Unit 5 Music Parents Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2025
Normal Community High School – IMC

BOARD ATTENDANCE:

Present: Josh Jensen, Co-President
Present: Jared Morris, Co-President
Present: Angela DeJaynes, Secretary
Present: Andrew Walter, Co-Treasurer
Present: Kelli Halsey, Co-Treasurer

GENERAL ATTENDANCE:

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM by Co-President Jared Morris. Welcome to the many new faces in attendance!

DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

*****CHIDDIX JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL *****

Chiddix Junior High Band:
Tricia Ogdon (Director) NO REPORT

Chiddix Junior High Choir:
Jack Mellen (Director) NO REPORT

Chiddix Junior High Orchestra:
Jillian Meszar (Director) NO REPORT

*****EVANS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL *****

Evans Junior High Band:
Krista Beddigs (Director)

We have an exciting end to the year ahead!

- 5th grade has a concert May 12th at 5:30 followed by the 6th and 8th grade @6:30.
- 7th grade will be joining the NCHS concert on May 6th! NCHS is coming to visit the EJHS musicians this Wednesday
- 8th grade is ready for the trills and thrills trip May 9th
- Finally I want to give a huge thank you to EVERY SINGLE one of our amazing Music Parents! Without you we would struggle to keep our voices heard and our programs relevant in our community!! THANK YOU THANK YOU! ~ Mrs Beddigs!

Evans Junior High Choir:
Julia Beer (Director) NO REPORT

Evans Junior High Orchestra:
Elizabeth Fontana (Director)

Unit 5 Music Parents Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2025
Normal Community High School – IMC

- Our final concert of the year is this Thursday May 1! 5th/7th grade performs at 5:45 and 6th/8th performs at 6:45
- 8th grade's final trip of the year is on May 9 when we go with the EJHS 8th grade music team to Trills and Thrills
- The orchestras are having a Bass Day on April 30. This is our first time trying something like this and have about 20 bass players signed up!!! It should be an exciting event!!
- Instrument exploration for 4th graders is May 19 and 20.

*****KINGSLEY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL *****

Kingsley Junior High Band:
Tyler Harr (Director) NO REPORT

Kingsley Junior High Choir:
Katie Winchester (Director) NO REPORT

Kingsley Junior High Orchestra:
Daria VanDeLoo (Director)

- I hope you all had a restful spring break. I've enjoyed hearing where students went during break and all of the fun adventures that were had!
- I can't believe it's already April, which means the second to last newsletter of the year! Please take a moment to review the information provided in this month's newsletter.
- Each group has one more concert this year in May, so please make sure you have those dates in your calendar! There is also information about private lessons, the Music Shoppe's annual instrument sale, and Summer Music camp registration information.
- Unit 5 Bass Day is approaching on April 30th - it's not too late for bass players to sign up!

*****PARKSIDE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL *****

Parkside Junior High Band
Riley Odehnal (Director) NO REPORT

Parkside Junior High Choir:
Melissa Jennings (Director)

- Parkside choirs have been working hard this month!
- Since wrapping up the Unit Choir concert, 7th and 8th graders have been introduced to 2 new pieces each to prepare for the Spring Concert.
- 6th grade will be presenting 3 pieces as well.
- On April 12th, we had 8 students represent PJHS Choirs at the Intercity Music Festival, and those students performed very well.
- We will be having our final concert of the year on Thursday, May 8th at 6:30PM in the PJHS Gym.

Unit 5 Music Parents Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2025
Normal Community High School – IMC

Parkside Junior High Orchestra:
Angie Stalter (Director) NO REPORT

*****NORMAL COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL *****

Normal Community High School Band:
Paul Carter (Director)

- Last Friday the Wind ensemble and Wind Symphony performed at the ISU Concert Band Festival.
- All bands will be performing at the May 6th concert. We will also be recognizing the seniors at the concert.
- NCHS Band students will be performing at trills and thrills on Saturday May 10th.

Normal Community High School Orchestra:
Melissa Siebenthal (Director) NO REPORT

Normal Community High School Choir:
Ben Luginbuhl (Director)

- We had a great run at Solo-Ensemble Contest in early March - kids performed wonderfully, and we had two "best of the day" awards. Special thanks for all of the parents and students who helped us host the event, especially Susan Hara, who ran concessions!
- Unit Choir at West was very successful, and we were able to have our extra-curricular choirs perform for the junior high kids beforehand. I conducted the JH boys choir and they were fantastic!
- Our musical, Mamma Mia!, was a big success and a ton of fun! Thanks to all who attended.
- The Chamber Choir held a phenomenal concert performance at IWU Evelyn Chapel on Thursday night, April 24.
- The A Cappella Ensembles (Key of She and Voice Male) toured around the district at our feeder elementaries, as well as Parkside Junior High on Friday, April 25. It was a great day and the kids were awesome audiences!
- Our Spring Concert is on Thursday, May 8 at 7:00 pm.

Thanks so much for all your support!

*****NORMAL COMMUNITY WEST HIGH SCHOOL *****

Normal West High School Band:
Ryan Budzinski (Director) NO REPORT

Normal West High School Orchestra:
Kim Boehm (Director) NO REPORT

Unit 5 Music Parents Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2025
Normal Community High School – IMC

Normal West High School Choir:
Sara Williams (Director) **NO REPORT**

*****NORMAL MARCHING BAND *****

Normal Marching Band (NMB)
Multiple Directors (Ryan Budzinski, Paul Carter) **NO REPORT**

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Audit**
  - Communication with Illinois State University accounting program are ongoing but still waiting for a reply
    - The ask has been that ISU consider taking on the task of the annual audit for our program to help ISU students with practice, help our program as part of the community, and potentially reduce the large audit fee incurred each year

NEW BUSINESS:

TREASURER REPORTS:

- Our accounting information is now up to date, and we are successfully filed with the state of Illinois
  - We did incur a late fee
- We signed with a new firm, Stregal Knoblach & Company in March 2025
- U5MP Revenue Year-To-Date is looking good and should come in under the $300,000 threshold
  - Andrew is going to take a second look at this to confirm, as it feels this should be higher due to the large trip NMB took to London this year
  - Fiscal year ends May 31, 2025
- Andrew is going to test having a few directors be responsible for making their own deposits into the U5MP bank account with First State Bank
  - Deposit slips are imaged with the bank, director will just need to ensure their program is notated on the deposit slip
  - Will test with all 3 Chiddix Programs (CJHS Band, Choir & Orchestra) as well as NCHS Choir

Board Positions

- There is immediate need for President position to be filled for the 2025-2026 school year
  - Both Jared and Josh will be stepping down
    - Josh has agreed to complete the website redesign
  - Tricia will send communication to all director's to ask for them to distribute a standard letter to all families soliciting for consideration of a board position

Unit 5 Music Parents Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2025
Normal Community High School – IMC

- If there is enough interest, there is a desire to have a Vice-President who can work with other interested parties for Social Media, as well as forming a committee for Music Extravaganza
- There is an outstanding offer for the position of secretary on the board, though this seems to continue to show no interest 😉
  - Angela DeJaynes will continue to fill if there is no other interest, but on a serious note, next year a replacement will need to be named to "shadow" during the 2026-2027 school year as all of Angela's musicians and children will graduate out of Unit 5
- Nominations and voting for the 2025-2026 Board position will need to take place at the May 2025 meeting
  - It is imperative to have representatives from the majority of the groups in order to hold the vote – need 10 directors/parent reps

Music Extravaganza

- Continued talks on what the future of this fundraiser looks like for the organization
  - Cindy Peasley has offered to help lead coordination of pie
    - There have been some conversations on what this might look like, including pre-sales of full pies, at the door sales of slices, tickets to guarantee the flavor of pie you will get
    - There has also been some conversation on the need to potentially bring a meal back. Ben will get more details to share
  - Feedback from one director included the need for more warm-up space. Time got off track at one of the events, leaving one group without an adequate place to warm up, which is confusing and overwhelming to junior high students.

Instrument Exploration

- Will be hosted at Normal West High School on Monday, May 19 and Tuesday, May 20.
- Currently have 426 students registered
- Unit 5 Music Parents will provide dinner to the staff and volunteers for both evenings
  - Angels is coordinating Avanti's for Monday and Jason's Deli for Tuesday
- Everything else seems to be set and ready to go for another successful year!

****

Andrew Walter motioned to adjourn the meeting; Tricia Ogdon seconded. Meeting adjourned @ 8:15PM.

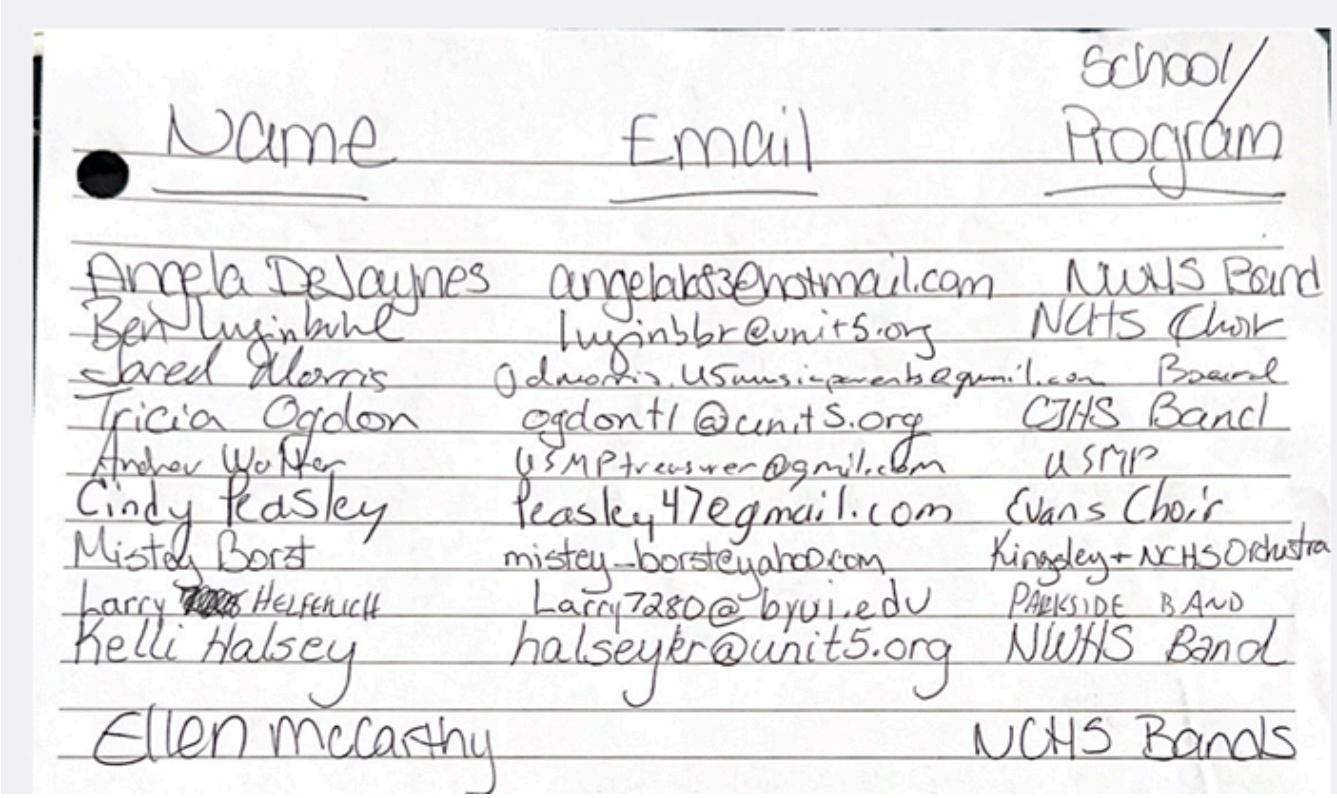
The next meeting will be held Tuesday, May 27 at 7:00 PM in the NCHS IMC.

ATTENDANCE:

- Ben Luginbuhl – Director, NCHS Choirs
- Jared Morris – Board Member
- Tricia Ogdon – Director, CJHS Band
- Andrew Walter – Board Member
- Cindy Peasley – Evans Choir
- Misty Borst – KJHS Orchestra, NCHS Orchestra

Unit 5 Music Parents Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2025
Normal Community High School – IMC

- Larry Helferich – PJHS Band
- Kelli Halsey – Board Member
- Ellen McCarthy – NCHS Band, KJHS Band
- Josh Jensen – Board Member
- Angela DeJaynes – Board Member



Name	Email	School/Program
Angela DeJaynes	angelaks3@hotmail.com	NWHS Band
Ben Luginbuhl	luginbbr@unit5.org	NCHS Choir
Jared Morris	jdmorris.U5musicparents@gmail.com	Board
Tricia Ogdon	ogdontl@unit5.org	CJHS Band
Andrew Walter	U5MPtreasurer@gmail.com	U5MP
Cindy Peasley	peasley47@gmail.com	Evans Choir
Misty Borst	misty_borst@yahoo.com	Kingsley + NCHS Orchestra
Larry Helferich	Larry7280@byui.edu	PARKSIDE BAND
Kelli Halsey	halseykr@unit5.org	NWHS Band
Ellen McCarthy		NCHS Bands

Unit 5 Music Parents Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2025
Normal Community High School – IMC