

# STRINGS ATTACHED PARENT SUPPORT

## Minutes for June Meeting

6/8/2011

Middle School Auditorium

71 members in attendance

### 1. Treasurer's Report – Sue Connors

- We've had a banner year of fund raising. Purchases made from the general account this year:
  - Lumber for storage cages
  - Senior gifts and their end-of-year party
  - Arch of Bows bling
  - Insurance for SAPS and for 1 day liquor license for Bova Show
  - 3 basses with cases
  - Student luncheon following State House

It took a lot of effort to raise all these funds so "Thank You "to everyone!

- Operating Budget: Approval of items:
  - \$500 supplemental scholarship funds
  - Senior gifts at \$50/student, estimating for 30 students = \$1500
  - \$400 Arch of Bows budget
  - \$500 Seniors End of Year Concert budget
  - \$100 Appreciation gifts for teachers who review scholarship essays
  - \$110 PO Box
  - \$500 Operating expenses
  - Total: \$3610
- Anything not spent from the above budget items goes back into the general account.
- Vote taken: All budget items approved with majority vote.
- SAPS has a General Account and also Individual Student Accounts. Profits raised from student fundraisers, for example with Yankee Candle sales, go into individual student accounts to be used for student travel. Student account balance sheets for the individual student accounts will go out in the Fall to each student. We'll send an email out when the sheets will be coming home.

### 2. Fundraising.

#### A. Scholarship Night

10/21/11 confirmed date. Since next trip is to Ireland, will probably have a "Pub" theme. At this event, seniors perform &

help serve dinner. Afterwards, bar opens and DJ entertainment for the adults. All proceeds of the evening go to Strings scholarships. Tickets usually \$20 each. DJ, food & fun.

**B. Jasmine Cuisine Restaurant**

Fundraiser night in the Fall. SAPS will receive a portion of the sales. May take place over several nights for the different schools.

**C. Yankee Candle Sales**

Will take place in the Fall as well. Profits from Yankee Candle sales go to individual student accounts.

**D. Clothing Drive**

SAPS will get paid for each pound of donated clothes and shoes. Will probably have a drop off point at Sue Connors house. More info to come.

**E. London Trip Raffle**

In the Fall we will begin selling raffle tickets for a trip to London that is donated to SAPS by the ACIS tour company. Every student's family will be receiving some tickets in the mail to sell if you wish to. All proceeds will go to your child's account. Children cannot sell the tickets themselves since it's considered gambling. Also in the Spring and the following Fall parents will have the opportunity to sell tickets at outside venues. We'll average all proceeds for an hourly rate earned and again, these funds will go to your child's account. Last time we did this prior to the Austria trip, the average profits was about \$36 per hour. Kathy O'Brien has spearheaded the organization of our raffle outside sales and will continue to do so.

**F. Gift Card Sales – Pia Romano**

Consists of on-line sales of gift cards of all types. Portion of the proceeds will go to SAPS. Will probably take place in October. A notice to come.

3. Scholarship Committee

- Tricia O'Donoghue chair

Congratulations again to our scholarship winners!

Katherine Aoki  
Kay Tumino  
Erika Johnson  
Angelina Amato

4. Voting – budget voted in during Treasurer’s presentation.
5. Mr. Dilmore’s Report  
Mr. D would like to recognize the behind-the-scenes folks, the E Board, Chair People, fundraisers, etc, that make SAPS possible. “Thank You” followed with a round of applause.  
Expects a second Strings teacher will be hired soon for the possible 500+ strings players next year. There needs to be a transition since the Ireland trip will be the ninth and final trip for Mr. D.  
**Ireland:** Will take place during April school vacation in 2013. There will be 3 coaches (buses) on the student trip, for a total of 120 people. Initial sign-up limited to 1 student and 1 parent on this trip.  
They will be a “shadow” trip if there’s others who wish to come. This group will see all the same sights, attend the concerts and more. This shadow trip is being arranged since it looks like more than 120 people want to go. Other school trips don’t take parents along. Mr. D does so parents can share this wonderful experience with their children.  
Applications can start being turned in tonight. If we fill most of the student tour, will run a lottery for remaining seats. Remember! This is a student tour! The schedule will be made for students. The shadow tour will be for extra parents/family members.  
You can contact Mr. Dilmore at [wdilmore@comcast.net](mailto:wdilmore@comcast.net) with any questions.

Next, Sabrina, a representative from ACIS/Encore Tours, spoke about the Ireland trip. Encore Tours is based in Boston and specializes in only performance tours. Presented 2 itineraries, one for the student tour and one for the shadow tour. Sabrina gave a brief overview of both. Itineraries are similar but the shadow group won’t do all the same things as the student group but will be together for concerts and meals at night. The shadow participants will be in different hotels also.

Breakfasts and dinners included in the cost, lunch time on your own. There’s some suggested venues for the concerts but those will be firmed up closer to the trip.

Tour managers meet you in Ireland at the airport and stay with the group throughout the trip, day and night. They work out all the logistics.

Items included in the trip cost are listed on the itinerary.

Sue Connors mentioned that as we go through the time before the trip, at least three times, you will be given the opportunity to authorize fund-raised funds from your child’s accounts to go towards your child’s Encore Tours trip bill. SAPS will send these payments as a group at least 3 times before final payment is due.

Encore Tours will show payments on line in your account and will send you reminders of payments due. The online processing for this trip’s accounts will be set up later in this month.

Rooming: students usually in triple rooms with other students. But parent can room with their child if they choose to. The shadow tour is double

occupancy with a slightly different price, due to the double rooms and a few more activities for the adults.

\*Note: when completing your application for the trip, please indicate “Student” or “Shadow” tour at the top of the page to indicate which tour you are requesting.

Janet Engrem mentioned that travel contracts need to be completed by the student and by any other family members that are travelling. No one can travel without a signed contract on file.

The nurse will be travelling with the student tour. The nurse can only observe while student take their medications, she cannot administer the meds. If your child has anxiety issues or special needs and wants to travel, please have a parent travel with them.

#### 6. Old Business

- A. **Website** – Nancy Ennis – send her any notices, pictures, etc. to go on the website. Email Nancy at [nme99@comcast.net](mailto:nme99@comcast.net)  
The Dancewicz set up the website for SAPS and Performance Music Center in Woburn sponsors the site. Strings website is [www.WilmingtonStrings.org](http://www.WilmingtonStrings.org)
- B. **Lockable Cages** – first set of shelving due in tomorrow for installation at the high school.
- C. **Local Heroes** – Pia Romano. Six boxes of donations taken in. Thank you to all who donated.
- D. **E Board Membership** – Anyone who wants to be a little more involved with SAPS is welcome to join our Executive Board. Very casual, involves a few more meetings a year. Members help out when needed. Let us know if you would like to join.

#### 7. New Business

- A. **Wish List** – each year we ask Mr. Dilmore if there’s any items needed for Strings that he’s like to “wish” for. This past year SAPS purchased 3 basses for use at the Middle School. We’ll ask again in the Fall!

**THANK YOU FOR A GREAT YEAR!!!!!!  
HAVE A HAPPY AND HEALTHY SUMMER!!**

Minutes submitted by Mary Mullens