Notes from the FOFA meeting of Wednesday, December 11, 2024

Mary Hall, Jason Peplinski, Dante Billeci, Jan Ostrowski, Donna Popke, Kathy Angers, and Lynne Perkins attended the meeting.

Dante updated us on **music news:**
5 band students participated in the December 8th holiday concert of the Northport Community Band. Several of these students have also received scholarships from the Band. Good job!

Nancy Flanagan, local flute player and former middle school band director, came to the school as a clinician, to listen to the band and provide feedback. This also allowed Dante to really listen to how the band is doing.

The winter concert that was scheduled for December 12 was cancelled because of the winter storm. It will instead take place on Monday evening, December 16, at 6 pm.
There will be performances by the staff and student choir (led by Jason), the middle school choir (led by Lauren), elementary groups K-1 and 2nd-4th (led by Mr. Miller, who teaches Cultural Expressions, which includes Folklore, Movement, and Story), as well as the 5th grade, 6th grade, 7-8th grade bands, and High School Band. There will also be a preview of the spring musical. FOFA will attempt to staff the cookie table at intermission. 😊

Most of the meeting was spent discussing fundraising options. We welcomed Kathy Angers, of Century Resources, which is a company that helps schools with fundraising. She has been involved in the past with the Mighty Fine Arts events at Glen Lake. A plus of sales-type fundraisers is that it gives students "skin in the game." In addition to the selling-candy,etc type of fundraising, we discussed the possibilities for various fundraising events.
There are advantages to doing a countywide event, to bring communities together, and also to an event that focuses on Suttons Bay. Dante is in favor of focusing on Suttons Bay.
There could certainly be more than one type of event, but one step at a time.
Many options were discussed, but it looks like a good option might be a musical event at the Bay Theatre, with a food-and-drink accompaniment across the street at the VI Grill. This could also incorporate an auction/raffle element. Early to mid-June looks promising.
Dante will call the Bay Theatre.
Jason will ask at the Casino and at the VI Grill.
Jason and Kathy are good at asking people to donate auction items.
Dante will cc everyone.

In other news, Jason has acquired $3,000 in grants for the spring musical, so they probably don't need our help. Way to go, Jason! Thank you!

The holiday concert with also feature an Art Show in the lobby and holiday cards and ornaments that kids have made will be available for purchase. Otherwise, no other art updates.

Happy Holidays, everyone! Our next meetings will be Wednesday, January 15, 2025, and then on February 12, both at 3 pm in the Art Room or the Band Room. Y'all are welcome to come!