



## Music Boosters Meeting – February 17, 2026

Music Boosters officers – Sara Torres (President), Valerie Strukel (Vice-President), Sara Fiedler (Secretary) (present), Mark Berquist (Treasurer)

Members-At-Large –Cheri Antony, Kate Swanda

Educators – Madeline Rydholm (present), Jessica Wagner, April Dannelly, Sarah Bromberger

School Board liaison – Alicia Shaw (present)

Administrators –

Parents – 1 additional parent present

1. Introductions of officers, parents, teachers, and administrators.
2. Approved minutes from last meeting in January.
3. WHS band/choir/orchestra students had opportunity to go to MSO concert “Vibrant Vivaldi” on Feb 12.
4. Tri-M (Music Honor Society) sold concessions at basketball game on Fri, Feb 13.
5. WHS choirs to perform at Admirals Game on Wed, Feb 18.
6. Music Boosters paying \$100 piano accompanist fee for Feb orchestra concert.
7. Concert concessions – Mark leading on Feb 24, Valerie leading on Feb 25. All student volunteer slots filled.
8. Some HS choir students going to Ripon Choral Festival on Mar 3 (went last year as well). Students rehearse all day and there is a concert at night (free admission).
9. MS and HS students working on Solo/Ensemble pieces for event on Mar 7.
10. Four piano accompanists hired for Solo/Ensemble. Music Boosters paying for half of accompanist fees (approximately \$1500) to offset costs for families.
11. Augustana College band coming to Whitnall on Mar 25 and will clinic with both Concert and Symphonic bands. Music Boosters will provide goodie bags for the Augustana students as a thank-you (Sara F. will follow up). Whitnall will also provide lunch for Augustana students (possibly Fund 21; may need funds from Music Boosters).
12. Senior scholarship application info posted on Music Boosters website and on Xello. Applications due April 1. Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded.
13. Pep band and drumline have performed for basketball games. More students participating this year due to class requirement. Feedback from fans and teams has been very positive. Pizza provided by Music Boosters for two of the games (first and last). Also having pep band for the Shooting Stars for Transitional Ed and Life Skills class basketball game (date TBD).
14. School Board rep Alicia Shaw has reached out to administration about getting funds for instruments for 5<sup>th</sup> grade band position. Music Boosters rented four



instruments this year to fill emergency need (~\$1400). Still awaiting more information.

15. Discussion of hosting an instrument drive. Families could donate old, unneeded instruments. Costs associated with refurbishing. (Chelsea will follow up.)
16. Jazz band will go soon to middle school to perform and recruit.
17. Fourth of July parade open to any middle/high school band students. Need to register for this through summer school (Registration concludes at end of Feb for HS. Registration starts Mar 2 for MS).
18. Hales Corners Fourth of July Committee would like to do something special to recognize the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of USA. Looking for a few students interested in starting a one-time “fife and drum corp.” They would purchase costumes for group and offer honorarium. They will send Ms. Rydholm info and she can see if possible – alternate instrumentation likely necessary.
19. E-waste fundraiser – Holding date **Oct 17, 2026**. Sara T. will contact Chris Adams and Mark at House of Harley.
20. Also holding dates in August 2026 for car wash at House of Harley. Trying to align with their customer appreciation event.
21. **Open nominations for Music Boosters Board at Apr 21 meeting.** Two board members “graduating” with their seniors this year. **We need more parents to participate in Music Boosters to keep organization sustainable.** Voting at May 19 meeting. By-laws will be posted on our website.
22. Note that the May HS band concert was moved to a new date due to multiple schedule conflicts with previous date.
23. **Upcoming concerts/events:**
  - WMS choir concert: Tues, Feb 24 (6:00)
  - WMS orchestra concert: Wed, Feb 25 (7:00)
  - Solo/Ensemble Competition at New Berlin Eisenhower: Sat, Mar 7
  - HS Band/Choir/Orchestra Jazz Concert: Tues, Mar 24 (7:00)
  - MS Band Concert: Wed, Mar 25 (7:00)
  - Fifth Grade Instrumental Concert: Thurs, May 7
  - WMS/WHS orchestra concert: Tues, May 19 (7:00)
  - WHS Band Concert: Thurs, May 21 (7:00) – Note that this is a change**
  - WMS Band Concert: Wed, May 27 (7:00)
  - WMS/WHS Choir Pops Concert: Thurs, May 28 (6:00)
  - Tri-M Induction Ceremony: Tues, June 2 (7:00)
  - WHS Music Dept Banquet: Wed, June 3 (5:00)
  - WHS Graduation: Sun, June 7 (1:00)



24. Superfan shirts continue to be available. Price has been reduced to **\$5!** (Youth Medium – Adult 3X). See Whitnall Music Boosters website for design. Contact any Music Boosters officer if you are interested.
25. **Music Boosters would love more volunteers!** We continue to need parents to help with concert concessions. Tri-M and NHS students are now volunteering to help with concessions (earning service hours), but we need at least one adult present as well. *Parents who volunteer to help with concessions can still watch their child's concert!*
26. **Music Parents...** please join us for a monthly meeting and be part of the discussion about how to support excellence in music education at Whitnall! We need more parent voices in the conversation. Two board members “graduating” in 2026, and new leadership will be needed for 2026-27!
27. Next Music Boosters Meeting: **Tues, Mar 17 at 6:00** in WHS choir room. Any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact Music Boosters officers at [boosterswhitnallmusic@gmail.com](mailto:boosterswhitnallmusic@gmail.com).