

JOHNSTON VOCAL PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

Promoting Excellence in our Educational Music Programs

Monday, April 11, 2022; 5:30 p.m.

Johnston High School Atrium (outside the auditorium)

In attendance:

Angela Gallagher, Mike & Jen Herrmann, Betsy Burkhardt, Brooke Ruddy, Amy Biittner, Patrick Mattingly, Jenny Lashier, Hannah Ryan, Laura Grimm, Mindy Webb Todd

Call to Order & Welcome: Jenny Lashier & Patrick Mattingly

Motion to Accept Agenda and Open Meeting - Jen Herrmann
Second - Mindy Webb Todd

Approval of Minutes from November 2021: Jenny Lashier

Motion to Approve Minutes - Angela Gallagher
Second - Pat Mattingly
Motion Approved

Treasurer's Report: Mindy Webb Todd

• Financial Update

- o Mindy provided Treasurer Report for 2021-2022
- o Good Showzam Year
- o Revenue - less this year but expenses were less
- o Motion: Approve Treasurer's Report for 2021-2022
 - Motion to Approve - Brooke Ruddy
 - Second - Jen Herrmann
 - Motion Approved

Directors' Reports:

• Jorie O'Leary:

- o Des Moines Metro Opera is coming this Wednesday to perform their opera "Rusalka" for all choir students
- o Next week is incoming 9th grade auditions for show choir and chamber choir
- o The last week of April is incoming 8th grade auditions for show choir
- o 9th grade Solo Contest is Monday, May 2nd
- o 8/9 Spring Concert is Tuesday, May 10th at JHS
- o We have had a busy spring so far but are so proud of our students and the year we've had with them. They have worked hard all year and we are excited for the 9th graders to be at JHS next year – they will be a wonderful addition to the JHS program! Thank you for all your support this year – we couldn't do what we do without VPA and all the amazing parents!!

• Laura Grimm:

- o Auditions for Chorus and Show Choirs this week and next week
- o End of year show went well

- **Hannah Ryan:**

- Solo and Ensemble
- Select Choirs and 9th Grade Chamber Choir
- All JHS choirs performing at Large Group Contest at DCG on Saturday, May 7th
- Choir concert for all JHS choirs on Monday, May 9th
- Friday, May 13th Cantus has performance at Iowa Capitol
- Friday, May 13th – results come out for JHS choirs and show choirs
- Wednesday, May 18th handing out Director's Awards for seniors and having breakfast

Committee Reports:

- **Madrigal** – Jenny Lashier for Andrea Hodapp:
 - Madrigal is looking for volunteers
 - Need people to volunteer for co-chairs to shadow current chairs
 - no later than August
 - Send out communication to 8th grade parents to explain what Madrigal is, etc.
- **Showzam** - Mike & Jen Herrmann:
 - Successful year
 - Got together with committee chairs to create documentation of roles & responsibilities
 - Need Program person to help Brooke
 - Need 3 more committee members
 - Cafeteria
 - Social Media Person
- **Fundraising** – Jenny Lashier for Michelle Polder:
 - Need to find Fundraising Chair
 - Needs to be detail-oriented
- **Communications** - Brooke Ruddy:
 - We found person to replace Brooke
 - Will change VPA website to link to new JHS Vocal Music Google site
- **Presidents' Report:** Jenny Lashier & Patrick Mattingly
 - Thank you all for being involved and making VPA such a success. There are wonderfully committed leaders of each event and we are thankful you are here.
 - The year went very smoothly
 - The students are grateful

Old Business:

- **Future Scope of VPA - Mission and Possible Bylaw Amendment to Include 6-7 grade vocal music programs**
 - There are less students participating in vocal music than ever before. The hope is to reach younger students and foster a love for the Johnston Vocal Music Program. Many ways to reach out to younger students were discussed. At this time, it may be unnecessary to update the bylaws, but rather make a concerted effort to ensure 6-7 grade parents know about VPA and are invited to all

meetings and events.

- **Chairs to fill for 2022-2023:**
 - Communications
 - Fundraising
 - Madrigal Co-Chairs to shadow this year
 - Co-Treasurer to work with Mindy

- **VPA Website:**
 - Discussed in Communications Committee Report

New Business:

- **Meals reimbursement request for Cantus at Iowa Choral Showcase on April 6, 2022**
 - Motion: Approve – 1.) \$580.56 for pizza meal 2.) \$600 on campus for a total of \$1,186.76
 - Motion to Approve: Angela Gallagher
 - Second: Jen Herrmann
 - Motion Approved

- **Laura Grimm:**
 - **Synergy and Innovation are travelling to Chicago for nationals in 2023.**
 - May have a big ask for VPA or need a specific fundraiser for this event
 - Approximately \$750 per choir member

- **Jenny Lashier:**
 - **Choral Concert on Monday, May 9th**
 - Encourage people to attend
 - Wonderful to see where they were at the beginning of the year and where they are now

 - **Summer Kick-Off Picnic**
 - Great way to meet other families
 - Choir families 8-12 invited
 - **Hannah Ryan:** Big Creek may be too far away.
 - ✦ Possibly have it at Terra Park?
 - ✦ Year ago, it was an ice cream social, not dinner.

 - **Laura Grimm:** Set up booth for Madrigal and Showzam to try to encourage involvement on committees. They can sign up and we can reach back out.
 - ✦ Set up food trucks?
 - ✦ End of July

Next Meeting:

Monday, August 15th, 2022; 5:30 p.m. JHS Atrium

Adjourn at 7:00 p.m.

Motion – Brooke Ruddy

Second – Mindy Webb Todd

