

**Maynard Music Association**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 14, 2026**  
**7:15 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Cheryl Lucas, Pam Sweeney, Sarah Johnson, Rachel Leeuwis, Wouter Leeuwis, Rosemarie Begin, Amanda Ray, Melissa Caless, Samantha Schulz, Clayton DeWalt

MMA Officers:

MHS Chairpersons: Cheryl Lucas & Pam Sweeney

Fowler Chairpersons: Rachel Leeuwis & Melissa Caless

Treasurer: Matthew Truch

Secretary: Sarah Johnson

Webmaster: Wouter Leeuwis

**Chair updates:**

- December minutes have been approved and can be posted.
- Yearbook ad has been submitted.
- The Chorus Director stepped down before the new semester begins. In addition to Chorus missing a teacher, A Cappella needs an advisor. MMA met with Ms. York and Ms. Doctorov to discuss additional enrichment possibilities for the second half of the year to keep the programs going and to discuss recruitment. Kevin Murphy has agreed to fill in for the second half of the year, and a schedule is being worked out. MMA's funding toward this position (\$1,500) is temporary, and advocacy will need to continue into the next school year and beyond as the teachers union discussions will not begin until December. Traditionally this position has been attached to the Fowler Chorus/Music position. A suggestion was made to document the hours that go into the MHS Choral Director position moving forward as it is not sustainable as a standalone position. Parent volunteers may be needed if students need to meet on their own in the meantime.
- The Senior Music Banquet is scheduled for Sunday, May 31, at 1 PM at Sanctuary for \$1,200, a similar cost to the prior year although we will not use their sound services. In exchange for what Sanctuary considers a discounted rate, MMA will express appreciation in our newsletter and social media.
- Sanctuary has also proposed some engagement opportunities: an open mic night on Mondays that MMA could potentially sponsor once a quarter (donation drum could be displayed) and a Wednesday Jazz Jam once a month. MMA will ask if the cover charges for these events can be waived for music students. These opportunities need an MMA point person.
- Rachel has sent an email to non-senior families asking for volunteers for the banquet. A Scholarship Committee, led by Wouter, will also need to be formed. Amanda volunteered.
- MMA wants to ramp up recruitment for future members; a new MHS co-chair will be needed for the next school year.

**Fowler Choral Director updates:**

- Logistics for the Worcester Railers game on January 18 were discussed. Fowler students will be singing at the event. MMA's support for this event: \$263 for student tickets and Ms. Schulz's ticket.
- Ms. Schulz may ask for new drumsticks in the future. The 8th grade music class recently finished a bucket drumming lesson, and some of the makeshift sticks are no longer usable. She is also considering requesting noise-canceling headphones. She would not need these items until the following school year. After the meeting, MMA questioned whether these should be first requested through the school budget.
- The spring concert will have grades 6-8 Chorus and Band performing on the same night, and grades 4-5 on another night.
- The Pyramid Concert, which featured ensembles from all three schools last year, is on hold and may be considered next school year.

**Jazz Bands Director updates:**

- The spring concert date is proposed for Wednesday, May 13.
- A request was made for about \$200 for music that can be continually downloaded and kept in a library for the students' use. MMA asked if there are school funds set aside for this purpose and will look into that possibility. MMA later approved \$218 for this purchase.
- MMA will look into Mr. DeWalt's ability to print at the school.
- Mr. DeWalt is looking into enrichment opportunities, including a jazz flute visitor. Rachel volunteered to ask Powell Flutes if they have a jazz specialist they could recommend.

MMA officers agreed to meet this month to talk about recruitment efforts and communication with at-large members; school funding; and potential enrichment ideas.

**Post-meeting vote:**

- A motion was made to collaborate with the Maynard Theater Association on the cost of stage skirting for the extension of the performance area in the MHS auditorium by contributing \$155 for the project.
- 5 out of the 6 officers present voted yes; the motion passes.