***Reagan Orchestra Booster Club***

***General Meeting Minutes***

***Approved***

December 6, 2016

Mr. Elizondo welcomed the parents to the Holiday Concert and explained that we would hold a brief General Meeting to satisfy the requirement in our by-laws for a quarterly Booster Club meeting. In Tricia Barton’s absence, Mark Rowe, ROBC Treasurer, called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m. in the Reagan Auditorium.

**Publicity Chair Address (Tara Ford):**

* The Publicity Chair is a new position on the executive board this year. The goal is to enhance communication within the organization. Of special interest is “The String”, a bi-monthly newsletter showing key dates, student spotlights, and general news.
* Look to the Homepage of the webpage to find tools for parents such as meal forms, media releases, events-at-a-glance, by-laws, director’s biographies, pictures, a live connection to Mr. Elizondo’s calendar, financials and meeting minutes.

**Vice President-Fundraising Address: (Jim Schuppenhauer**)

* Please join us on Spirit Nights at local restaurants to help raise money to support the orchestra. These restaurants have generously agreed to donate a percentage of their sales on Spirit Night to the Reagan orchestra and we are thankful to all who come out and participate. Taco Cabana Spirit Night is December 14th.
* An opportunity to raise funds for individual student accounts is coming soon with a company called Candles and Moore. More details to follow.
* Sherwood Forest greenery is for sale following the concert at a reduced price. Come see (and smell!) these beautiful, fresh greenery wreaths, garlands, and centerpieces to give as gifts or to decorate your own home this holiday season.
* Every year the ROBC holds a silent auction in the spring. It is the main fundraiser of the year where we hope to raise thousands of dollars to help make the orchestra the best it can be for our students! We will be looking for donations from local businesses. If you own a business, please consider offering your goods or services for the auction.

**Treasurer’s Address (Mark Rowe):**

* Financial results from last month are available on the website.
* We’ve had an excellent showing for fundraising this semester! With the funds raised, the ROBC was able to purchase items from Mr. Elizondo’s and Mr. Sharplin’s wish list! We recently acquired a harp cart and pieces of sound equipment. This represents about 25% of what we’d like to purchase to help the orchestra.
* Our main source of income is the Opt-Out Fees and Washtub booklets. We came up a bit short of 100% participation. If you have not had a chance to pay your fee, it is not too late!
* Don’t forget as you are doing your holiday shopping that you can designate Reagan Orchestra Booster Club as your charity of choice when you shop Smile.Amazon.com!
* December presents a good opportunity to maximize your charitable contributions. Check with your tax advisor to see if it would be to your advantage to increase your charitable giving. If so, please consider the ROBC when making your end-of-the-year donations.

**Director’s Address (Sixto Elizondo):**

* With over 200 students, the growth of the Reagan orchestra is exciting! The combined Bravura, Sinfonietta, Philharmonia and Camerata Orchestras represent the same number of students in the entire orchestra just 2 years ago and the full sound was amazing!
* Mr. Elizondo invited the Varsity Orchestras and the 8th graders from Bush and Lopez Middle Schools to pair up with a member of the Chamber or Sinfonia Orchestra in concert for the first “side-by-side” in 8 years. We look forward to welcoming these talented 8th graders next year.
* Mr. Elizondo thanked the generous Choir and Orchestra Booster donors who made the purchase of the acoustic shells possible. Reagan is the only high school in N.E.I.S.D. with shells like these!
* We welcome Mrs. Meg Lorente as the newest chairperson! Mrs. Lorente has graciously agreed to be our Concert Reception Chair.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

**Next General Meeting:** Prior to Pre-UIL Concert on February 27.

Happy Holidays!

Respectfully Submitted,

Dana Updegrove/R.O.B.C. Secretary