



Drama Boosters of Oakton High School

January 15, 2019

Minutes

In Attendance: Vanessa Gelinis, Cyndi Branciforte, Leigh Ann Lemons, Lisa Roti, Mary Foltz, Elena Shacochis, Nicole Jacobson, Holly Eelman, Charlie Kreger, Linda Dupuy, Dawn Matthews, Linda Lee Malone, and Michelle Steindl

- I. Called to order at 7:05 at the Starbucks on Chainbridge Road in Oakton due to the school closing for evening activities due to weather.
- II. Introductions: We welcomed a couple of new faces and reconnected with some routine booster attendees.
- III. Treasurer's Report: Lisa Roti shared an update on the Drama budget.
 - The overall budget has increased slightly due to the increase in Booster Memberships. The fall shows ended with a slight deficit. The move to eliminate water bottles from the concessions/bake sale has reduced the financial gain for the Boosters. However the community/social impact outweighs the small deficit. Requests for financial support for flowers and candy will be added to donation requests.
 - Lisa also clarified that the Drama budget is developed in a way that allows for overlapping financial support to purchase items and provide support for/at not just one event but for various drama events, activities, needs, etc. (i.e., one fall show to the other; improv needs; lunch for students who rehearse; script rites; music costs; outside drama speakers or specialists). The goal of the Boosters is to support all drama events with the finances and donations from parents. Therefore, the overall surplus of the drama budget outweighs the small deficit of the two fall productions.
 - We now have 501c3 status at the state level and we will file for Federal status.
 - The square reader (to assist with credit card purchases) is not cost effective so we will no longer use this option.
 - Total monies received from the Alex and Ani London Fundraising event are still unavailable. Lisa will continue to work with the store to closeout the activity.
- IV. Fall Activity Review/Debrief:
 - Volunteer slots were fully staffed; donations were provided and overall audience attendance at both fall productions increased due to the additional overlapping social media, print and traditional promotional activity. *Kudos were offered to Samba Pathak and all the Student Drama leaders/students for their focus in the area of production promotions!*
 - The Members agreed to help continue to increase promotions by "sharing" drama student activity, themes and pictures on social media; and to forward/share



promotional locations with the President and Ms. G in order help the current student efforts to increase publicity and community awareness.

- Lessons learned included the need for financial support to assist with the purchase of flowers and candy; that there was financial loss to the Boosters for the use of an outside vendor/videographer for the second fall production, “Taming of the Shrew”, but not the first, “Peter and the Starcatcher”. The Members agreed that the use of the outside vendor/videographer continues to be a good idea as long as the taping of shows is conducted on a preferred night of each shows (i.e., closing). Members agreed that making the “order forms” available to all show patrons and students in advance and at the productions is a great way to sell the required “20 video limit” to receive the taping at no cost.

V. Upcoming shows and volunteer opportunities: Watch for upcoming emails/SUG.

February 1:	Improv Competition at OHS- 7:00pm \$5.00/Per person
February 11:	One Acts/Cougar Dinner Theater (Drama 3/4) Dinner: 6:00 pm; Show: 7:00pm Proceeds will fund the KT Scholarship Look for Sign-Up Genius to “bring a favorite dish to share” Performers will be fed by the Boosters (i.e., Olive Garden)
February 14:	Soap Opera Murder Mysteries-7:00pm (Drama 2) Free Student written
March 8 & May 24:	Improv Shows-7:00pm
May 2-4 & May 9-11:	Spring Musical - <i>Catch Me if You Can</i>

- OHS’s “Cappies Show” is May 3. Elena Shacochis offered to spearhead the Cappies Dinner again this year. We discussed the need for Non-Cappies parent volunteers to help set-up for and be available during the Cappies show. An email/SUG will follow with more specific details.

VI. Ticketing Procedure/ Systems Update:

- The system seemed to roll out smoothly during the fall shows.
- Minor changes from last year’s musical to the Iticket system will include an expanded view of all seating options displayed simultaneously in order to help patrons select the best option available.

VI. London Trip:

- There will be a raffle fundraiser organized by the students and communicated via social media. Many great items will be raffled including **tickets to the Kennedy Center and Next Stop Theatre**. Watch for details on how to purchase your tickets. You don’t have to be at the drawing (TBD) to win!



- There will be fundraisers at various local restaurants (i.e., Chipotle). Watch social media and your email for dates/times and locations.
- There will be a meeting for parents of students going to London. Watch your email for date and time. Noteworthy: Students can earn up to three (3) college credits by following the information located on line at EF Tours.

VIII. Vanessa Gelinis update:

- Ms. G shared that the Drama Department is in need of additional updated “body mics” that will work cohesively with upcoming construction changes to the auditorium.
- Predicted cost is \$1,600 for a 2-pack set. She will discuss further with Tiffany Powell and provide the Boosters with further information on their needs.
- Glimpse into the future: Drama will be taking students to Oregon next fall over Columbus weekend. Watch for further details and information.

IX. Other:

Shout out and encouragement to support our young thespians at local performances and productions. Various OHS students and teachers are performing at the following:

- Cougar Cabaret – OHS/1/25 and 1/26
- “Peter Pan” – Vienna Theater Company/Vienna - Opens 1/18
- “Wolves” – Next Stop/Herndon – Opens 2/7

X. Next Booster Meeting: Proposed date to meet is March 26th.

XI. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.