

Thespian Backers Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Jeanie Cygrymus, Kristianna Gizzi, Michelle Hoffmann, Becky Lipinski, Kristin Kulikowski, Amy Racunas, Kristin Taylor, Dan Taylor, Amy Berner, Erin Fallon, Alan Skillings, Liz Bertsch, Julie Collins, Jen McCabe, Gretchen White, Jeremy White, Lisa Gensler, Cari Williams, Nancy Sampson, Chris Todd, Lyn Dempsey, Colleen Gallagher, Sally Jeswilkowski, Cheryl Graves, Joanne Gudenburr, Mandy Feitt, Danielle Pavlik, Stacey Henderson, Amy Mattes, Shannon Hemmingson, Tanya Kotenoglou, Natalie Severns, Rochelle Koerbel, Anne Gavorcik, Beth Wilmus

Jeanie Cygrymus

- Coffeehouse: introduced Beth Wilmus, director (12/7-12/9, PTHS Cafeteria)
 - Beth present to provide information about annual variety show
 - All PTHS students are welcome to audition
 - 10/17: Informational meeting after school for students, auditorium
 - Performces are typically music (bands, groups, instrumental), monologues, poetry, dance, etc.
 - Theme: Mojo Dojo Coffeehouse '23: Barbie edition
 - 10/24/23: Auditions in 10 minute slots, 2:30-6:30
 - Must provide copy of any written material to be performed (e.g. lyrics, poem, monologue) to Beth Wilmus for approval
 - 10/26/23: Show host auditions
 - *10/27/23: Tentative date for posting of casted acts*
 - 10/31/23: Performers meeting
 - TBD: Rehearsal schedule and parents' meeting
 - Direct questions to Beth
 - Jeanie Cygrymus adds information
 - New Band app will be added after show is casted
 - Show needs variety for audience interest and entertainment; cuts are made to avoid redundancy. Example: no 2 acts can perform same song. Encourage students to be creative. Ideally, every act will be in 2/3 shows
- Activity Fee: Must be paid prior to participation in any thespian activities (fall play, meetings, parties, field trips, etc); check with Jeanie if you are unsure if you have paid
- Play Reading Committee
 - 20 students have signed up to participate
 - Jeanie will send online link to 4 plays to students
 - Students take notes on costumes, set, number of actors, etc
 - Jeanie will meet with committee to discuss plays
 - Information will be sent to students by Jeanie

Kristianna Gizzi:

- Fall Play: Oct 13 (7 pm), Oct 14 (7 pm), Oct 15 (2 pm)
 - Mr. Cygrymus relays that cast is working hard and he is pleased with their progress and commitment
 - Note that material is difficult and was adapted by Mrs. Cygymus, Mr. Cygymus and Mrs. Gizzi during the summer for high school performance. Acting and tech are challenging and students are working hard. Special acknowledgement of freshmen as run crew, learning about process.
 - Assigned seating: new for this year's fall play and response has been great. Online ticketing will remain open until Sunday 2 pm.
 - Thank you to Julie Collins for her diligence as chair for Concessions
 - 10/23, 6:30: Informational meeting for students (performers + tech)
 - Students encouraged to start reviewing show (roles, music, story) and come to meeting with questions
 - Sample rehearsal schedule will be reviewed
 - Policies and procedures
 - Information about the production
 - 10/23: Musical vocal teaching session with Mr. Perrotte
 - 2:30-3:15: female roles, 3:15-4:00 pm: male roles
 - 10/29, 1:00 pm: Dance Auditions in auditorium
 - No need to buy special shoes, wear comfortable clothes
 - 10/30 or 11/1, 4:00 pm: Vocal auditions (students sign up for 1)
 - Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Cygrymus, Mrs. Cygrymus
 - 11/5, 12:00 pm: Musical Call backs
 - Cast list: posted approximately 1 week after Call Backs
- Conference:
 - One Act show: The Ten Best Worst Things About High School
 - Oct 17, 6:30 pm: Audition for Juniors and Seniors only
 - 10/23: T-shirt order due (on Band app)
 - 10/23: Submit Thespy ideas to Mrs. Cygrymus
 - 11/1: Thespy application due
 - Jeanie provided info to students at their meeting today
 - Forms to complete, choosing roommates (4-5/room)
 - November 30-Dec 3-Conference
 - Note: begins on Thursday; students have permission for early dismissal
 - Must be in good standing academically to participate/attend
 - November 29, 7 pm: Preview night for parents
 - See PA Thespians website for more information about Conference
 - State representative to PA Thespians board is currently Annabella Gizzi
 - Emma Collins planning to run for position for 2024

- Field Trip: Dinner and Show-Mamma Mia
 - 10/23: Deadline to register; form on band app
 - Students from all grades are invited to sign up for a ticket
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- Family ID: All must register; helpful in case of medical emergencies, to contact family quickly, aware of medical issues in advance; only need to register once for the year
- Patron of the Arts: Currently have approximately \$2,000 less than last year
 - District allows salary for one tech director, we support 2nd tech director salary and cover sponsor for conference
 - Will continue to support the staff as needed for excellent performances and conference experience, but will need to pull from general fund to cover costs, which affects additional things we usually provide (parties, extra supplies, etc)
- Senior Panos
 - 29 seniors this year for panos
 - Panos given at banquet; cost is covered for students of Backers' members
- Senior Trip
 - SnapRaise was very successful
 - Last payment for students will only be \$50
 - Students voted and will see Chicago and Aladdin and attend workshops

Michelle Hoffmann

- Backers' Membership dues
 - Currently have approx. \$2000 less than last year
 - Benefits to members: discounts, dinner for banquet is covered for backers' senior, etc.
 - Please submit form (provided at meeting and online) and payment to Michelle Hoffmann
- Fall Play: help is always needed during each show
 - Thank you to volunteers signed up to help this weekend
- Coffeehouse committee
 - Reminded parents to see Mrs. Wilmus with any questions
 - Sign up Genius will be sent after show is casted
 - Parent volunteers always needed for kitchen help
 - Parents help each other to be sure they do not miss their child's performance
 - Thank you to Kristen Taylor, Jennifer McCabe, and Shannon Hemmingson for their work on committee. Lisa Gensler and Margie Swellie have volunteered to be on next year's committee
 - Looking for donations of baked goods; contact a committee member if you have a connection with any bakeries. Goods must be from a commercial kitchen (i.e.

no home baked donations are permitted by school policy); we will provide a donation request letter to bakery participating

- Sarris has donated ice cream for the show

Becky Lipinski

- Upcoming meeting dates provided at bottom of agenda, website, and band app
- Be sure to sign in so that we can record your attendance
- See Becky after the meeting if you are not receiving emails from Thespian Backers

Kristin Kulikowski

- Budget spreadsheet provided at meeting. See line items for P-Rade and Bond Fire expenses
 - Motion to approve budget: Shannon Hemmingson; 2nd by Joann Gudenburr
- Fundraisers
 - Fall Fundraiser is “Set the stage for fall”
 - Prize is Traeger Pro 780 Grill (value approx. \$1000), 7 piece All Clad set (donated by Taylors, approx. value \$500). Additional items provided by Ace Hardware including grill cover, sauces, rubs, etc. Ace will also deliver and set up if winner within 5 mile radius of the store.
 - Tickets are \$20 each, each family asked to sell 10 tickets to support Troupe. Turn in money and stubs by Friday
 - Donut Sales-first is Oct 28
 - All students must participate in fundraising as a PA Thespian rule
 - Volunteer at sale + sell 5 boxes OR Sell 10 boxes if unable to attend; students are asked to attend at least 1 sale
 - Ask customers to note student’s name on order
 - If unsure of how many sold, see Mandy Feitt
 - In need of students and drivers (drivers cannot be students)
 - 325 dozen need to be sold, can order more if needed
 - Krispy Kreme sells to us for \$7.50/box and we sell for \$10/box. They suggest \$15/box (store price) but board and Backers feel \$10 is easier to sell.

Adjournment: Motion made by Anne Gavorcik, 2nd made by Kristen Taylor