choir **(Caitlyn Hanson):**

Liberty High Orchestra **(Annie Savage):** The Orchestras and our resident "string band," String Theory, have been busy preparing for both the Wintergrass Music Festival in Seattle (February 20-25 – see below) AND a trip to the Worlds of Fun Band and Orchestra Festival (May 11-12) over in the orchestra room lately! Music in high school is an awesome balance of adventure and hard work and the Liberty Orchestras try their best to represent the many styles of music that involve strings! Over the next few months, our students will have jammed alongside members of the Grateful Dead and the Sons of the Pioneers, put on a jazz concert with the band and choir (March 7) and performed with our new Dean of Students, Ms. Kim Fitten, singing lead with us! YAY MUSIC!

Our next concert at Liberty will be held Feb 12! (cancelled due to weather)

Update - Several Liberty High String Theory students to The Wintergrass Festival in Seattle from February 20th, 2019 and are getting back February 25th, 2019 evening. The kids were able to practice with Laurie Lewis and Bob Phillips, and the incredible Wintergrass Youth Orchestra. The kids have or will be will be working (aka- performing on stage with) with [Peter Rowan](https://www.facebook.com/peter.rowan.77?__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARDf4ev9T_vfjnuwKYhKTlCJ9v34Vum7-IRlcFQwSsB_wPtFyZ41TF6sMnb1xETJ4h4gY4iis7HjNZA9&fref=mentions), (Old and In the Way), [Blaine Sprouse](https://www.facebook.com/blaine.sprouse?__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARCigpN4C_udfQVckUaQrc58N8-iMvSxffsqXjS_j07ayQPI4GXaTijJOGgiTn3xictteqsgb6-BYJRP&fref=mentions), The Sons of the Pioneers, New Orlean's Don Vappie's Jazz Trio, Joe Craven (many projects David Grisman/ Jerry Garcia), Phenom cellist and author [Renata Bratt](https://www.facebook.com/renata.bratt?__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARClQq0pb_oL0mT_AfeOyKH6V52aqN8EJ55qjcdNw7qeeoFTbyNLWxs0xA0e2Q_GkT7bKbU4S8GjcxAs&fref=mentions) and many, many others.

West High Band **(Rob Medd/Rich Medd):**

West High Choir **(David Haas, Luigi Enriquez):**

West High Orchestra **(Jon Welch):** Jan:

It seems so long ago but December was quite a busy month for the West High Orchestras. On December 20, the West High Symphony traveled to the UIHC to perform Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis.*The group performed in the main atrium to quite a packed house and had a wonderful time. On December 11, the West High Chamber Orchestra teamed up with Jason Weinberger from Cedar Falls Waterloo Symphony for the first of two engagements this year. The first was a concert of Bach's Brandenburg III with Jason on Harpsichord and the second will occur on March 7 as we perform movements of Holst's *The Planets* with Jason's "New Live" project. The students and their director are super excited!

Feb:

The West High Orchestras are busy at work and doing our best to stay on top of all of these snow days! The West High Orchestras' next concert is Thursday, March 7 and the students are playing works by Grieg and Brahms. We have kicked off pit orchestra rehearsals for "Sweeney Todd" this week and Symphony Strings is excited to perform at the University of Northern Iowa Invitational on April the 4th. We are also proud of our seven members selected to play in the U of Iowa's Honor Orchestra:

Madeline Ohl-Violin

Sanya Sami-Violin

Caroline Mascardo-Violin

Akhil Bharanidhar-Violin

Bill Chen-Violin

Xiaoyi Zhu-Viola

Elizabeth Wan-Cello

Juliana Rosanelli-Cello

Bharanidhar, Akhil

South East Junior High Band **(Mike Kowbel):**

South East Junior High Choir (**Teri Finger**): South East choirs had their 2nd trimester concert last week without any delays.  Our show choir, Sound Express, will tour this Wednesday to four of our feeder elementary schools.  The show choir will perform on Sunday, March 3rd at the City High 4th Ave spring show.

South East Junior High Orchestra **(Lisa Schrock):** January:  
  
"The SE Orchestras are preparing for their second concert of the year on February 5th. The 8th graders have been preparing small ensembles for the concert and are excited to share their progress. Eight students were selected for the South East Iowa String Teacher's Association Honors Orchestra in January and sixteen students will be participating in the Kennedy Honors Orchestra in March."  
  
February:  
  
"After three dates rescheduled, the SE Orchestras were finally able to give their February concert on Valentine's Day. Sixteen SE students will be attending the Kennedy Honors Orchestra Festival this upcoming Saturday and two others were selected for the state-wide Iowa String Teachers Association Honors Orchestra in May. The 8th grade orchestra will be going on tour and performing for several elementary schools at the end of March."

North Central Junior High Band: ( **Jane Triplett, Kevin Brown**):

North Central Junior High Choir **(Diane Thayer):**

North Central Junior High Orchestra **(Mark Awad – Van Allen, Penn, NCJH):** North Central Band, Choir, and Orchestra concerts were all cancelled due to weather.  Choir was able to make theirs up.  Band will not be.  Orchestra is still looking for a makeup time in the next two weeks.

Fine Arts Day went well, all things considered -- we could tell that our group had a bit of weather-induced rust, but the kids played well and each of the three successive performances for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade groups was better and more secure than the preceding.

Kennedy Honors Orchestra is this coming Saturday.  North Central students are (or should be!) practicing hard in preparation!

6th grade orchestra students have started work on Harry Potter -- all sorts of new technical challenges in this one, so it's a bit of a risk, but I think they're up to the task!  If not, I'm sure there's a spell for that somewhere...

North West Junior High Band **(Jane E. Triplett ):** Northwest JH Bands are doing well this trimester!

January 5 we took many NWJH band students to audition for the Southeast Iowa Bandmasters Honor Band. We are happy to report that 24 students were accepted and 11 of our NWJH 8th graders accepted into the Iowa Bandmasters Jr. High All State Band in Des Moines on May 9. Pretty sure this makes NWJH history! So proud of our students.

Now we are looking forward to performing our 2nd trimester concert next Thursday, February 7, in the West High School auditorium. The music will definitely show how much improvement the 7th and 8th grade concert bands have made this trimester.

As always, thank you for your support, Music Auxiliary!

Sincerely,

Jane E. Triplett

NWJH Bands

North West Junior High Choir

North West Junior High Orchestra **(Kathryn Swinbank - NWJH):**

East Elementary Band **(Kathy Smith – *Shimek, Lucas, Wood)*:** Both bands are in the process of preparing music for our spring concert –May 2nd. And the tour on May 3rd.  (it would help if this weather would “cease and desist”!!!)

Also, 20 advanced 6th grade students are preparing solos for our solo night on April 1st .

Lessons continue with many students receiving “karate belts” as they progress.

My thanks to the music auxiliary for all that you do!

East Elementary Band **(Ashley Atkinson – Lincoln, Longfellow, Mann)**:

East Elementary Orchestra **(Austin Jacobs – Hills, Mann, Lemme, Longfellow, Alexander, Hoover):** *The only east side elementary orchestra news to report is a change in our winter concert date. Due to numerous weather related cancellations, our concert will now be on Tuesday, February 26th at 7:30 in the Opstad Auditorium at City High School. We invite you to join us if you feel so inclined and are excited to share this program with family, friends, and the community.*

*All the best,*

*Austin Jacobs*

West Elementary Band **(Lee Rabe – Horn, Weber, Hills**): Westside elementary band report:

It would be nice to see our students again to make sure that they all remember how to play their instruments. Of the few that I saw today (Monday) we were doing a LOT of reviewing. We are starting the solo performance season which means 6th graders working on solos, coordinating accompaniment and times with parents. It is also honor band season, which means nominating students and making sure that they are available. That brings me to my question to the music auxiliary: I know funds are tight this year. Can the elementary staff plan to go ahead and send kids to honor bands knowing that the registration fees need to come from you? Do you have the funds to support us this year?

West Elementary Orchestra ( **Kathleen Marston**) :

**14. Next Meeting:** March 25, 2019

**15.** **Adjournment:** *Bill Emerson* moved to adjourn the meeting and *Martha Terry* seconded the motion. No discussion occurred. The motion was carried by the majority.

MINUTES RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY THE SECRETARY. MINUTES SUBMITTED ON: 03/25/19

By *Mona Parekh*