

**Plainfield Band Booster  
Meeting Minutes**

**September 19, 2017**

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**Rita Dickman, Vice President:** [vicepresident@plainfieldband.org](mailto:vicepresident@plainfieldband.org)  
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**Heather Howard, Concessions:** [concessions@plainfieldband.org](mailto:concessions@plainfieldband.org)  
**Roxanne Maze, Secretary:** [secretary@plainfieldband.org](mailto:secretary@plainfieldband.org)

**I. Call to Order at 7:36 p.m.**

**President's Welcome:** Welcome. We are into the dog days of competition. I urge you to stay positive, but keep inching the bar up! Key staff hires, improved drill and higher quality props is helping us see the fruit of our investment. Thank you all for your help.

**Motion to approve Minutes of Last Meeting, as written:** Motion by Mike Underwood, Seconded by Heather Bailey; Motion carried.

**II. Report from Michael Carpenter**

We are competing against outstanding schools. In this game, the best offence wins because there is no defense. The kids are competing against themselves only. Huge thank you to props, band parents and fundraising efforts. It is so good to see the investment you all are making in your kids.

September 23, 2017 9:00 a.m. Quaker Day parade. We will have a 1.5 hour practice after, then on to Avon. It's been great to hear our names called last, but this competition has all the big heavy hitters that won last year. Be prepared.

September 29, 2017 is 8<sup>th</sup> grade Football Night, so the call time might be a little earlier than usual. Mr. Cummings provides the pizza for all.

October 13, 2017 is our last football game and Senior Night. This is the night before we go to the longest day of our season in Evansville, IN. I will petition the administration to let us pack up early in order to leave at 5:45 a.m. the next day. We will load the trucks with props that night after the game.

October 14, 2017 we will practice in Princeton, IN at a friend's high school and then have 45 minutes to get to Evansville Central. Only the top 10 move on to Regionals. We will get home around 1 a.m. October 14, 2017.

October 20, 21, 2017 is the BOA Super Regional Competition. We will perform first at 10:45 a.m. That is during fall break. We won't know if we make it to finals until Saturday afternoon. If we go on, we will perform again Saturday night.

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November 4, 2017 is Semi State at Pike High School.

Band calendar: <http://www.plainfieldband.org>

### **III. Treasurer's Report**

Financial statements are available if you want to see them.

I've sent out emails on past due accounts. Fees pay for uniforms, your portion of copyright fees, salaries of staff members, food & drink, transportation, equipment, etc. Our fees are much lower than other organizations here at Plainfield and certainly lower than other high school marching bands in our area. We are only charging \$500 per student at this time. When you don't pay your fees, that makes the burden much heavier on the rest of us.

We are currently \$24,000 short on band fees alone.

Our current fundraising is not going to be enough to cover our costs. We are going to be forming a fundraising committee. Information will be coming out soon, so please stay tuned.

If you want to know where you stand on fees, please see me after the meeting. I brought the master list.

On another note, please consider becoming a sponsor. Sponsorship packages begin for as little as \$125. Maybe you know someone who would like to become a sponsor?

Band Sponsorship: [http://www.plainfieldband.org/?page\\_id=157](http://www.plainfieldband.org/?page_id=157)

### **IV. Concessions Report**

Winter schedule for basketball, volleyball and wrestling will be up on SignUp very soon. I need a van or truck to help transport things from GSF & Sam's Club. Please contact me if you would like to volunteer. We have an agreement with the athletic department in which we benefit the band. This is our single greatest financial boost. So, management of adequate staff and food and supplies is very important. A delivery service isn't a good value. I am looking for volunteers who can pick up and deliver supplies from GSF and Sam's Club from time to time. Please contact me if you are available. Many hands make light work!

Concessions SignUp: <https://signup.com/group/11648879320125>

### **V. Communications Report**

I am trying to get our name out in the community more using social media. I need some help with phone calls and things like that. If you would like to volunteer to help, shoot me an email.

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### **VI. Events Report**

Buick Drive Event volunteers is almost full. We still need a few volunteers for football games and first aid during practice. We added another bus this year so we will need additional chaperones for upcoming competitions. Washing uniforms is underway now. If you want to wash, but didn't sign up, see Jennifer House.

October 26, 2017 is Halloween Community Night during Thursday night rehearsal.

Chaperones will have water bottles during the Quaker Day parade because it's going to be hot. We will have a wagon with water, too. Crystal Underwood and Heather Bailey are doing a snack & drinks right after the parade and the lunch later.

Events SignUp: <https://signup.com/group/11648879320125>

### **VII. Fundraising Report**

I have plenty of t shirts, sweatshirts, hats, headbands and lanyard ready to buy! I sell swag every Thursday night. Email me anytime and I can also arrange to meet you. I need money up front for director's jackets and fleece jackets, but I can order them at any time. Online shop will also be up soon!

September 27, 2017 is the next Restaurant Night, 4-8 p.m. at Panera Bread. They will accept an e-flyer, so if you open it on FB we will get 20%.

We are far ahead of budget on our spirit wear. We sold about \$700 last Friday night at Homecoming. There are some non-band high school kids who are wearing Band swag, too!

### **VIII. Past President's Report**

This Saturday is the Buick Drive Event. Each participant must have an email address. Max is 2 person per household, so make sure you both have separate emails. There will be 15 cars are available this year. There will be a brief meeting at 8:00 a.m. in the band room for those who plan to help with the event.

Top student referral gets a \$50 Amazon gift card.

Anyone with 3 referrals will be entered into a drawing for another \$50 Amazon gift card.

Our goal is 575 surveys! We can garner up to \$10,000 with this fundraiser.

Come by right after the Quaker Day parade.

Buick Drive Event: <http://www.plainfieldband.org/>

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### **IX. Old Business**

All Senior banners were up for homecoming.

Senior band trip: Mr. Carpenter wants to do something less expensive than Disney, namely, Chicago. The school corporation says that all organizations must not leave any child behind on a trip because of income. We must have a financial aid mechanism in place to cover this. Finances are tight. How can we cover it? If you, as parents, want to do this, then how can we do it?

Mr. Carpenter and Mrs. Heaton have spoken and they confirmed that their trips do not overlap.

The current estimate is between \$600-\$700 per student for 3-4 days. Show of hands, are you interested as a group in our pursuing this trip?

Mike Underwood: The original plan worked out to financial responsibility of 1/3 boosters, 1/3 parents, 1/3 students. Parents need more time to plan this type of trip. This needs a minimum of 2 years planning. We have been talking about this since we returned from our trip over 3 years ago, and we are still at square one. If we are not prepared, we stand the risk of getting two black eyes from the school board. It is a hit to our integrity and our reputation. I don't think we are financially prepared for a trip of this magnitude, at this time.

Tara Spann: Our students were promised as freshmen to go to Disney. Now we are facing disappointment because there is not enough advance notice for we parents to get this money together. We are not prepared to do this.

Billy Bray: I spent 7 years in the organization. I'm an alumnus parent. I know fundraising is the hardest thing. If we are \$23,000 behind right now, and we have no nest egg, how are we going to do this? I understand that this is important. But, I think our money would be better spent paying down our debt.

Jeff Ross: That is why I am bringing this to your attention. We just found out we are going to be scratching to make ends meet, then we are faced with the trip. Based on uncollected band fees, we can extrapolate how much need-based aid we would need. So, now we are asking you. Do you want to do this or not? We understand that there are senior parents here that are frustrated.

Troy Crum: Whatever decisions are made, it has to go before the boosters first. It falls to us to be the bad guys sometimes. The booster board is the financial arbiter. It shouldn't go before the kids.

Mike Underwood: I recommend that we make a matter of budget that when it goes up next February we need to allocate a line item so that we can prepare, just as we do all the other line items, just like we do for uniforms.

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Jeff Ross: That is exactly what we were going for tonight. Discussion is good. Do you want the board to go forward to research to determine the costs associated with a trip?

Tara Bolen: Our kids have gone for four years thinking they were going to do this trip to Disney. Mr. Carpenter knew when he came out with the idea of Chicago last month, that they had looked forward to it. We don't want to go to Chicago in March. It's too cold. We shouldn't go into this kind of trip halfway. It's crazy to try to have families put this much out so quickly.

Troy Crum: I make a motion to table the trip this year and start the budget planning process next year. Motion seconded by Mike Underwood. Motion carried.

Jeff Ross: Well considered, everyone. Sad, but smart.

Theresa Gomez: Thank you (to the Board) for all that you do. Do you need a committee to put this trip together? Shouldn't we as parents help, rather than leaving this to the board who is already overloaded?

Shelley Henry-Ross: Exactly. That's a very good idea. Watch for the email from Kimberly Doyle.

**X. Motion to Adjourn**

Motion to Adjourn the Booster meeting was made by Jennifer House and seconded by Mike Underwood; Motion carried.

Jeff Ross adjourned the meeting at 9:01 p.m.

Minutes submitted electronically by: Roxanne Maze on 09.20.17