



S.I.M.B. GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

May 8, 2023

6:00 PM

Strongsville High School Music Room

- **CALL TO ORDER** AJ Scott, President, called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM and welcomed all SIMB Members and thanked them for attending.
- **ROLL CALL** Diana Ragan, Secretary, called the roll.

X	Andy Hire, Director	X	Scott Maloney, Vice president	X	Jennifer Bubb, Concert Uniforms	Kristine Simpson, Marching Uniforms
X	Brian King, Director	X	Ron Uline, Treasurer		OPEN, Concert Uniforms	X Vicki Maloney, Membership
	Christopher Chidsey, SMS Band Director	X	Diana Ragan, Secretary		Jennie Kelley- Crosby, Fundraising, Newsletters	Karen Kolk, SHS/SMS Liaison
	Kim Taylor, SMS Orchestra Director	X	Florence Zabarsky, Concessions		Tracy Salvo, Fundraising	X Bob Kolk, Publicity/Flyers, Webmaster, Co- Concessions
	Renee Roblee, SMS Band	X	Laurel Maher, Hospitality		Cathy Sikon, Donut Sales	Christine Hawke, Concessions- Purchasing
	Evelyn Bravo, SMS Orchestra		Kim Novoblisky, Hospitality	X	Jen Magel, Treasurer's Assistant	X Kim Speck, Co-Chaperone
X	AJ Scott, President/Co- Chaperone	X	Laurie Uline, Marching Uniforms			

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES Vicki Maloney made a motion to approve the minutes. Jen Bubb seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The minutes are posted here: <https://shs.strongnet.org/student-life/music/strongsville-instrumental-music-boosters-simb/meeting-dates-agendas-minutes>

• **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

B. PRESIDENT'S REPORT AJ Scott, President, thanked all the volunteers who helped the past year. She felt this group was small but mighty and was able to accomplish a lot during the school year. She gave a special thank you to Ron Uline, the outgoing Treasurer. She stated the budget will be submitted by the end of June and voted on it at the September meeting.

C. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT Scott Maloney had no report.

TREASURER'S REPORT Ron Uline, Treasurer, stated that he needs budget requests from all but one committee chair. If he does not receive a request, he will use last year's budget. Please see below about the timeline for the budgeting process

a. Budget Committee Meeting Agenda

- i. Review the current fiscal year's income and expenses by category.
- ii. Review the Directors' and committee chairs' FY2024 budget requests and propose the FY2024 Budget.
- iii. Prepare for presentation to the Board at the August meeting.

b. Approval of the FY2024 Budget will be voted on at our September meeting.

D. SECRETARY'S REPORT Diana Ragan, Secretary, asked for volunteer hours served since the March meeting.

• **DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

A. SHS ORCHESTRA REPORT AJ Scott read Andy Hire, Director of Orchestras' report. Please excuse my absence as I am attending the Top Five percent awards in the auditorium. Once finished, I will come over to the meeting.

- a. **Our Spring Orchestra Concert** and Recognition is next Tuesday, May 16th starting at 6:00 PM in the SHS Auditorium. This performance will feature all four orchestras, then proceed to student recognition. After the concert, a dessert reception will take place in the cafeteria. Thank you to the SIMB Hospitality Committee for taking care of this. The performance should be amazing as all four groups sound incredible and are playing the biggest repertoire of the school year.
- b. **The 2023/2024 Music Department performance schedule** including OMEA events, is finished. I will post this in Google classroom, on the Music department website calendar and make paper copies as well. Please make sure you place these dates in your family calendars.
- c. **On that note, a couple noteworthy items:** The 2023 Mattress fundraiser is scheduled on Saturday, August 26, in the SHS Cafeteria from 10 AM-5 PM. This fundraiser usually is kicked off at band camp. We will once again host the OMEA State Orchestra Contest in February.
- d. **We are in the process of replacing our older model music stands** (some of which came from CMS and AMS) which break every week, with Manhasset metal stands. Each of the past few years, SIMB has purchased around 24 or so music stands, to gradually replace the plastic style. I am requesting that SIMB make another purchase of 24 Manhasset Music Stands from Royaltan Music Center for \$1,000.

- e. **I want to thank all of you** of your time and service to our music program. Your willingness to volunteer in all capacities and help SIMB be an amazing music support organization is greatly appreciated. By the entire instrumental music staff and me. We appreciate your efforts and would not be the amazing program we are without each of YOU!!! Special shout out to Ron who has done an amazing job as Treasurer, and to Scott Carman, for his service as VP.
- f. **With that, the Strongsville City Schools** has once again been recognized as an Outstanding Community for Music Education. This is the tenth year in a row we have received this national recognition. While there are always areas in which we can improve, SCS is truly a wonderful place to teach, and an awesome music program with which I am proud to associate.

B. SHS BAND REPORT Brian King, Director of Bands, shared that the SHS Marching Band will march in the Strongsville Homecoming Parade on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29. Call time is 10:30 AM at St. Joseph's Catholic Church parking lot. The step off of the parade is at 11:00 AM. They will march approximately 1 mile from St. Joseph's Catholic Church, turn onto Zvernia Lane, pass the Communications Building and end at the gazebo by the tennis courts. The students will play the national anthem and are then permitted to leave. Due to the typically hot weather, Mr. King asks for coolers of water for the kids. AJ Scott will ask for a few volunteer parents to march with the students. In addition, there is a new Flag Line Advisor, Vicki Maloney. She shared those 30 students auditioned, and 24 made the Flag Line. She will ask SIMB for additional funds to purchase new uniforms for the Flag Line. Since no money was used this past year, she would like to allocate those funds, in addition to 2023/24 funds, towards the purchase of new uniforms. Laurie Uline stated that there are raincoats from the Marching Band that can be used by the Flag Line in inclement weather.

C. SMS ORCHESTRA REPORT No report.

D. SMS BAND REPORT No report.

- **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Funding Laurie Uline shared that the Marching Band Uniforms are already starting to wear out. They are three years old. The previous uniforms were used for over 15 years, but she does not believe that the current uniforms will stand up for longer than 5-6 years. She believes the lack of longevity of the current uniforms is due to the lack of quality of the materials, the type of textiles used and where the design is on the uniform that is causing the problems. Specifically, those students that carry their instruments in front of them (i.e., drumline and mellophones) have the most-worn looking uniforms. This is because the instruments rub against the fabric and creates worn looking spots. She is requesting funding from SCS and a push from SIMB to budget and/or collect funds on a yearly basis for the upcoming uniform expense.

- **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Chair Positions We will have several open Chair positions after the 2023 school year ends. SIMB needs a Co-Marching Band Uniform Chair--Kristina Simpson was suggested; a Co-Concert Uniform Chair--Cinnamon Chiffany, Margaret Parsons, Mary Bauman, and Kisha Avon were suggested. We also need a Concessions/Purchasing person for next year, Chrissy Hawke was suggested.

B. Recruitment AJ Scott asked for each Chairperson to contact the individuals above to determine who might be interested in joining the SIMB Board.

C. Dairy Queen Recognition No report.

D. SHS/SMS Liaison Chairperson No report.

E. Tabled Discussions—Trailer wrap and website No report.

F. Final Concert Flower Sale Vicki Maloney shared that the band sold 24 begonias and the orchestra sold 19. These plants will be used to decorate the stage at the last major concerts of the season.

• **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. CONCERT UNIFORMS Jen Bubb stated that signups went out for assistance with tuxedos after concerts as well as giving the tuxedos to and receiving them from the dry cleaners. Students can assist, and she will sign for service hours. She is waiting on the dry cleaners to provide an invoice. She will give that invoice to Mr. Hire. She is having some difficulties navigating the Charms system, as it doesn't support the legacy system any longer. In addition, the bar codes are faded on many tuxedo parts. She wants to announce in the next Charms blast that SIMB will accept dresses from outgoing seniors.

B. CHAPERONE AJ Scott stated that a signup genius will come out soon requesting chaperones for the final concerts of the year and 2-3 chaperones for the Memorial Day Parade.

C. HOSPITALITY Diana Ragan read Laurel Maher's report that stated the Hospitality Committee provided meals for the Judges at the OMEA Middle School contest at SMS. Our last duty of the season will be to organize, work & clean up at the Orchestra Dessert Reception next Tuesday, May 16. Thank you to everyone who helped with Hospitality this year. Diana Ragan noted that assistance is still needed after the Orchestra concert for serving & cleaning up the desserts.

D. PUBLICITY/WEB AJ Scott reached out to Maria Denkins for Facebook credentials. She will pass those onto Bob Kolk.

A. MARCHING BAND UNIFORMS Laurie Uline stated that she wants all the uniforms to be reorganized by the end of the school year. She will pull out the graduating seniors' uniforms to be used for the incoming first-year students. She will have pictures available after the band concert next week. She asks that students take no more than 2 per person. AJ Scott stated that on behalf of SIMB it was nice to see Laurie back from her surgery.

B. MEMBERSHIP Vicki Maloney stated that at the end of this school year, there are 152 members, with a profit of \$8,210.99. Looking ahead, she plans to keep the same levels of membership as we did this year. She is shopping for a new vendor for the swag items and will report back once a new vendor is secured, or if she will again use this year's vendor. When asked if the new upgraded toolkit worked better than in the past, Vicki stated that it was a forced additional expense because toolkit is not supporting the outdated version. Vicki also wondered about the newsletter, and if that can exclusively be a benefit to SIMB members (and not all parents). Another idea was that SIMB members could receive a discount code on certain items in the future.

C. NEWSLETTER/PUBLICITY No report.

D. FUNDRAISING Andrea Putrino read Jennie Crosby, Fundraising Chair's report.

a. Wing Ding total net profit \$4,820.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone for your support and all your help!

b. Santa Breakfast We found a Santa that could work the Santa Breakfast on Saturday December 9 at the high school.

i. Request for Hire/King to secure the date for us to do it that Saturday. Mr. Hire stated he would secure the date.

ii. If we do it too late into December people will be burnt out on Santa Breakfast.

- c. **Sneaker Fundraiser** I would like to bring back the Got Sneakers drive, it is an environmentally friendly, uncomplicated way to make a couple hundred dollars.
 - i. Can we offer an incentive to the section that collects the most sneakers during band camp?
 - ii. What about Orchestra?
 - iii. We could do a private movie viewing/pizza party for the section that collects the most.
- d. **Question about Rewarding Volunteers** There was a general discussion as to how to encourage more volunteers and that we do not want to create the impression (true or not) like we're raising funds just to pay adult volunteers to work. For the football games it can be advertised that anyone who works gets in free to the game. Reaching out the SMS parents was also mentioned, in that helping SIMB now will help improve our entire program and benefit ALL children in the future. Perhaps equating the number of hours to a certain item that benefits the students was also raised as an idea (i.e., w hours = cost of a uniform, x hours = cost of an instrument repair, y hours = cost of a music stand, z hours = sheet music). This type of information could be made available at Meet the Mustangs, SMS & SHS Open Houses (with volunteers actively engaging with parents), and the first SHS Orchestra Concert. Other ideas were to have SIMB Board members call parents over the summer to encourage volunteerism. A survey was also recommended to ascertain parents' interest in volunteering. Another idea was to put ads in the Band and Orchestra programs.
- e. **Blossom Concessions** Kim Speck made a motion for SIMB to work at Blossom concessions over the summer. Bob Kolk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Jennie needs a small group to go to orientation with her.
- f. **Independence Day w/the Guardians** If SIMB members are willing to work Guardians game on July 4th, please let Jennie know. She needs to let him know by May 25 if anyone wants to do it.
- g. **Thank you** And we'll see everyone next year!

E. CONCESSIONS

- a. **All City Orchestra and Band Concerts** Concessions were sold at the Middle School Band contest May 5 and May 6. Thank you to the following individuals that helped: Nicole Lang, and Sophia Lang on Friday and Isaac Zabarsky on Saturday. Also, thank you to the Middle School helpers. In addition, thank you to Jim Milligan for taking several loads of beverages from the High School to the Middle School on Thursday, and taking the leftovers from the Middle School back to the High School on Saturday.
- b. **Rhythmology** We will be selling concession at Rhythmology on May 19th.
- c. **Commencement** We were asked to sell beverages at Commencement. We will need to place an order and/or purchase additional beverages.

- **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- a. **Cleveland Youth Orchestra Chorus** Kim Speck shared that this Chorus does not have any representation from Strongsville and would like more participation from us. The auditions are May 18.
- b. **Matilda** SHS Alum Megan Uline will perform at the Aurora Community Theater May 12-14 and May 19 & 20. Tickets can be purchased online.

c. Rhythmology Diana Ragan read an email from Adrianna Kostyack, 12th grade percussion section leader and coordinator of our student-lead Rhythmology concert this year. Come see this year's Rhythmology 2023: The New Dawn on May 19th at 6:30 p.m. in the SHS Auditorium! This concert features the SHS percussion section playing a variety of music written for only percussion instruments. Admission is free! Hope to see you there!

- **ADJOURNMENT** Vicki Maloney motioned to adjourn the meeting. Bob Kolk seconded the motion. The motion passed. AJ Scott adjourned the meeting at 7:21 PM.
- **NEXT MEETING** TBD

SIMB MISSION STATEMENT:

“The purpose of the Strongsville Instrumental Music Boosters (SIMB) is to give volunteer and supplementary financial support to the instrumental music groups within the Strongsville City School system by way of organizing, supporting and sustaining the fundraising efforts of SIMB and to promote and foster interest in the music programs of the Strongsville Schools.”