

**McQUEEN BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE June 17, 2009 MEETING
McQueen High School Band Room**

**Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Pete Hull
35 parents present.**

Pete introduced himself and welcomed all the new parents to the meeting.

Kaye Widmer verified that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: Members received minutes from the May 6, 2009 meeting via email or in the mail.

Motion: Approve the minutes of May 6, 2009 meeting. Moved, seconded and approved by voice vote.

Motion: postpone the meeting agenda to the July meeting. Moved, seconded, and approved by voice vote.

Director's Report-Rick Moffit- Band is a varsity activity. Most sports start with freshmen, JV, and then varsity. Band is not that way. Welcome to the varsity level. Band is performing at Reno Rodeo Parade on Saturday after 5 days of band camp. The band is performing in the parade as a thank you to the City of Reno for their generous donation to support the band's trip to the Rose Parade. First football game is August 22, which is after just a few weeks of band camp. The band has performed in the Hollywood Christmas parade, Inaugural Parade, Fiesta Bowl, and the Tournament of Roses Parade (TORP). Mr. Moffit sees the band organization as a diamond. At each point are the students, administration, staff, and parents. Each part is very important. Mr. Moffit reviewed TORP trip and not one problem. Students represented school, city, and state very well. Everyone in connection with the TORP was very impressed with the students, staff, and parents. You will see a difference in your child after band. Your child will step up both academically and in band. He stated your child will rise to that level of high expectations. They will develop a hard work ethic very quickly. McQueen school administration supports the band as much as possible. Staff comes in to support Mr. Moffit to help teach the new kids. Mostly of the staff are McQueen grads that have gone on at the university level and drum and bugle corp. The parents are another important part. Parents raise funds to buy good instruments and equipment. BPA have a strong 'we and us' attitude not an 'I and me' attitude. It makes a big difference. Band members are inclusive and parents are inclusive as well. Band is much more than bringing trophies home. It is about building future leaders. Each student transforms to that from a scared freshmen.

Sandra Casey Smith- She spoke as a high school counselor and as a band parent. Research shows historically transition to high school is very difficult. Research shows that if a high school student gets plugged into something at school they come to school more and they do better in school. As a parent, her youngest picked band over sports. He didn't want to do band at the end of 8th grade. She made him go. By the Reno Rodeo parade at mini band camp he was hooked. He will come to school to see his friends and be responsible to band. He is doing well in school and improving all the time. He is competing in drum and bugle corp this summer. She said he was on his own to do the drum and bugle corp. She always knows where he is on the weekend. He's with another band kid. She respects him more as a person now. He encouraged parents to help out as much as you can. It's cheaper than rehab.

Cindra Marandola – She has a graduated senior last year and a sophomore. Her senior was academically gifted but not social and very shy. She didn't want to do band because she didn't want to have to socialize. She wanted to do soccer too, which she did for two years. Band won out. She had to learn to work as a group and to work on learning her music. She learned her work ethic that way. She had an easy time with academics. Band brought a balance to her life. She had fun in music and socially and academics. She had 100 new friends the first day of school. She knew where things were in the school. Her younger daughter had to a good transition into high school as well.

Diane Wood – Her son plays in the band as well as two other sports at the school. He did better in school the first semester than the second semester because he was busy with band, wrestling, and football. He wanted to do ROTC like his brothers. Mom wouldn't let him. After 2 days of mini band camp, he was hooked. He carries himself a lot prouder. He stands up straight. She has helped out with the uniform committee. She has enjoyed working with the students. They are always polite. They have a lot of fun. She recommends helping out with one or two things and it makes less work for everyone.

Mr. Moffit spoke about how well the BPA and he takes care of the kids. We feed them well, travel well, and take good care of them. We always provide medical care as well through a nurse. He told a story about a dad and son that were butting heads. The son joined band. He saw how hard his son worked at band. The son saw his dad helping out and other kids helping out. A huge transformation took place in their relationship.

Teresa Rosemore – She has had several kids go through the band. She sees band as an opportunity to hang out with your child whether they like it or not. She had one son that only made it through high school because of band. She has had three children go through band.

Mr. Moffit went over finances. Estimate cost around \$320-360 this year for band fees.

Mr. Moffit referred to calendars passed out. On Saturday, June 20 the band will perform in the Reno Rodeo Parade. The first football game is August 22. We will have Saturday rehearsals in September. We only march at home football games not away games, except during playoffs. First marching band contest is Extravaganza, which we host 15-20 bands here at McQueen. It is a fundraiser. First concert is in Dec. There will be contests and concerts throughout the spring. If students have financial difficulties and cannot pay band fees, and the student and parents participates in fundraising, the BPA will help the student out with their band fees. Uniform fees are separate and pay for incidentals. First Saturday in December is the football championship game, which will be in Las Vegas this year. The band will play at it if McQueen football teams plays in it. The final playoff game is the Saturday after Thanksgiving. The band will play at it too. A parent asked what Extravaganza was. Mr. Moffit explained Extravaganza - Bands come to compete with their show. We make money through concessions stands, ticket sells, and merchandise. We need LOTS of parent help to help make the event run smoothly. A parent asked about Band Day. Band Day or "fundraising day" is where a parent and four band members in uniform with a specific map or area to cover. The students knock on doors and ask for tax-deductible donations for the band. We will be raising money for instruments. It is a lot of fun.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm

Minutes submitted by
Monica Anderson, Recording Secretary

Minutes accepted by
Pete Hull, President

Upcoming Meeting – WEDNESDAY July 1, 2009 in the Band Room. General Membership Meeting at 7:00 p.m.