Dow High Music Booster Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2026
6:00 pm-Dow High Orchestra Room

Members Present: Marcia Wiseman, Mark Stachowiak, Linda Stachowiak, Byron Bills, Katie Erickson, John Pietzrak, Angela Kalcec, Peyton Harder (band rep) Freya Falvey (orchestra rep), Lizhu Lin (Lisa), Kendra Coston, Stephen DeRees, Amanda Thoms, Adam Gardner-Northrup, Jenny Lowe, Jamie Haag, Carol Whittaker, Matt Schramm, Evie Shram (choir rep), Carrie Burr

Mission Statement:
The Dow High School Music Booster Club supports the quality of music education at Dow High School by providing both human and financial resources beyond those supported by Midland Public Schools. The Booster club volunteers time and talent to help host music events and raise necessary funds to acquire music equipment and supplies, and provide scholarship funding for students to participate in musical development.

Agenda Items	Notes or Information
Call to Order & Welcome: Marcia Wiseman	● Welcome to the meeting! Let's introduce ourselves! ● Review Mission Statement to keep this in mind as the focus for our work. ● Meeting called to order at 6:00pm
Review and Approve May meeting minutes: Carrie Burr	Motion to to approve the May meeting minutes made by Byron Bills Second by Linda Stachowiak Motion passes
Treasurer's Report: Mark Stachowiak	For 2026-27, we are starting the year with $13K more than last year. We had budgeted to raise $60K and ended up earning $67K. We will be starting the official budgeting process by the end of the month. "Boosters" category created to support spending. We will need to make sure that we have money for GoDaddy renewal, which has been paid. Annually we also need to register with the state, and we have a fee for taxes. Last year we spent $497. Motion to approve Treasurers Report as shared in the May meeting (2025-26 Fiscal year) made by Linda Stachowiak and seconded by Angela Kalcec. The motion passed.
Business Reports	Uniform (Jamie Haag and Arely Celis (via email)) ● Marching band distribution went extremely well; completed in record time; ● Black practice gloves for cymbals: Sizes have been collected and will be shared with Mr. DeRees. ● Hats: Need some additional XL hats for girls with lots of hair

	● Dry-Cleaner Bags: Some have been found but some are still missing but we are not sure if they are at the school. They are giant purple bags. ● I want to thank you Marcia and Jamie for setting up and getting us started with the uniform distribution on August 5th. ● A special thank-you to Angela Kalcec for helping with printing the student labels for the garment bags. We also had approximately 45 -50 volunteers who helped throughout the distribution. ● Tuxedo Distribution ● Arely and Jamie are working on the Tuxedo distribution. SUG has been sent out and team is ready. Question to Mr. DeRees, did the note get sent to Band? John will also post a reminder on Social Media. ● September 14 | 5:00–7:00 p.m: Seniors only . ● September 14 | 7:00–9:00 p.m: Juniors and seniors. ● September 15 | 6:30–8:30 p.m: Sophomores and freshmen and remaining seniors and juniors. ● Volunteers' kids can be fitted during their shifts. ● We are expecting a total of 125 students Spirit Wear (Jamie Haag) ● Sales have gone well. ● Feedback: some really cute things are available but would be good if there were some more affordable options. ● This has been used as a fundraiser and Boosters are making $2/item. ● Purchased items will be available Thursday/Friday (Sept 11/12) Showcase (Kendra Coston) ● Event is rapidly approaching; we have a new head of everything at Midland high ● Sign-ups going well ● Parking Lots will be an issue due to construction, which is currently scheduled through November. General Feedback

	● For the future, it would be good to have one giant sign-up genius for Marching Band Season. Social Media: ● Please give a shout when you have items that need to be posted. Webpage: ● Carol is updating the website; the current structure is not super accessible; Amanda will share dates for incorporation into the website. ● Ask of Directors, please help us make both Social Media and Webpage better for all. ● Please email dhsmusicweb@gmail.com Sponsorships: ● Drive will kick-off in October ● Banner has been well received ● Goal was $13k for 2025-26 and we earned $16k. What is our goal for 2026-27? ● We need to find one big ticket item for each program…this will help us to earn more money. ● Need a print ready page for use in program creation. Mr. DeRees uses WORD. Needs to work for him. Fruit Sale: ● Two open spots currently available (Hot Chocolate/Prize Person and PR) ● Initial kick-off meeting scheduled for post DHMB meeting in October ● Rough inventory complete and will need to order some more bags. ● Tax Law prohibits 501c-3s from having individual fundraising accounts; we can fundraise to support a group but cannot fundraise for an individual. We can deal with this by allowing them to apply for need-based scholarships but we can no longer allow kids to have their own special account. ● For 2026-27: there will continue to be a question on the scholarship form to ensure they participate; we need to ensure there is no financial incentive for participating. Booster cannot act as a bank. Raffle ok but individual incentive no ok. Jenny and Jamie will confirm the rule of law for prizes, etc.

	● Food incentives are always appreciated. Competition is also appreciated (trophy). ● ACTION: One unified message on incentive approach and criteria for need RenFair ● January 30th is the date; Pom will be there too. Student Reports ● Please think of ways to incentivize participation (fruit sales, RenFair, etc.). ● Band: Peyton has been working with Section Leaders to keep the teams engaged and hyped for the games including some new games, etc. If you have anything for the Drumline Instagram ● Orchestra: There is a link to support the people who will be participating in the NYC trip; CMU rep was a bit repetitive Capital Projects No updates
Director Reports	Band- Steve DeRees ● Successfully got band on the field. Jefferson will be here tomorrow and marching on Friday. ● Big Blue shelters parked in front of everything on the football field isn't working for the team and Mr. DeRees is working to get it fixed… ● Sousaphones are copious this year. The team figured out how to get them all to the track. ● Senior Night is scheduled October 16 (last game before Midland/Dow) Choir- Adam Gardner-Northop: ● Another wonderful start to the school year ● Enrollment is consistent with last year, sitting just over 100 choir students and an all time high of 19 students in IB Music ● Our first concert is happening a week earlier this year. Our Cabaret is on Saturday September 19th @ 6:00 at Central Auditorium. ● This concert has 27 different songs. 6 choral numbers and 21 solos/duets/small group ● Matt Schramm and I (mostly Matt) have been working trying to get a new recording system into the choir room. The idea is that we could

use the existing speakers but can digitally record the ensemble and immediately play it back with the push of a button. This would give the students instant feedback and allow the students to hear what I am hearing.
    - This could also be used by band/orchestra students if they need to record an audition
    - We have a great quote from Simoni Systems in Saginaw. We have approval from Scott Cochran, but have been stalled for weeks while the request sits with MPS Tech.
- My question for the Boosters is, would needs for IB Music be considered from my "Choir" budget?

Orchestra- Amanda Thoms

- Orchestra enrollment is currently at 97 for the year. There are 39 in Concert Orchestra and 58 in Symphony Orchestra. (Once winds, brass, and percussion are added, we should have a total of 125 students participating in orchestra.)
- Honors Orchestra auditions and Symphony Orchestra chair auditions are both complete.
- The first concert of the year is September 24 at 7:30PM at Central Auditorium.
- The Honors Orchestra will try to get a group to perform at 2-3 nursing homes/assisted living centers in honor of Neighboring Week on Sunday, September 27.
- Lee Schaffert is coming to take a photo of the Honors Orchestra for the Michigan Music Conference program during 2nd hour on September 16. To make changing in the middle of the school day easier for the photo, Honors Orchestra students just need to wear concert black for the photo.
- The Honors Orchestra Michigan Music Conference performance will be on Friday, January 22 at 2:00PM at DeVos Performance Hall.
    - I am currently exploring the option of staying overnight in Grand Rapids to give us some protection from inclement weather on January 22. While nothing is currently booked, the plan is to carpool to Grand Rapids on Thursday evening, stay overnight in a hotel, perform Friday, and let students travel home with their families. We will ask families to contribute to the cost of the hotel, but for any families than cannot afford it, we would need booster help to cover the difference.

	○ The Honors Orchestra might be bringing in some extra clinicians to help prepare for the conference. I will keep the boosters posted. ● The bass with the extension is currently in for repair/replacing the extension. Craig Martin is doing the repair and will call me to let me know the final cost when it is complete. ● The district harpsichord is currently in for repair. Initially we thought the harpsichord only had a few broken strings and a wobbly leg. It turns out there is a crack in the bottom of the instrument that needs repair. In other words, the repair will be more expensive than originally thought. We are hoping to split the cost of the repair with the school and both high school boosters. Speaking as the teacher who would like to use the harpsichord, I am more than happy to use some of my budget to get things up and running. ● RenFair is booked on January 30 at the Midland Center for the Arts. ● The orchestra/choir trip to New York City is approved for May 20-24. Sign-ups are taking place now and are open until Friday. Any families with questions should reach out to me.
Other Items and To Do Items	Next Meeting- October 13, 2026
Adjourn: Marcia Wiseman	Motion to adjourn the meeting by Mark Stachowiak Second Angela Kalcec Meeting adjourned at ~

Dow High Music Boosters
2025 - 2026 Actuals vs Budget
Activity from 9/1/25 - 8/31/26

	Band	Orchestra	Choir	Boosters	Total
Starting Account Balances	$36,389	$39,869	$37,821	$542	$114,622
Ending Account Balances	$35,898	$42,650	$49,038	$63	$127,649
Net Change	-$492	$2,781	$11,216	-$479	$13,027

Fundraising

		Budget	Actual	Difference
Showcase	Income	$15,500	$18,346	$2,846
	Costs	$8,000	$11,207	$3,207
	Net	$7,500	$7,139	-$361
RenFair	Income	$5,000	$6,052	$1,052
	Costs	$1,500	$1,913	$413
	Net	$3,500	$4,140	$640
Fruit Sale	Income	$60,000	$61,428	$1,428
	Costs	$30,000	$28,889	-$1,111
	Net	$30,000	$32,539	$2,539
Jazz and More	Income	$8,000	$6,863	-$1,137
	Costs	$6,000	$6,226	$226
	Net	$2,000	$638	-$1,362
Sponsorship	Income	$12,000	$16,742	$4,742
	Costs	$0	$394	$394
	Net	$12,000	$16,348	$4,348
Spirit Wear	Income	$1,000	$752	-$248
	Costs	$0	$1,108	$1,108
	Net	$1,000	-$355	-$1,355
Other	Income	$1,000	$3,342	$2,342
	Costs	$0	$0	$0
	Net	$1,000	$3,342	$2,342
Interest	Income	$3,000	$3,552	$552
	Costs	$0	$0	$0
	Net	$3,000	$3,552	$552
Total Fundraising	**Income**	**$105,500**	**$117,077**	**$11,577**
	Costs	**$45,500**	**$49,735**	**$4,235**
	Net	**$60,000**	**$67,342**	**$7,342**

Spending to Support Music Education

2025-2026 Spending Budget	Band	Orchestra	Choir	Boosters	Total
Honorariums	$16,500	$1,000	$2,000		$19,500
Uniforms	$10,000	$1,000	$8,000		$19,000
Club Account	$8,000	$1,500	$1,000		$10,500
Instruments and Equipment	$8,000	$1,000	$1,000		$10,000
Misc	$3,000	$3,000	$3,000		$9,000
Transportation	$4,000	$2,000	$2,000		$8,000
Scholarships	$5,500	$5,000	$3,000		$13,500
Jazz Events	$1,500				$1,500
Band Camp	$500				$500
Composite Photo	$700	$700	$700		$2,100
Detroit Trip			$3,000		$3,000
CMU Concert		$500	$500		$1,000
End of Year Awards Party	$1,500	$1,000	$1,000		$3,500
Operating Expenses				$500	$500
Total	**$59,200**	**$16,700**	**$25,200**	**$500**	**$101,600**

2025-2026 Spending Actuals	Band	Orchestra	Choir	Boosters	Total
Honorariums	$11,650	$250	$1,748	$0	$13,648
Uniforms	$7,964	$0	$0	$0	$7,964
Club Account	$8,000	$1,500	$1,000	$0	$10,500
Instruments and Equipment	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Misc	$2,642	$607	$144	$0	$3,393
Transportation	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Scholarships	$5,639	$4,725	$0	$0	$10,364
Jazz Events	$1,400	$0	$0	$0	$1,400
Band Camp	$402	$0	$0	$0	$402
Composite Photo	$490	$490	$490	$0	$1,470
Detroit Trip	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
CMU Concert	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
End of Year Awards Party	$1,091	$797	$611	$0	$2,499
Operating Expenses	$0	$0	$0	$479	$479
Total	**$39,279**	**$8,369**	**$3,993**	**$479**	**$52,119**

Budgeted to raise $60,000 and spend $101,600 for a net balance draw down of $41,600.
Raised $67,342 and spent $49,923 for a net balance increase of $13,027.

2025-2026 Spending Remaining	Band	Orchestra	Choir	Boosters	Total
Honorariums	$4,850	$750	$252	$0	$5,852
Uniforms	$2,036	$1,000	$8,000	$0	$11,036
Club Accounts	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Instruments & Equip.	$8,000	$1,000	$1,000	$0	$10,000
Misc.	$358	$2,393	$2,856	$0	$5,607
Transportation	$4,000	$2,000	$2,000	$0	$8,000
Scholarships	-$139	$275	$3,000	$0	$3,136
Jazz Events	$100	$0	$0	$0	$100
Band Camp	$98	$0	$0	$0	$98
Composite Photo	$210	$210	$210	$0	$630
Detroit Trip	$0	$0	$3,000	$0	$3,000
CMU Concert	$0	$500	$500	$0	$1,000
End of Year Awards Party	$409	$203	$389	$0	$1,001
Operating Expenses	$0	$0	$0	$21	$21
Total	**$19,921**	**$8,331**	**$21,207**	**$21**	**$49,481**

Orange indicates budgets not yet utilized

Dow High Music Boosters

2025/2026 School Year Activity from 9/1/25 - 8/31/26

Fundraising

		Band	Orchestra	Choir	Total
Showcase	Income	$18,345.58			$18,345.58
	Expense	$11,206.72			$11,206.72
	Net	$7,138.86			$7,138.86
RenFair	Income	$2,017.48	$2,017.48	$2,017.48	$6,052.45
	Expense	$637.63	$637.63	$637.63	$1,912.88
	Net	$1,379.85	$1,379.85	$1,379.85	$4,139.57
Fruit Sale	Income	$29,330.84	$12,888.51	$19,208.25	$61,427.60
	Expense	$9,629.56	$9,629.56	$9,629.56	$28,888.68
	Net	$19,701.28	$3,258.95	$9,578.69	$32,538.92
Jazz and More	Income	$3,241.91	$1,810.64	$1,810.64	$6,863.20
	Expense	$2,940.74	$1,642.43	$1,642.43	$6,225.61
	Net	$301.17	$168.21	$168.21	$637.59
Sponsorships	Income	$7,908.09	$4,416.75	$4,416.75	$16,741.60
	Expense	$185.97	$103.87	$103.87	$393.70
	Net	$7,722.12	$4,312.88	$4,312.88	$16,347.90
Spirit Wear	Income	$355.34	$198.46	$198.46	$752.27
	Expense	$523.18	$292.20	$292.20	$1,107.59
	Net	-$167.84	-$93.74	-$93.74	-$355.32
Other	Income	$1,578.71	$881.73	$881.73	$3,342.17
	Expense	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
	Net	$1,578.71	$881.73	$881.73	$3,342.17
Interest	Income	$1,133.05	$1,241.40	$1,177.64	$3,552.10
	Expense	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
	Net	$1,133.05	$1,241.40	$1,177.64	$3,552.10
Total Fundraising	Income	$63,911.00	$23,454.97	$29,710.95	$117,076.92
	Expense	$25,123.80	$12,305.69	$12,305.69	$49,735.18
	Net	$38,787.20	$11,149.28	$17,405.26	$67,341.74

Methodologies

Marching Band Showcase goes solely to Band.
RenFair is evenly split by thirds.
Fruit Sale is divided based on actual sales from each student aligned to their department.
Jazz and More, Sponsorships, and Spirit Wear, and Other are split based on student count ratios.
Interest is split by starting account balance (roughly 32%, 35%, 33%).

Trips

		Band	Orchestra	Choir	Total
Detroit Trip	Income			$2,200.00	$2,200.00
	Expense			$4,396.00	$4,396.00
	Net			-$2,196.00	-$2,196.00
CMU	Income		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
	Expense		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
	Net		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00

Spending to Support Music Education

	Band	Orchestra	Choir	Boosters	Total
Honorariums	$11,650.00	$250.00	$1,748.00	$0.00	$13,648.00
Uniforms	$7,963.55	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$7,963.55
Club Account	$8,000.00	$1,500.00	$1,000.00	$0.00	$10,500.00
Instruments and Equipment	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Misc	$2,642.03	$606.88	$143.80	$0.00	$3,392.71
Transportation	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Scholarships	$5,639.33	$4,725.00	$0.00	$0.00	$10,364.33
Jazz Events	$1,400.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$1,400.00
Band Camp	$402.44	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$402.44
Composite Photo	$490.00	$490.00	$490.00	$0.00	$1,470.00
~~Detroit Trip~~	~~$0.00~~	~~$0.00~~	~~$0.00~~	~~$0.00~~	~~$0.00~~
CMU Concert	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
End of Year Awards Party	$1,091.44	$796.73	$611.23	$0.00	$2,499.40
Operating Expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$478.71	$478.71
Total	**$39,278.79**	**$8,368.61**	**$3,993.03**	**$478.71**	**$52,119.14**

	Band	Orchestra	Choir	Boosters	Total
Starting Account Balances	$36,389.41	$39,869.13	$37,821.50	$542.12	$114,622.15
Fundraising/Trips Income to Date	$63,911.00	$23,454.97	$31,910.95	$0.00	$119,276.92
Fundraising/Trips Expenses to Date	$25,123.80	$12,305.69	$16,701.69	$0.00	$54,131.18
Budgeted Spending to Date	$39,278.79	$8,368.61	$3,993.03	$478.71	$52,119.14
Current Account Balances	$35,897.82	$42,649.80	$49,037.73	$63.41	**$127,648.75**

Updates

Fruit Sale numbers final aside from recurring $3.18 monthly charge for Microsoft Access and $13 Charger Shoppe cookies
5 cent discrepancy comes from categories split 3 ways: Sponsorships (-$0.02), RenFair (-$0.02),
Interest (-$0.01)
Increased Orchestra Club Account budget $500 in June following Executive Committee email vote.
Overspent Band scholarships by $139.33, enough left in Misc to cover it so didn't ask for a vote over the summer.

Account Balances

	6/30/26	7/31/26	8/31/26	APY
Savings	$5.35	$5.35	$5.35	0.15%
Checking	$10,454.78	$9,802.74	$30,381.23	0.17%
High Yield Savings	$29,996.81	$30,028.66	$30,060.54	1.26%
6-mo CD (12/20/26 maturity)	$21,168.49	$21,234.84	$21,301.39	3.76%
12-mo CD (2/7/26 maturity)	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	4.26%
9-mo CD (1/11/26 maturity)	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	5.01%
9-mo CD (2/23/26 maturity)	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	3.70%
12-mo CD (2/4/27 maturity)	$20,299.01	$20,362.63	$20,426.45	3.75%
6-mo CD (8/27/26 maturity)	$20,251.93	$20,315.40	$0.00	3.75%
9-mo CD (11/27/26 maturity)	$25,314.91	$25,394.25	$25,473.84	3.75%
Total	**$127,491.28**	**$127,143.87**	**$127,648.80**	2.31% effective

