

Gretna BPO Meeting
Monday, August 19,
2019 6:00 p.m.

1. Welcome from Nicole Driewer, BPO Board President
2. Introduction of BPO Officers for 2019-2020 and mention of hoping to add add'l 4-5 board members at-large
3. Details on how to contact the BPO (gretnabpo@gmail.com) with questions, sign up to volunteer and keep up to date with BPO/band details (www.gretnabands.com & Team app)
4. Treasurer's Report from Jennifer Edmonds reflecting status as of June 1 which is beginning of fiscal year: Income from 2018-2019 school year, balances of BPO accounts, expenses yet to pay (scholarships from 2019, etc.) (Refer to slideshow); also reminded of band fee of \$60 and/or Drillmasters which can be paid via check or Sqare on Jen's phone
5. Review of where our funds come from: \$60 band fee per student, concessions, partial funds match from Midlands Community Foundation (with brief explanation of relationship between the group and the BPO), \$2500 grant for purchase of guard rifles and sabres, 2018 championship apparel, button and decal/cling sales, refund from band trip bus vendor due to issues on the San Antonio trip), fundraising, HWAA contest in 2018 & 2019 that added \$5,000.00 per year to income, TAGG program, Godfather's Fedoras (Refer to slideshow)
6. Review of where our funds go: Purchase of \$6,000+ mixing cart to be used for marching and concert band performances, cost for transport of marching band prop from out of state via Werner and travel costs to initially inspect the prop, cost for transport of same to competitions during season, food and drink for marching band contests, early bird registration fees for out of state MFA Leadership camp (hoping to increase the portion we cover), band scholarships (hoping to increase the value); discussion of items that were on the band directors' "wish lists", including the band trailer that BPO was investigating to purchase but has since been purchased by the school to be shared with show choir and OneAct (Refer to slideshow)
7. Review of 2019-2020 expected budget: Discussion of attending out of state marching competition in place of Capitol City contest and the expected cost of that. Last year's estimated cost was \$10,000.00 last year so our current budget with no HWAA events would not support that at the current levels. How do we get there?
8. Fundraising, that's how!
 - a) Student trip accounts can be funded via fall fundraiser organized with the school which will begin right after marching season, Scripp program (online and hard copy gift cards that can be purchased with varying percentages of card purchase routed to students' trip accounts, possibly other "outside of school" fundraisers in the spring
 - b) BPO fundraising opportunities include continuation of TAGG, Godfather's Fedoras, button and decal/cling sales, etc. The determination was made to have all monies from the fall fundraiser go directly to student trip accounts rather than a portion to the BPO. The current and previous boards have discussed "outside of school" fundraisers and Roxanne Wheeler is currently working with local restaurants to set up fundraising nights with them, similar to what other groups do. We've looked into Village Inn pie cards, have some interest in having BPO parents run concessions at Werner Park for a % of the proceeds, etc. More to come on these

later in the year

9. Marching Season needs:
 - a) Discussion regarding borrowing any available trailer and 2 generators for the season. Last year's trailer belonged to the Peters who managed the task and is not available this year; asked group if anyone has a trailer or generators we can borrow or any insights into purchase of trailer; timeline of Sept 29 until very end of October *after conclusion of meeting, ideas given from a couple of parents that Aubrey will check into*
 - b) Volunteers needed for each competition. Sign-Up Genius will be created for each contest with openings for i) Uniform help (Before and after preliminaries and finals of ea contest for Varsity and before and after Freshman show performances, ii) Bus Chaperones for help accounting for students before trip departure and departure from contests, iii) Food Servers (1-2 full band meals per contest) and iv) Food Donations. Marching food to be managed by Jeff & Aubrey Styles. Please contact them with any dietary restrictions or questions. Please note that any of these volunteer positions will still allow you to watch our group's performances, so don't worry about missing out on that!
10. Committee review – focused on mainly fall activities for the time being but the spring activities will be here before we know it. If you are interested in volunteering to help on or run a particular committee, please contact the BPO. (Clipboards were available for parents to sign up on at the meeting)
11. Future meetings are scheduled to occur in the GHS cafeteria on the 3rd Monday of each month from 6-7pm and reminders will be sent via email and the Team App. Our goal is to keep them at an hour or less.
12. Opened to the group of approx. 45 members (plus officers) for questions, thoughts, concerns.
 - a) Chat was enabled on the Team App during the meeting so parents can keep each other advised of contest standings, bus departures, general questions, etc.
 - b) Question was raised about banners for senior band students similar to the football and cheer banners displayed on the field. That will require a bit of research, but Desiree Stednitz was able to forward a pic of the yard signs that were placed in senior student's yards last year as a last-minute idea
13. With no further questions, meeting was adjourned