

Pioneer Band Association  
Meeting Minutes  
April 18, 2017

**PRESENT:** David Leach, Nancy Waring, Mary Beth Damm, Stacey Pakela, Trixi Packmohr, Allison Housner, Peretz Hirshbein, Jennifer Bruey, Suzanne Ross, Michele Huston, Randy Knibbs, Paul Dodd, Terry Haley, Yung Hwang, Chris Miller, Cathy Miller, Sarah Boylan, Pat Blackwell, Alan Gillman, Monica Turenne, Julia Mattucci Clark, Ginny Birchler, Joan Brush, Gary Shen, Claire Zimmerman

Annual Report – See Attachment

**Welcome**

Four officers leaving the board – Stacey Pakela, Amy Higgins, Allison Housner, Kathleen Carter

**Vice President Report** – Stacey Pakela

The Vice Presidents would like to thank all parents who have volunteered for the Pioneer Bands. Working with the parents of this band is the best part of the Vice President's job. We request that parents continue to volunteer for the incoming Vice Presidents. Reminder: parents of seniors, pictures for the slide show are due on Friday.

**Treasurer Report** – Trixi Packmohr

Please refer to the Annual Report. Currently the band is financially sound.

**Communication Secretary** – Peretz Hirshbein

“Looking forward to next year”

**Director Report** – Nancy Waring

Varsity Band report – For twenty-four years Nancy Waring continues to be proud that no student in the foundation of our Pioneer Band program is ever turned away. I currently have students in Varsity Band that initially could not even read music but I help them learn, there are students who want to switch instruments and VB is

the place to encourage this transition, there are even some students coming from other schools who did not even want to be in band in the first place but they soon understand how much I sincerely care about each child and how important they are to this team. My students quickly become engaged and most importantly know that they are respected members of this internationally acclaimed band program. I inspire each to understand the value of highest level concentration skills and teamwork that will carry them forward. Excellence, along with how to break each task down to get there, will become a habit in all that they do.

I am proud to say that this year my Varsity Band performed beautifully at our Winter Concert, and then individually about 100% signed up and participated in the MSBOA Solo and Ensemble Festivals. In March the Varsity Band received a First Division Superior rating at District Band Festivals including a B+ illustrating my relentless goal to improve Sight Reading. Note that David Leach said the piece that VB Sight Read was even more difficult than the SR music for Concert Band Purple!!! Then just two weeks after Band Festivals on a different composition the Varsity Band rocked the audience at Bands In Review!!!

Proud of the hard work of each of these students every single day. Thankful for the support, respect and encouragement given to each child of the foundation of our band program.

I sincerely mean it when I say that I cannot wait to get to school every day to be with your children!!!

David Leach

Pioneer will not host Solo and Ensemble next year.

This year the Pioneer Symphony Orchestra will be playing at The Midwest Clinic International Band and Orchestra Conference in Chicago in January 2018.

Marching Band – three home games only this year, all within a week  
Jazz Band is doing great. We are going to MSU for festival this Saturday

Auditions are continuing this week. There will be approximately mid 60's in all bands. Band lists will be posted this Friday. All bands will be better next year. We have had great auditions.

Picnic Pops is coming! The community loves Picnic Pops.

Pioneer will be playing early.

I am grateful for being able to work with all of your children.

Next Year:

Travel – student committees have been meeting. It is possible that we will go oversea. Yet, if one family is uncomfortable with any visa issue the whole band will not travel.

The whole tour committee will be meeting soon and a vote will take place prior to the end of the year in June.

Sadly John Stout recently passed April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from cancer. John's wife, Gail Stout, was a former PBA President and transformed the PBA into what you see now. John wrote "And Though We Wander" for Pioneer Band and we will be playing it at Picnic Pops.

Steve Roberts, Director of Bands at Huron High School is retiring. PBA is sending a flower arrangement

Band Camp – there have only been 149 students registered currently. An e-mail will be sent out to all parents to remind them to register their child for camp. Mr. Leach will be contacting the Middle Schools. Reminder: a physician must sign the medical form.

Upcoming Events –

\*Picnic Pops

\*Bandquet 6:30 on Wednesday. Need people to sign up for food so the order can be called in on Friday.

\*Jazz Summitt will be at Pioneer May 23<sup>rd</sup>

\*Commencement June 8 – Pioneer band will play

\*Next PBA meeting May 16<sup>th</sup>, change from May 9<sup>th</sup> due to a concert at Tappan