

## KM Orchestra Boosters Talking Points

1. Parent Volunteers
2. Collecting Dues and follow-up
3. Calendar, Meetings and Communication
4. Budget Items
5. Fundraising

### **1. Parent Volunteers**

We need to let parents know how much they are needed. Time to turn the pressure on, but in a positive way. If we can keep the energy positive, get the Freshman parents excited about the things we are doing, then perhaps we will be able to gain more volunteers. The focus is on the students. We want to have positive and productive experiences for our students, but it can't happen without parent involvement. Due to school policies regarding supervision and the handling of money, it is literally a requirement that we have parents participating in certain aspects of the orchestra.

Things to consider:

- a. We currently have about 95 full-time students in the orchestra. This is under the direction of 1 teacher, Mr. Schroter. Think about other clubs and sports programs... most teams and clubs have multiple coaches/teachers who assist in administrative tasks, supervision, planning, and logistics. Since we only have 1 person to run the orchestra program and cater to the needs of 95 students, our Boosters exist to assist wherever possible.
- b. Our students are wonderful!!! They truly are a pleasure to work with. They also have lots of great ideas and potential. They are more than willing to work toward their potential, but can only achieve some of their goals with the help of Booster Parents.
- c. In addition to officers, we need parents to take on these roles:
  - Assistance with Uniforms (1 or 2 parents)
  - Concessions at Hollywood Concert with our feeder schools (3 – 5 parents)
  - Orchestra Camp Supervision and various tasks (6-8 parents)
  - Orchestra Spirit-wear, car magnets, etc. (1 parent)
  - Concert Receptions (3-5 parents)
  - Fundraising (1-2 parents)
  - Banquet (3-5 parents)

### **2. Collecting Dues and Follow-up**

Choose an officer who will make phone calls and follow-up with parents regarding delinquent accounts, or to work out a deal for hardship. Lets make this happen during week 3 of school. (Next week)

Brainstorm ways to expedite collecting dues. Perhaps an incentive to volunteer, such as discounted rate?

Online payment capability? Venmo? Are parents getting receipts? Are the boosters tracking student accounts?

(I recommend CHARMS which is geared toward boosters of music programs as opposed to sports. Especially since Pine Mountain and McClure already use it in their programs... we can potentially import student information as they come into KMHS. It will take care of many of our needs, but we do need a parent/officer who is willing to help get it set up)

### 3. Calendar, Meetings, and Communication

~ Determine Booster meetings for the rest of the school year, and let's get it on our Calendar now. President can send reminders about our meetings. Boosters can send communications to all parents regarding the dates/times of our meetings. Most parents will not wish to come, but they should be aware that we are meeting.

~Take a look at the orchestra calendar and determine action plans/dates prior to events.

~Bonus points if we can have a Monthly Communication sent out from the Boosters, regarding minutes of our meetings, and other information that is valuable to our orchestra community. This will help make the Boosters more visible and relevant in the eyes of the average parent.

~double bonus points if boosters would set up a Twitter and/or text blast!

### 4. Budget Items

In addition to basic costs of running our program, there are some needs and wants for this year...

**Need: Orchestra Camp** This is not only for the benefit of the individual students as they become better players, but is a major part of creating the "esprit de corps" that I am trying to establish and maintain in the orchestra. My focus in camp is about 50/50 ... technique/team-building. I will provide you with a list of the needs for camp, and hopefully we can make it all happen with dues. If not, let's look toward fundraising. If that doesn't work, then we can charge the students. Let's try to figure out the cost/person. If a student hasn't paid their dues, then we should try to have them cover their fair share of the cost.

**Need: Sectional Coaches and Music Artists/Clinicians**

**Need: Professional Development for Director and associated Membership Costs/Fees (GMEA, ASTA).**

Depending on the year and the budget, would like to have the opportunity to attend a music teacher conference such as GMEA state conference, ASTA National Conference, or Mid-West national conference.

**Need: Uniforms and T-shirts**

**Need: Banquet and Awards**

**Need: Administrative costs/expenses/software**

**Want: Student Recognition** (Student of the Month. Scholarship ideas?)

**Want: New Car Magnets and spirit-wear** be visible in the community

**Want: A custom-made conducting podium** our wood-shop teacher can have his class make one at a very reasonable cost. I can show you examples of what I have in mind.

### 5. Fundraising

Our students have some good ideas and they are willing to work and volunteer.

But we do need time for planning and absolutely need a couple parents to help out. Would be really great to have a Fundraising chairperson who can take this and run with it. Also helpful if they can seek out their own fundraising ideas.

August		December	
24	High School Honor Orchestra Auditions	12	Winter Concert
September		March	
5&6	Honor Orchestra Rehearsal	6	Pre-LGPE Concert
9	Honor Orchestra Concert	12-14	LGPE (exact day & time TBA)
15-17	Orchestra Camp	May	
October		8	Orchestra Banquet & Awards
3	Fall Concert	17	Spring Concert
26	Hollywood Costume Concert		