

EAST NOBLE high School Bands

901 Garden Street • Kendallville, IN 46755 260 | 347.2032 • FAX 260 | 347.2362 Bryan Muñoz, Director bmunoz@eastnoble.net

East Noble Band Boosters:

I want to thank Kris Delong for helping in the transition to online voting. Our goal was to create a way for families to vote and have a say even if they are not able to attend the meeting, and with more than 40 families voting, I think we accomplished that. Kris was diligent in making sure the voting was secure and transparent and I'm grateful for her efforts and confident in our results.

I want to thank the outgoing board members for their diligence and efforts this year. This year has been a year of learning and a year of organization. I'm thankful for the efforts we've made to ensure incoming board members have documents prepared to ensure a smooth transition. I look forward to our final board meeting with members of the outgoing and incoming board to ensure this smooth transition.

Finally, I want to welcome and issue three challenges to the incoming booster board. Thank you for your commitment to our program and our kids, without the dedication of parents like you willing to serve our organization simply could not do or offer the things that we do. And now my three challenges to you:

Challenge Number 1: Focus on the mission of the East Noble Band Boosters. Our mission is to support all instrumental music programs at East Noble Schools. We tend to gain tunnel vision when our competitive groups are in season and forget how many amazing offerings we really have to support in our school system. I would encourage the boosters to form parent representatives for each organization: Jazz, Pep Band, Solo and Ensemble, Concert Bands, 6th grade band, 7th grade band, 8th grade band, in addition to the competitive ensembles. This would increase your participation rate and have equal representation at meetings. We should support these groups in more ways than just financially. Let's celebrate our jazz band getting a gold. Let's host a spaghetti dinner for the students who qualify for state finals. Hang balloons when we earn the prestigious all band award, and everything in between. Support is visibility, not monetary. If you run every decision through the filter of your mission statement, I think great things will happen.

Challenge Number 2: Focus on parent engagement. We've seen a 40% decrease in meeting attendance. This year we saw the collapse of three festival concession events due to lack of interest from parents. We have always struggled to inform and equip our incoming band parents so they don't feel lost when their child signs up for band. We have especially struggled in getting our parents on board with the notion that the boosters are attempting fundraisers to keep costs affordable for as many families as possible. We offer SO MUCH as a booster program: Fundraising opportunities, scholarships, and unique ways to serve their children and see their children grow. But we struggle to flourish in these roles because we cannot engage our parents. So get creative and stay supportive. It should never be "if/then" ultimatums, rather having positive conversations on how we can and need to support our children through such a critical

social, emotional, and physiological time in their formative years. Remember, being positive is being honest and with forward motion.

Challenge Number 3: Fix the bylaws in the constitution. There are awkward and questionable amendments in the constitution that are clearly personally motivated. We need to remember this organization is bigger than anyone in this room, and to make long term decisions based on short term disputes is not in the spirit of why we do what we do. Review these amendments and revise as necessary. Additionally, this constitution needs a Dissolution Clause. The boosters have many assets, including an endowment that must be protected for many years to come, even if this organization no longer exists. Should this organization lose it's 5013c designation there is nothing that states where or whom these assets should be transferred. There is nothing that states a band director can't simply disassociate from the boosters with no administrative approval. I would like to work closely with the next board to develop a dissolution clause and have it ratified by the booster members so we know the future of the band booster organization and its assets are safe and supporting the band for many years to come.

East Noble is a very special place to me, and while I will continue to take an active role in the day to day activities of the booster organization, I will also work to make our organization even more effective in the years beyond my time of service. I hope the incoming board members will join me in this endeavor.

Respectfully submitted for record on March 7, 2019

Bryan M. Munoz

By M. M.

Director of Bands, East Noble High School

Performing Arts Chair, East Noble School Corporation