

MHS PCO Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2024 7pm

Welcome

Julie Peach, Co-President welcomed everyone and introduced the guest speaker.

Guest Speaker

Andrew Scoglio, Choral Director and Lead Teacher. Performing and Applied Arts presented an overview of the Performing Arts.

The department's offerings include several groups: mixed choir, treble choir, concert band, orchestra, two auditioned acappella groups for credit and two student run groups. Chamber orchestra, marching and jazz bands are offered after school.

The department offers music and theater classes.

Students participate in several competitions throughout the year, including NE Voices, The International Championship of High School Acappella and Drama Fest. This year's Drama Fest entry is a student written play, "The Sleepwalkers."

Many students go onto a career in the Performing Arts.

Mr. Scoglio would like to bring more awareness to what the Performing Arts do at MHS.

Upcoming performance include a "Sing Free" acappella concert and a performance at Fenway Park.

The department is going on a day trip to Boston for enrichment purposes. In April, a group of performers is going to Ireland to participate in the American Celebration of Music in Ireland, where they will be learning and performing Irish and American folk music. Mr. Scoglio anticipates that there will be a need for student scholarships, as well as assistance for music instrument rental in Ireland. Mr. Scoglio thanked the PCO for its support.

Several parents who were present at the meeting expressed their appreciation to Mr. Scoglio.

Treasurer's Report

MHS PCO received \$35,000 allocation from Magic Hat. Available balance is \$82,800 after approval of current funding requests.

Funding Requests

Motion to approve \$560 for clock mechanisms for Woodworking requested by Bob Taylor was put forth and seconded. Motion was approved.

Motion to approve \$684 for students to attend Latin Classics Day at Boston University was put forth and seconded. Motion was approved.

Motion to approve \$2,455 for teachers to attend a conference to enrich the Social Studies program was put forth and seconded. Motion was approved.

Magic Hat

The week of October 29 - November 2 is the high school's week to volunteer at Magic Hat. .

Principal's Update:

Dr. Carlson reported that the phone boxes have arrived and are now present in all rooms.

The school has procured vape detectors.

Wednesday is Day 0 and a half day. For Freshmen it is a day of service. They will be volunteering at 12 locations, including beaches, COA, and the Park and Rec Department. Teacher Professional Development will include a "Vision of a Graduate." Five categories are being considered to include in an assessment of a successful student. They include communication, collaboration, and creativity. Each teacher chooses a category to report out. This does not affect academic grades.

PSATs were held on 10/11/24.

A parent asked about the possibility of SATs being held at MHS. Dr. Carlson responded that the school is unable to meet the requirements imposed by a new digital SAT, however she is happy to look into it.

Several parents expressed concern about the ongoing contract negotiations and asked about best ways to give support.

Next MHS PCO Meeting on December 2, at 8:30 am.