

Plymouth School Music Association
Board of Directors and Officers of the Association
Minutes of Regular Meeting
January 20, 2026

Minutes of the Board of Directors and Officers of the Association of Plymouth School Music Association of Plymouth, MA, held in the Library of PNHS Plymouth, MA, at 6pm

1. CALL TO ORDER

Beth Lopes called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

2. ROLL CALL:

Officers present: Beth Lopes: Pres., Lauren Papa: VP, Althea Tetrault: Asst. Secretary, John Machado: Treasurer

BOD present: Tom Bodie, Maria Dunn, Tamao Buffalo-Ellis, Rianardo Ellis, Kate Holl, Trace Melody

Members/Liaisons: Cathy Tsourides, Jen Theran, Kim Magno, Jen Powers, Lindsey Jil, Amy Westell, Brian Westell, Patrick Johns, Katie Coe, Dawn Newman

3. QUORUM ESTABLISHED:

The Plymouth School Music Association successfully established a quorum.

4. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

No minutes yet from last meeting

5. Treasurer's Report: John Machado-

Financially we are in good shape. Only pay outs for Jason and Dave; scholarships and insurance. That will put the balance at roughly \$15,000 for the end of year if we have other money coming in. Beth would like us to end the year with \$20,000+ so we have more fundraising.

Balance on Hand- \$26,171.80

Escrow- \$4,994.33

Available- \$21,177.47

6. President's Report:

A. 2026-27 Fundraising Plan Timeline:

(Calendar raffle: Net total \$5, 822.55)

Restaurant: Rianardo Buffalo-Ellis

Sweet Frogs: \$225

Papa Ginos: February 11th (need to raise at least \$250)

- They will have flyers available.
- Anyone who shows up with the flyer or mentions the flyer can participate.

Panera: March 18th

Texas Roadhouse: April
May and June: Crumble, Chipotle and Friendly's
Spring Fundraiser: Food Truck Event

Lauren:

- Getting in contact with Mayflower Brewery event coordinator Jim
- Wants to get involved with another event that is already in planning stages and join with them
 - Mention Punk Markets, Althea has lead and will contact Leeandra
- Beth and Lauren inquire about doing a food truck event and if it would be lucrative to do it on own.
 - Maria to contact Coe's and ask about how food truck event works. Would trucks pay for a spot or give a cut of the amount they make and that is how PSMA would raise money?
 - Ken Magno mentioned a food truck battle, votes taken from attendees on who has the best food/different categories

Other Spring Fundraiser ideas?

- Tom Bodie: Paint Night (Tom to look into)
 - KreativePaintParties
 - Two Crafty Chicks

B. Nominations for 2026-27 School Year

- Anyone who would like to run for an executive committee seat would need to fill out a nomination form. Beth will provide for the next meeting on February 25th
- Quick run through of who would be staying/leaving liaison positions
 - Not returning and filling instead:
 1. Molly Johnson (PCIS band and orchestra) Melissa Hilley
 2. Annie Jones (PNHS theatre) Kate Holl and Katie Coe
 3. Trace Melody (PNHS Chorus, A cappella) Kate Hall and Katie Coe
 4. Lauren Papa (Winter Percussion) Maria Dunn
 - Everyone else staying

C. Scholarship Update:

- PSMA voted to change the wording in PSHS PSMA Scholarship from one band and one chorus student. It now reads as 1 band or orchestra student and 1 chorus or theatre student
- PNHS scholarship the same (Bonnie Holmes on scholarship committee)
- Kyle Robinson Scholarship expanded to chorus or theatre, Beth confirmed approval from Kim Robinson through Mike Caple.

- Criteria wasn't met at PSHS for PSMA scholarship last year (Top 50 of class, ensemble member for 3 years, other performances, academics and career in music considered)
 - Cory Grueb nor Jason Luciana are on the scholarship committee, so PSHS committee just picks and last year two orchestra students received the scholarship, not fair to other students.
 1. Beth will speak to committee and will also add that PSMA president's kid can't receive the scholarship

D. Liaison Reports/ Updates:

- Molly Johnson-PCIS Band & Orchestra- no report
- Chrissy Manca PCIS Chorus & Drama- no report
- Meghan Schilling-PSMS Band & Orchestra- no report
- Jennifer Powers- PSMS Chorus & Theatre- no report
- Annie Jones- PNHS Theatre- Kate Holl-
 - Addams Family March 13th and 14th
- Trace Melody- PNHS Chorus & A cappella-
 - WAC was Amazing! Thank you to all who helped with concessions
 - PSMA voted to buy 2 totes for PNHS concessions (\$20 value) Vote accepted
- Beth Lopes- Marching Band, PN Gig Band, Color Guard, PSHS Concert Band & Orchestra, PS Gig Band-
 - Marching band, along with other band students, will be attending Providence Bruins game on Friday Jan. 23rd for Bands in the Stands
 1. Money ran through PSMA for this- just easier
 2. Great turn out and had to turn students away
 - PNHS Gig Band did not start, no one knows when it will
 - PSHS Gig Band performed at Arts Summit
- Lauren/Maria- Winter Percussion-
 - WP is going great. Brent and Ally are going to try to get them to perform at the middle schools. No word yet on the Friends and Family Concert.
 1. Maria needs to get Ally's email for correspondence
 - Nick Bodie is leaving WP. Very bittersweet. We will miss him!
- Althea Tetrault- PNHS Concert Band & Orchestra-
 - They are doing good and moving right along
- Cathy Tsourides- PSHS Chorus, A cappella & Theatre-
 - NE voices this weekend, Fri and Sat
 1. Fun event for them, not mandatory and will participate in workshops
 - ICHS Quarter Finalists! Yahoo! Huge growth from last year
 - Spring musical auditions for Footloose soon
 - VPA Field Trip to Nashville coming up

- One Act Butterfly Effect will be February 4th and 5th in Black Box Theater, will compete with it on February 7th (Add back on to the events calendar and sheet)
- UPDATE:
 - REMINDER FROM BETH FOR ALL LIASONS TO CHECK PROGRAM COUNT FOR SPRING!

E. Calendar Raffle Update

- Going well, though a bit of work for Althea to do reel on Instagram. It takes about 20 mins and she has a set time to get it out by 5pm everyday.
 - A lot of members loved the way it is all working out
 - Great fundraiser and will need to do it again next year
- Getting prizes to people has been a tiny struggle but getting completed.

F. Arts Summit, January 14th Update:

- Feedback from attendees
 - Thought there would be more people there from offices/government, one senator came and left, spoke about what Mike was trying to avoid saying
 - Well organized, not the right people in the room
 - No next steps, round table cancelled so when are discussions going to happen? Committees?
 - No follow-up email, a qr code was shared at end for a survey to fill out and people who did answered it honestly
 - All principles were there, core curriculum involved, made a member think about how she incorporates arts into her curriculum and she was excited to start thinking this way
 1. She hopes more people will take what they heard back to their role in the schools
 2. Made her think that at the elementary levels, art and music are called "specialists" but not really seen as that, just seen as a break for teachers
 - Focus arts education creativity and what it means to employment
 1. Can you adapt, be flexible, think creatively? That is what employers want
 2. Students with this background are well-rounded kids making them more desirable to an employer
 - HS schedule takes arts away based on the path that students take
 - Increase stipends for Arts, the difference in amounts between sports and arts are drastic, have they ever changed?
 1. Beth is standing strong with this. She wants to write a letter to school committee either as a parent or as PSMA and get signatures at shows and concerts to back up the importance of increasing stipends for the arts. PSMA votes to write it from PSMA, all feel strongly about this.

- a. Keep off-line
- b. Mike Caple says Beth could talk about this with teachers/directors
- Mention of a senior predicament. Wanted to take an art class for the first time as a senior because the Biomedical program never allowed for her to take an art class. She was only able to take art 101 which she was way advanced for
 1. This kicks out a freshman, because seniors get first choice to classes, but that freshman might have been going the visual arts path but now they miss out
 2. Why could a student in this predicament submit a portfolio for review so they could get placed into a higher-level class
 3. Norwell schools found a way around this: glazing in ceramics is a science, so they could take it for science credit and music 101 could be taken for a math credit

G. Concert Program Book Update;

- PSHS Design teacher reached out to Beth
 - He could get students to design and print the program and get us a price
 - Dawn mentioned reaching out to Project Growth students to have them fold the programs
 - Tom in contact and waiting to hear price. If good, we will go this route.

7. Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: Chair John Machado, Tom Bodie (+2) Account Update

Membership Committee: Chair Tamao Buffalo Ellis, Stacey Burke (+2)- N/A

Planning Committee: Chair Lauren Papa- N/A

Communications Committee: Chair Althea Tetrault, Maria Dunn- N/A

8. Next Meeting Dates: all at PNHS, 6:00pm

- Wednesday, February 25th
- Tuesday, March 24th
- Thursday, April 30th
- Annual Meeting, May 18th
 - Elections
 - Officers, Board Members
 - Annual Awards