

Attendees: Spiro Tsingarlis, Laura Everage, Lisa Barnes, David Lawrence, Suzy Gibson, Patty Ginnebaugh

### **Update from Spiro**

Spiro has been meeting with teachers and administration each week via Zoom to discuss curriculum, grading options, planning and calendar. As of now the May 4<sup>th</sup> start date is still on the calendar. The message from J.C. and district is not to overwhelm the kids. Spiro has posted a practice log as well as some practice and theory videos via Google Classroom. He really just wants the students to practice their instruments with current music and songs they enjoy and have some time away from screens.

Spiro has already sent out a message to this effect to the band parents after our meeting to update and communicate with band families. He is also welcoming any videos kids would like to share via Google Classroom or Email. Lisa is also posting what she gets on Instagram.

### **Plans and Cancellations**

If kids go back May 4<sup>th</sup>, Spiro will still plan for the jazz night on May 20<sup>th</sup> at the Outdoor Art Club. **Lisa is in contact with the OAC and will look into how we will work with them to get a refund (full or minus deposit) if necessary.** If students go back May 4<sup>th</sup> or later, Spiro is hoping for a last concert with all music students being able to participate. Not sure what it could look like yet, but maybe open mic venue so students can each showcase what they've been playing and singing. Unfortunately scholarships will be cancelled this year even if they do go back due to budget and time constraints.

### **Phone-A-Thon**

Laura suggested we move forward with a plan for phone-a-thon or new efforts for an email or text-a-thon. Spiro suggested a hard deadline to make the decision. All agreed it would be best for students to still have phone-a-thon if students go back to school. **A decision will have to be made on or before May 1<sup>st</sup> whether to continue with in school phone-a-thon. Spiro is checking to see if May 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> will work for the district.** Given the time constraints with going back the week before, the phone-a-thon would be reduced to 2 nights rather than 3. Typically 15 – 20 students per shift (2 shifts) per night. (30 – 32 new students each day). Spiro would use the first week back to promote and get student sign-ups. In the past, about 50% of music students participated in phone-a-thon. Mostly from freshman and sophomores. Sophomores typically have the most enthusiasm and success, since they've done the year before.

David said THUMB had a good amount of money but all agreed if students go back later than May 4<sup>th</sup>, or not at all then an email or text-a-thon should still occur. This being a transition year anyway, will still want to test new system using more

technology, without physical mailing. Also Spiro would like to raise more money since going into the next 2 years of New York trips. **Laura and Lisa will look at the lists from Suzy and help decide to eliminate fields and merge list. Suzy, Lisa, Laura, and Patty will determine best way to use database (cards, or merge lists) for fundraiser.** Patty suggested not waiting for official event but to market the fundraiser in a newsletter to band families and see what kind of donations and interest there is beforehand. Suzy cautioned of doing now as getting many emails from non-profits and arts and cultural organizations asking for donations now. Spiro thought asking before fundraiser was a good idea but thought maybe in a week or two after others have stopped or slowed asks.

**Patty will send out a newsletter via MailChimp to current band families with Spiro's update as well as THUMB message (Laura and Lisa to assist with content), along with videos sent in by students of how they're playing and singing music while sheltering. May also have mention of fundraising efforts/changes with link to THUMB website for donations.**

### **Pins, Medals and Block "T"s**

Lisa asked whether these should be ordered yet and how they would be disseminated if school does not resume. **Spiro will look at inventory on hand and let Lisa know when and how to order if necessary.** May have enough. The medals and pins are always stocked and shouldn't be hard to get last minute. The block "T"s may need more lead time. The most important are Block "T"s and medals, for seniors who have been in the program for 4 years. These would need to be mailed to seniors if school does not resume. Block "T"s and pins for other grades could be given next year.