

ECB Emergency Board Meeting
November 4, 2020 - 6:00 pm
Minutes approved 11/05/2020

***A [video of this portion of the meeting](#) is available to view. The video will serve as the minutes for this part of the meeting.**

- I. Welcome & statement of purpose for the meeting
- II. Treasurer's report - Presentation of the financial situation - Leslea Lehoucq & Jen Allred
- III. Director's report and discussion of how Five Star has been going this year - Wil Gonzales
- IV. President's report - Sally Epp
- V. Input from parents - from emails and those present

The Choir Director exited the meeting at this time so that the Board could continue discussions and vote privately. This is an overview of the discussion, motions, and votes. Unfortunately, I didn't successfully record this portion of the meeting. I sincerely apologize for this oversight. -Sally Epp

Motion: We shall use Booster funds to pay Mr. Gonzales for the Five Star morning practices he did in Aug, Sept, and Oct. (\$880)

Vote: Unanimous in favor

Discussion: We were dismayed to learn that Mr. Gonzales has never been paid for the Saturday Intensive practices. We wish to add a discussion of this to a board meeting in the future, so that we can ensure our choir director is always paid for the time he spends working with students. We value the work that he does. If APS isn't going to pay him for this time, then the Boosters would like to step in to support him.

Motion: We shall use Booster funds to also pay Mr. Gonzales for the Five Star Saturday Intensives he did in Aug, Sept, and Oct, even though he is usually not paid for this work. (\$198)

Vote: Unanimous in favor

Discussion: Given the information conveyed in the Director's Report we agreed that the director and the students need a break. A hiatus in November and December seems to be the best option. We all want to do whatever we can to make things work for the kids and the program, but are aware of the limited resources available. This is more about resources like time and personal energy rather than money.

We discussed adding a clause about creative ways to engage interested 5 Star students during the hiatus, but settled on voting for a simple, full hiatus. All 5 Star projects in November and December will be optional for everyone.

Motion: We support the decision for Five Star to continue with a full hiatus until January.

Vote: Unanimous in favor

Discussion: We will need to have a longer discussion about next semester before students return from winter break. We would like to work with the Director to figure out what Five Star will look like. We will all make every effort to ensure that Five Star will continue, but we know it will be different for the rest of the year.

Motion: We shall table plans and decisions about next semester until we have more information about what school will look like in January.

Vote: Unanimous in favor

Motion: We would like to present a vote of full confidence in our amazing choir director, Wil Gonzales. We applaud everything he has done for our children in this difficult year. We see and appreciate his hard work.

Vote: Unanimous in favor

Discussion: Cindy Griswold expressed her heartfelt appreciation for Mr. Gonzales. She would like him to know that the parents are aware of how many hours, and long days, and late nights he's spent helping our children. All of the parents and board members present would like to thank Mr. Gonzales for everything he does. We were impressed with the concert and want to recognize the work our director put into it. We are lucky to have him at our school.

Future Discussion: We will discuss what to do about the Five Star fees that parents have already paid at our meeting on 11/18. We need to come up with a fair plan now that we know the hiatus will continue until January. To date, only 12 of the 25 Five Star students have paid their fees. We need to determine what the rest of the year will look like and which students are planning to participate in Five Star for the rest of the year before we tackle this issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Epp

EMS Choir Booster President

2020-2021 Booster Board of Officers present

President: Sally Epp

VP of Curricular Choir: Heather Lucero

VP of Show Choir: Lisa Swift

Co-treasurer: Leslea Lehoucq

Co-treasurer: Jennifer Allred

EMS Choir Director, Wil Gonzales

Also present: Melissa Spangler, Cindy Griswold, Allison Stevens