

9.19.2023

6:00pm, Virtual setting.

SJCCA Murray Boosters Meeting

Emily Torres, President

Rachel Haynie, Treasurer

Leaa Cruce, Secretary

Stephen Bartlett, Vice President

Welcome everyone, thank you for joining the meeting, we will be brief to honor everyone's time and busy schedule. Please email Sjccavolunteers@gmail.com for anyone wishing to volunteer and please consider joining the board 😊

Board members remain the same this year. All members still have students in the program and can continue to serve per the by-laws. We have two outgoing board members this year, so please reach out if you are interested in joining. Thank you to those of you that have completed the customer information form when you paid your fair share online. We have your volunteer information on our mailing list.

Incoming sixth grade is the biggest we have ever had to join the program. Exciting times this year as the program continues to grow.

Chorus Update-

Big beginning choir this year and a large group of students moved up to advanced choir, meaning we need to purchase more choral gowns and tuxedos.

The board voted and approved a purchase for new chorus students polo shirts and these have been ordered.

New risers needed desperately! 3k raised so far in the chorus fundraiser!

Bulldog choir plans to do the Holly Jolly Trolley again this year.

Dates for your calendar, Dec 4th rehearsal, Dec 5th concert.

Mrs. Shore says a huge “Thank you” to all students working so hard, looking forward to the concert!

Theatre update-

Department has grown again this year. Welcome Mr Krefting, who has joined us on the meeting tonight.

Lots of needs in the department. New lighting, sound board, mid-curtain. These are all costly and desperately needed. The electric keyboard also needs to be repaired or replaced.

Any business or persons interested in sponsoring, please contact sjccavolunteers@gmail.com

8th grade NYC field trip, forms need to be filled in online

District Thespians is coming up 12.2.23

In-house thespians information will be coming out soon. Thank you Mr. Krefting for reinventing this event this year.

November 16th, 17th, 18th Musical Theatre International presents “Raise Your Voice” Broadway Revue.

Many volunteers will be needed. More information will come out closer to the event. But mark these dates in your calendar now!

Art Update-

New Art displays needed for easy take up and take down. Our current situation is not easily movable for our big Dance & Art Event in the Spring at Flagler.

Volunteer needs will be emailed/texted out as needs arise. The SJCCA teachers do a really good job of running their departments with minimal need from parents. But be on the lookout for volunteer requests as events roll around.

Any Other Business

Dance Update-

-calendar is as was sent from Dance teachers, lots of exciting events coming up, but no big updates from dance at this time.

THANK YOU dance teachers, for doing a phenomenal job running your department and managing your budget!

Questions from attendees

Q. What does SJCCA Boosters do? Never been part of a Booster before.

A. Boosters helps teachers manage their income/outgoings, the same as any business manages a P&L statement. Boosters maintains the by-laws and documentation required of a 501c3 organization, maintaining all licenses, and month to month running of the departments completing tasks such as reconciling bank accounts monthly. Generally Boosters supports the teachers with anything they need to make the program successful.

Q. How is the money for Band kept separate?

A. There are six bank accounts. Art, Band, Chorus, Dance, Drama and the main Boosters account. Whenever a teacher collects money, they are required to fill in a collection of income form, that Boosters provides. All money has two counts and is deposited into the appropriate collection account. Any fair share, rental fee, apparel purchase or donation paid online, is deposited into the account that it was collected for. This money is reconciled monthly per the SJCSO SSO rules and taxes filled at the end of the year according to the budget lines that income was collected/expenses incurred.

Q. Why is there no Band parent representative included in the NPO?

A. There are no specific department liaisons for ANY department, within SJCCA or the board. Many of the SJCCA teachers have worked at Murray for many years and have experienced many versions and even a complete lack of an SJCCA Boosters board. Two years ago when the current president inherited Boosters, the 501c3 had been revoked, we were not in good standing with the state, bank accounts were not being monitored, let alone reconciled monthly and there was no board in place.

A line was drawn in the sand, and we try not to dwell on the past, new processes have been put in place, by-laws written, documentation corrected and filed and the Boosters organization is now in good standing with the IRS and the state.

One process that was put in place, is where the president of the board meets with the SJCCA team over the summer and discusses expectations for the year and works through pros and cons from the previous year. The team has experienced diluted communication and crossed wires over the years and has decided that they prefer one direct person for communication that then delivers their needs to the board and votes on items or costs as needs arise across each

department. This has created a streamlined approach and the whole team receives monthly updates as their bank accounts are reconciled.

Q. I wanted to be on the board. I requested to be considered for a board position. It seems like you have to be in the “in crowd” to be on the board. When was the election held?

A. The current board was formed after a period of there being no board in place. There was no interest in anyone being on the board. We had nobody but the current board attend meetings. The board had to form itself from those that were willing at the time to serve and had to write by-laws because there were none in place. We have a record number of people in the meeting today. 45 people at one point. That is unprecedented and a credit to the teachers for growing such an amazing program. The by-laws state that any board member can hold their position on the board without the need for re-election as long as they have a student in the program at Murray. The by-laws also state that the officers of the board can call an election at any time should the need arise and only a majority vote of the board is needed to elect a new board member. The board for the following year will be voted in at the final meeting of the year in May. The current board has received lots of praise and undeserving criticism over their term of serving as a volunteer on the SJCCA Boosters board. If you would like to volunteer or be on the board in the future, please email sjccavolunteers@gmail.com

Q. Why wasn't there any Band update on the Agenda? Why were Band parents excluded from communication?

A. The Band director didn't provide an update at all to be included in the agenda. The dance teachers provided an update after the requested time for agenda items, so the dance update was discussed in the AOB section of the meeting because the agenda had already been posted. All teachers were given the agenda and meeting link to share with their parents and students. All parents who completed the online volunteer information form online were also emailed the link and meeting invite. Nobody was intentionally excluded. Thank you to Dr. Seward for also sending out the link via school messenger to reach the whole school.

Reminder that you can reach out to help at sjccavolunteers@gmail.com

Thank you everyone for joining us, we appreciate your time.

Meeting adjourned 6:40