



COUNCIL ROCK SOUTH ORCHESTRA

CROPS Executive Board Meeting Minutes

September 5, 2018 at 7:00pm. Meeting initiated at 7:10pm- 7:35 (executive), general meeting adjourned at 8:40pm

Executive Board Meeting Attendees: Celestine McDonald, Theresa Stratton, Roseann Logan, Gail Culleton, Barbara Tiger, Theresa Thorwart, Jacki Kopack, Setoo Desaka, Lisa Woolcott, Robyn Rowlands, Jeanne Weisblatt, Dara Zivotovsky, Denise Gray
Meeting run by C Simon

Chris Simon, Director

- Welcome back to school
- Info packet distributed first day of String Orchestra classes. I will distributed the packets in Symphony Orchestra classes (period 2 and 9) tomorrow. They are due next Friday, Sept. 14
- **CROPS dates for this year:**

August 15	February 6
September 5	March 6
October 3	April 3
November 8	May 8
December 5	June 5
January 2	

- Summer Rehearsal on Aug. 25 – The students that could make it sounded great!
- Uniform Fitting Night on Sept. 12 from 7 to 9. CROPS will be open at 6:15pm to families who have children in HMS (back to school night). Uniform Fitting is very early this year. **Ladies new to orchestra and All Men must attend.** **Need parent volunteers!**
 - Staffing issues for Fitting Night- Theresa will send out a sign up form to ensure adequate help (email); definitely need two men for tuxedo fitting. Officers will be present, Theresa will coordinate additional help
 - Request to have student officers present at fitting night to assist with entering email addresses- Mr. Simon to coordinate with student officers
- Website will be updated to include this year's packet (Mr. Simon to do)
- Back-To-School night is Sept. 13
- Five Master Sectionals will be scheduled plus September Sectionals - Woodwind and Brass Sectional on Tuesday, Sept. 18 and the Strings Sectional on Thursday, Sept. 20.
- Fund-Raisers: Orchestra Festival and a Car Wash as main fundraisers. Bag Bingo is still an option
 - Theresa looking into logistics of Bag Bingo- if feasible to run this, will need a chairperson
- Ice Cream Party next week (Wednesday, Sept. 12 at 2:30)!
- Winter / Spring Concerts - orchestra takes both concerts as fundraisers
 - White House – we will apply again to perform in December, did decide to apply for both groups
 - 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 – also applied again.

- Auditions for string players are in 2 weeks; potential members need to be able to play part of BMAE music
- Overview of Info Packet- Info packets did start to go out, but there was a change this year with class schedules (3rd period symphony orchestra, so Mr. Simon is working through to ensure adequate coordination among all classes)
 - Annual membership fee was raised to \$100 to adequately fund primary orchestra activities (master sectionals, banquet); as the prior fees did not fully cover these costs, and this year there is an expected slight decline in overall membership numbers.
 - Car Wash and Fall Festival on October 20 - [Need Chairperson\(s\)](#)
 - Haunted Hayride on October 21 with rain date of October 28 (6:00 start)
 - Philly Orchestra Open Rehearsal – [We will apply once Philly Orchestra posts dates](#). Cost- approximately \$10.00 for buses.
- Spain Updates!
 - Benchmark of \$420 for trip due today.
 - **Deadline for New Spain Travelers is Sept. 30.** After Sept. 30, we will not be able to accept new commitment forms.
 - [What to expect in Spain video will be shared with students over next couple of weeks and then posted by Mr. Simon by end of month so parents can view it also](#)
 - **73 students, 15 family members** have paid deposits. If we get to 90 total people, KI will give us a 6th chaperone. We have **105 students** currently signed-up for orchestra next year (9th grade class-21 students). This number is fluid through the first couple of weeks of school. Smaller overall orchestra group size, as we lost a number of seniors and smaller entering group of ninth graders
 - We pay Kingsway International (KI) on the 20th of each month. That will give us time to deposit funds and then send one check to KI.
 - Inspection Trip
 - 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. This will be much easier than the Greece trip where they were in triples in Athens and quads on the cruise.
 - The parent group will be on the same bus and the same hotels as students. All hotels are now four-star hotels. At least two of the dinners and all of the breakfasts are buffets, with good variety. Lunches are on their own (spending money needed), and a couple of fixed dinners (paella/chicken is one and there will be a vegetarian option at each dinner). Mr. Simon will give estimate of spending money needed to cover lunches (included on the video as well).
 - 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 2½-hour excursion due to length of trip and depth of water at the other end of excursion.
 - Other Spain Info
 - **Spain Mandatory Meeting is on Tuesday, March 19**
 - Spain Farewell Concert is Friday, March 29 at 7pm.

- **Travelers will need to have passports processed by November 17**
 - Each student/parent traveler please note: It can take up to 60 days....this must be done ASAP
 - A photo of passport must be provided to KI ahead of ordering airplane tickets, occurring end November
- Gail will prepare the info/instructions and plans to have that out by the end of the week
- Looking into running a euro exchange night
- Secure credit card information will also be shared- any info you have about exchange or credit cards- please share with Gail
- Orchestra Performances this year:
 - Barnes and Noble – Friday, Dec. 7
 - Symphony Orchestra only, due to space constraints
 - A percentage of sales will go to CROPS that day, or if you order on-line over next 5 days with a code
 - Winter Concert –Wednesday, Dec. 12 Intermission snacks – CROPS
 - Elementary performance – Friday, March 1 1:30pm
 - South Orchestra Pyramid Concert – Friday, March 22
 - *(Jazz at Rock is same night, but Jazz band will be slated to go last so students can do both)*
 - Pennsbury Orchestra Festival – Wednesday, May 1
 - Orchestra Festival – Friday, May 10
 - Spring Concert – Wednesday, May 22 Intermission snacks – CROPS
 - Spain Farewell Concert – Friday, March 29
 - Banquet – May 29- Spring Mill Country Club
 - Theresa needs to reserve/pay deposit
 - Senior Awards Night-TBD
- CROPS Membership form –
 - Sign up sheets:
 - Fall Festival October 20 Car wash Sign up & fundraiser
 - Uniform sign up sheet for September 12
 - Hayride
 - March 13- Book Bowl
 - Pizza Nights - 5 nights (includes pyramid concert)
 - Snacks for Sectionals
 - Spring Concert and Winter Concert refreshments
 - Truck Rental (Barnes and Noble, Pennsbury)- we will need parent help with loading and unloading instruments
 - CR Orchestra Festival
 - Database – Setoo is working on cleaning up the database. Mr. Simon has been tracking/adding student emails and the goal is that by October to have complete list
 - Pizza Nights – favorite Vendors? Nov. 19, Dec. 10, March 29 (Spain Farewell), May 20, and pyramid concert

Theresa Stratton - President

- Welcome to a new year!
- Cropsmail-Please continue to use Cropsmail@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

The “vault” is a lock box- the students will drop forms/payment there

Fundraising

- Grocery cards/Hoagies- Hoping to stop by mid-November to allow time for final payment to KI
- Opportunity for new families to participate (for trip specifically)

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!

General Meeting called to order at 7:40

Meeting run by Mr. Simon

Theresa Stratton collected names and email addresses of parent attendees

Welcome to all parents in attendance at meeting- great turn out! These meetings are an opportunity to ask questions, get info, and to contribute to the Orchestra experience of our kids. Info packet due dates were reviewed; questions about packet should be forwarded to Mr. Simon

- **All members: 4 forms are DUE BACK by Sept. 14 with payment**

Agenda items as noted above were reviewed

- Mr. Simon stated that Theresa may reach out to parents present if additional assistance is needed

Fitting Info- Students attending trip will need at least one polo shirt, and the polo shirt is also used as the informal concert attire during the year; all students should order/have one

CROPS coordinates master sectionals

Regional musicians/experts come in for additional training with the students

CROPS membership fees/fundraising covers the Honorariums for experts at these events

All symphony orchestra members will learn BCMEA music

Fundraisers also help to support events for the kids

Ice cream party- senior officers serve the other students

Winter/spring concert typically split; one coordinated by band and one by orchestra/chorus. Since this is a trip year, orchestra runs food for both events as fundraisers

Fall Festival Oct 20- Carwash starts at 9pm.

Theresa will send out a sign up genius for parents to sign up to assist- parents are needed to help!

Still trying to set up clothing drive- assistance would be appreciated

Hayride is that weekend as well!

Phil Orchestra date: Date not available yet; trip overview provided by Mr. Simon

All parents are asked to please consider helping in some way during the upcoming year volunteer time, food donations, chair or co-chair a committee. Everything done "behind the scenes" is to benefit the kids, and "many hands make lighter work". Please follow up with Theresa Stratton, or reach out to any Executive Board member if you are able to assist

If you are NOT getting emails about trip payments, please follow up with Setoo

Respectfully Submitted,
Jacki Kopack

JKK9/5/18