

**Westborough Fine Arts Education Association**  
**Meeting Minutes**

November 2, 2021 7:00 PM, Zoom Meeting

In compliance with the COVID-19 restrictions, WFAEA held its meeting virtually, but with all present, visible and with the ability to hear and participate we conclude that members joining the meeting by Zoom are present.

Members present: Lisa Chace, Beth Kinsky, Deb Cushman, Jennifer Niece, Jessica Crandall, Chris Martin, Jen Shotkin, Lisa Martin, Ishani, Jeannie Chong, Debbie Dasgupta

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by Co-President, Lisa Chace.

Treasurer's report was given by Jennifer Niece

- Membership update - There were 3 additional members in October totalling \$160. This is ahead of where we were last year at this point.

Approval of minutes from prior meeting- Jessica Crandall, Secretary

- A motion was made by Beth Kinsky to approve the October 5, 2021 meeting minutes. Deb Cushman seconded this motion. No discussion. A vote was called and the minutes were approved.

**Director' Report - Director of Fine Arts, Chris Martin**

- The Marching Band thanks WFAEA for the pins. They will perform at post season games, including Thanksgiving.
- Tri-M assisted at James and the Giant Peach at the Middle School.
- The first WHS chorus concert was a success.
- Thank you for helping with uniforms (Kelley White and Karen Henderson)
- 68 students will be auditioning for the CDMMEA Sr. District Festival (This is also a prerequisite to compete for an All State recommendation to audition)
- The Rangers Marching Band (RMB) Banquet – Will be an in-person event. Mr. Doyle and Chris Martin are determining the details

**General Business**

- Kindness Week - November 13 -19. Information is available on the Westborough Connects Website.
  - It was decided that WFAEA will participate in the following manner –
    - Thankful Thursday – faculty will ask the WHS ensembles to write their favorite fine arts memory on a card. They will be collected and distributed by WFAEA to the appropriate teachers at WHS, Gibbons or Mill Pond.
    - Pay It Forward Friday - faculty will ask the WHS ensembles to write a brief note to pass along encouragement and/or advice to younger fine arts students. They will be collected and distributed by WFAEA to the appropriate teachers to share with students.

Beth Kinsky will supply the colored index cards. Chris Martin will provide instructions to the teachers. It was noted that they could also be used at the Senior Banquet in May.

- Superintendent's Advisory Council - Lisa Chace noted that questions / feedback can be passed on to the Superintendent's office through Lisa Chace and Beth Kinsky. No new discussion was brought up.
- Beth Kinsky noted that open volunteer positions are still available and can be found on the - Google Doc shared with the agenda email. Member were asked to please pass along if they know of anyone interested.

- Uniform distribution was completed. WFAEA wishes to specifically thank Kelly White & Karen Henderson for their assistance.
  - WFAEA will be purchasing 5 additional uniforms needed for special sizes (from line item in WFAEA in budget)
  - There has been some discussion around gender neutral uniform options for the future.
- Masking – Per Chris Martin, WHS Center Stage will be flexibly masked for the fall play – 7 masked, 19 unmasked. The audience will be masked. Performers will take off their masks as they go on stage, and put the mask back on after their play. Each play is about 10 minutes. There has been discussion about rapid testing the students first thing in the morning.
- Per Chris Martin, 68 students will be auditioning virtually for the Sr. CDMMEA District Festival. It has not yet been decided if this year's All State Festival will be in-person or virtual.

### **Upcoming Activities**

- The first issue of the Spotlight Newsletter is in the works and waiting for content / approval. We are aiming to send it out this coming week.
  - Suggestions for content were - write ups on James and the Giant Peach, Tri-M events and Mrs. Forest's retirement.
- Band O Rama will be November 16th. Lisa Martin, Michelle French & Liz Burow are Co-Chairs. Per Lisa Martin, the SignUp Genius is filling up. Pizza will be ordered from Monte's. Per Chris Martin, chairs will be available in the lobby and library for students to spread out during dinner.
- WHS Fall Play Concessions - The fall play will be November 19th. Kathy Swanson is the concession chair for the event. The Sign Up Genius has been sent out.
- Restaurant Night Fundraisers –A Discussion was had regarding potential restaurant night fundraisers. Mooya, Panera or Unos after Band-o-Rama or during Center Stage Tech Week are possibilities.
- Pops Night (May 2021) -A brainstorming meeting was tentatively scheduled for December 13<sup>th</sup> or after the holidays.
- CDMMEA - Senior Festival- Water bottles/ Candy- This year's Festival is all virtual - it was not decided if we should still do something to honor those students selected. It was discussed whether the Jr. Festival students should also be included.
- Choral Collage will be January 27, 2022. Lisa Martin, Michelle French & Liz Burow are Co-Chairs
- Our next meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2022

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.**