



COUNCIL ROCK SOUTH ORCHESTRA

## CROPS Executive Board Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2018 Meeting initiated at 7:10pm, adjourned at 8:50pm

**Attendees:** Celestine McDonald, Theresa Stratton, Roseanne Logan, Gail Culleton, Barbara Tiger, Theresa Thorwart, Jacki Kopack  
Meeting run by T Stratton

- Info packet that is to be given out first day of Orchestra classes was distributed to attendees. Each member was asked to review packet and send revisions/corrections/suggestions to T Stratton by August 20.
  - Discussion to Remove Hayride form from packet prior to posting as prices are not confirmed- distribute separately after confirmed.
- **CROPS dates for next year:**

<b>August <del>13</del>-15</b>	<b>February 6</b>
<b>September 5</b>	<b>March 6</b>
<b>October 3</b>	<b>April 3</b>
<b>November 8</b>	<b>May 8</b>
<b>December 5</b>	<b>June 5</b>
<b>January 2</b>	

- Orchestra Camp – Recap- all went well; Orchestra wind sectionals/rehearsals- begin prior to start of year because it is a trip year
  - Trumpets/Low Brass Monday, August 20- 6:30-8pm, Woodwinds – Tuesday, August 21- 6:30-8pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Violins – Wednesday, August 22 - 6:30-8pm; Summer Rehearsal– Saturday, August 25- Will not run car wash
- **Need Hayride Coordinator** (to include contact info in Packet) – last few years it has been Theresa- she is willing to serve again, but **additional support would be helpful**
- Website will be updated to include this year’s packet next week- Setoo is preparing to post start up materials on line
  - T Stratton is investigating CROPS website development (weebly, vs. Wix vs. google sites). Until creation, CROPS info posted to CRSD Orch website by C Simon.
  - Website creation support would be helpful
- Uniforms Wednesday, 9/12
  - Celestine provided price list to Theresa.
  - Discussed briefly clothing for trip- **what will be required? Shirt? Jacket? Will it be provided by CROPS or will attendees need to purchase?**
    - *Suggested: if attendees will need to purchase, determine required items, prices, and notify as soon as possible for planning purposes, for parents*
- Back-To-School is Sept. 13
- Five Master Sectionals will be scheduled plus September Sectionals. Fund-Raisers: Orchestra Festival and a Car Wash as main fundraisers. Bag Bingo?
  - Discussed mismatch between fundraising money required to adequately cover expenses and limited manpower to run said fundraisers. Concern raised regarding need for additional parent support vs. raising membership dues if fundraisers are projected to provide financing for mandatory orchestra events.

- Need a firm number from Mr. Simon regarding any projected additional fees for year for orch AND trip so that we can build them into fundraising needs/projections for year- *PRIOR to next meeting- responsible: T Stratton*
  - Brief review of financials notes that member dues are not projected do not fully cover mandatory annual costs (sectionals, food for student members, banquet, music rental fees)
    - Exec Com members note that additional parental support (in key chairperson positions) is needed to maintain a healthy financial situation to benefit the students
  - Discussion regarding costs vs. expenses and review of gross revenue (T Thorwart)
    - Extended discussion, with consensus to **suggest raising membership dues** (discussed \$75 vs, \$100 with family cap; majority considered \$100 as reasonable in view of current projected mandatory expenses, revenue reserve, projected expenses, cost of participation in other local student activities) to better match expenses to income
    - Question raised: why does CROPS pay for rental of music (vs. CRSD/curriculum expense- follow up with C. Simon)
  - Consider having C. Simon or exec com. directly ask parents to volunteer
    - Discussion regarding Band parent model/expectation at start of year regarding volunteering at events, providing food, etc.
      - Member concern stated regarding limited number of parents responsible for increasing number of duties to maintain adequate financial support for orchestra events
  - **Consider having sign up table at membership/fitting night to elicit volunteers**
    - **Have LIST available of open positions:**
      - **Master Sectional**
      - **Trip fundraising**
      - **Fall Festival**
      - **Pancake Breakfast**
      - **Bag Bingo**
      - **Webpage Manager**
      - **Encourage co-chairs for each position!**
  - Book Bowl – was decent fundraiser- Tentative date to repeat: March 13
    - Coordinator needed
  - Grocery cards
    - Scheduled to end IN NOVEMBER
    - T Stratton is monitoring quantity/need for additional cards
    - Support in this role would be helpful
  - Need a parent to look into clothes drop off and coordinate if it seems like a reasonable fund raiser
  - Bag Bingo- discussion regarding license, date, need to consider venues
    - Was profitable last year
    - Chair needed once date, need for license confirmed (T Stratton)
- Winter / Spring Concerts - orchestra takes both concerts as fundraisers
  - Co-chairs in place ☺
- White House – C Simon will apply to perform in December
  - Info Packet will spell out selection process; Strings will mainly be selected based on September Auditions; IF we are selected again, we will need to keep the number down to 40 students; Rockestra – not sure if we will apply again. Seniors in both groups were worn out by the holidays.
- Overview of Info Packet
  - Car Wash and Fall Festival on October 18 - **Need Chairperson(s)**

- Haunted Hayride on October 21 with rain date of October 28 (6:00 start)? – [Need Chairperson](#) – Combine efforts again with Choir.
  - Philly Orchestra Open Rehearsal – We will apply once Philly Orchestra posts dates. Cost-around \$10.00 for buses- [Discussion to remove this from info packet](#)
- Spain Updates: Benchmark of \$420 for trip was due; **73 students, 15 family members** have paid deposits. If we get to 90 total people, KI will give us a 6<sup>th</sup> chaperone. We have **105 students** currently signed-up for orchestra next year (9<sup>th</sup> grade class-21 students); We pay Kingsway International (KI) on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month (giving us time to deposit funds and then send one check to KI)
  - Inspection Trip: Notes from C. Simon: Kids will LOVE Spain! Exchange concerts will be finalized once Spanish schools are back in session in September. The main exchange is in Sevilla. Manuel de Falla Hall in Granada is magnificent. It is a professional hall - concert is all set. The outdoor performance in front of the Toledo Cathedral will be an impressive finale to our tour. A different exchange group will also perform there. Semana Santa observance after performance – historic and notable procession through Toledo streets. I will need to educate students on this amazing event. Students will stay in triples at all 3 hotels. Parents will also be in the same hotels as the students. The Herradura beach experience will be very fun. 4 kayaks/4 paddleboards will be available to kids to use for 2 of our 4 hour stay. Volleyball net will be set-up for us. (We will be taking out the option to do the 2 ½ hour excursion due to length of trip and depth of water at the other end of excursion.)
- Review of Orchestra Performances this year:
  - Barnes and Noble – Friday, Dec. 7
  - Winter Concert –Wednesday, Dec. 12 Intermission snacks – CROPS
  - Elementary performance – Thursday, February 28 1:30pm
  - South Orchestra Pyramid Concert – Friday, March 22
  - Pennsbury Orchestra Festival – Wednesday, May 1
  - Orchestra Festival – Friday, May 10
  - Spring Concert – Wednesday, May 22 Intermission snacks – CROPS
  - Spain Farewell Concert – Saturday, March 30
  - Banquet – May 29
  - Senior Awards Night-TBD
    - Discussion regarding options to decrease costs: assess other venues vs, change to buffet. J Kopack volunteered to gather info regarding other venues (Maggios, Buck, Yardley CC, Graymoor, Rose Bank) if approved by C Simon.
- CROPS Membership form –
  - Sign up sheets:
    - Fall Festival ~~October 20~~ **Oct 18** Car wash Sign up & fundraiser
    - Uniform sign up sheet for September 12
    - Hayride – [Remove form?](#)
    - Pizza Nights - 5 nights
    - Snacks for Sectionals
    - Spring Concert and Winter Concert refreshments
    - Truck Rental (Barnes and Noble, Pennsbury)
    - CR Orchestra Festival
  - Database – do we have last year’s database as a start?
    - Yes- Database is initiated
  - Pizza Nights – [reach out with favorite Vendors?](#) Nov. 19, Dec. 10, Feb. 25, March 30 (Spain Farewell), May 20

**IMPORTANT**

**Cropmail-Please continue to use Cropmail@gmail.com to email about most business. It keeps us in the loop and it makes sure we can get information to the correct people.**

- President-----Theresa Stratton
- Vice President-----Gail Culleton
- Treasurer-----Teresa Thorwart
- Secretary-----Jacki Kopack
- Trip Treasurer-----Setoo Dasaka
- Membership/Database-----Setoo Dasaka
- Uniform Co-chairs-----Celestine McDonald and Setoo Dasaka
- Master Sectional/SUG-----Theresa Stratton
- Trip Fundraising-----Theresa Stratton
- Sunshine-----Roseann Logan
- Winter/Spring Concerts Co-Chair-----Denise Gray and Jeanne Weisblatt
- Banquet Co-chairs-----Celestine McDonald, Dara Zivotovsky, Setoo Dasaka
- Orchestra Festival-----Gail Culleton and Robyn Rowlands
- Fall Festival/Hayride-----Theresa Stratton
- Photography Co-chairs-----Silvia Aquino and Barbara Tiger
- Publicity-----Lisa Woolcott

**Open Positions- Chair/Co-Chair needed:**

**Master Sectional**

**Trip fundraising**

**Fall Festival**

**Pancake Breakfast**

**Bag Bingo**

**Webpage Manager**

*We encourage co-chairs for each position!*

Member suggestions for next meeting:

Snacks

Group intros at every meeting

Exec Comm move seats to allow new members to mix in

Great ideas from the entire team-

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacki Kopack