



**Port Chester High School Band Association
Tamarack Road
Port Chester, New York 10573**

[PCHS Band Parents Association Meeting Minutes](#)

January 17, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Meeting opened @ 7:30pm by President Kim Morano

Mr. Vitti spoke first as he was in the middle of jazz band practice and he shared some dates with us
The Color Guard Show is January 28th

Our annual Pasta Dinner fundraiser will be Sunday March 18th

The St Patrick's Day parade will be Sunday March 25th

NYSSMA is going to be in PC this year on May 11th and 12th

We are going to perform at Playland opening day on Sat May 12th

Several parents asked Mr. Vitti about the rumor they heard from their children that starting next year, the students would not be able to participate in a fall sport and band. They were very upset about this possibility. Mr. Vitti said this is being discussed at the administrative level. He said he is willing to work with other disciplines. He stressed that the 2 weeks of band camp were so important to get the band ready for the season and after that his only weekday practices are Tues and Thursday from 6-9. He suggested contacting Mr. Kraut and Mr. Durney to share our feeling with these administrators.

Another parent asked Mr. Vitti about the possibility of a home band competition in the fall.

Mr. Vitti stressed that this was an enormous undertaking involving recruiting bands to play, booking judges, ensuring the appropriate insurance, closing the streets and arranging for security and parking. He suggested contacting former band parent Donna Maldonado. She was the last parent to chair a home band competition and he felt she might have information we can use

Treasurer's Report: Steve Greto distributed the current financials and answered questions

Band Managers Report: Phil Gasparini discussed the where the band was with fundraising and quotas after the journal and fruit sales. He said about 20% of the kids made their quota but almost all the kids did some level of fundraising. The possibility of a trip was discussed. It was decided that if the students had not made their quota, they would need to pay for difference for the cost of the trip.

Eileen Pellegrini updated us on the status of the band ad journal. She said it is currently at the printers and should be ready by mid-February

Our annual Pasta Dinner will be on Sunday March 18 @ 4pm at the Knights of Columbus

Charlie Sacco has given us the member's rate and if we supply the ingredients, he has agreed to do all the cooking!

We will send out the list of donations we will need soon. Anything we don't get donated, we will have to buy so please consider buying just one or two items and we should have a great dinner! The possibility of a raffle was brought up. It was discussed whether a gift basket raffle or a 50/50 raffle would be better. It was decided that a 50/50 raffle would be easier. We are going to distribute books of tickets to the students beforehand so that even if they don't come to the dinner, they can still sell some. Vinny Montemurro volunteered to make the raffle tickets for us. They will be \$2 each and 6 for \$10

Johnna Roca asked about the new PC Drum and Bugle Corp that would be starting soon. Mr. Vitti said this had nothing to do with the HS band but he had information on it if anyone was interested.

Getting track suits for the upcoming year was discussed and tabled until later in the year.

Meeting ended @ 2030
Respectfully Submitted
Anne Verrastro

January 31 Informational Meeting with Mr. Vitti re: band trip

Mr. Vitti met with parents interested in hearing more information about the April band trip to Virginia. Mr. Vitti noted that it has been 5 years since the students went on a band trip. Even though the economy is down and fundraising has been lower than usual, he felt it was important to take the students on a band trip. He explained that if the students made their quota in fundraising, that covered the cost of the trip. However if students did not make their quota they would have to pay the difference to cover the cost of the trip. The band would not be paying for students that did not fundraise or paid the cost. However he did note that payment plans could be set up with Mr. Gasparini if parents needed to. Mr. Gasparini was present for any questions regarding individual accounts

The trip will be Thursday April 19 - Sunday April 22
Wed April 18 -Students luggage will be collected on
Thursday April 19 Buses will leave PCHS @ 5am and drive to Colonial Williamsburg VA - the students will have several hours to tour this historic site

After this they will be driven to the hotel for dinner, rehearsal and bed @ 11pm
Friday April 20 - Competitions! Concert, Jazz, Parade, Field show and winter guard!
Saturday April 21: Busch Gardens with an award show and dinner
Sunday April 22 - Gettysburg: We will perform our Civil War show at the Gettysburg Battlefield Visitors Center Should be home by 7pm

Mr. Vitti said right now we have about 65 students fully paid. We should have about 70-80 by the end of the week. He needs to see of the students that are going, does he have a well rounded band. Mr. Vitti stated he will have 2 security guards, one male and one female, coming on the trip to help chaperon esp. at night. If parents would like to chaperon, Kim will have a signup sheet. Parents will need to pay the cost of the trip - \$500 if they would like to chaperon.

Mr. Vitti also spoke about the Middle School Students, unfortunately, the 7th and 8th grade students have testing on the 19th of April Mr. Swift said they could be out of school by 2:30pm but they would not be able to go on the bus. Mr. Vitti said if the parents wanted to drive the kids to VA they could then join the rest of the band for the trip Wed evening. They are trying to see if the kids can car pool with one or more parents. Once the kids get there they will then be with the band and return on the buses with them

Mr. Vitti is open to any other questions.

Thank you

Anne