

Radford Band Boosters Meeting Agenda
January 12, 2026

In Attendance: Donna Sams, Misty Acosta, Vickey Goff, Angelina Forner, Christie Palmer, Ken Stevens, Christie Morris, Kari Grey, Natalie Gibbs, Rich Morris, Harry Farmer

1. Call To Order/Approve Minutes
 - a. Motion and second for approval
2. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Donna can email a copy of the report
 - b. For the past month, we gained over \$5,000
 - c. Spent money on Diecast show, food expenses, show expenses, stamps and envelopes
 - d. Looking good this year overall- we have about \$6,000 to spend to stay in budget, but when it comes to income- we are right at the budgeted income and we haven't done snap raise yet.
 - e. We should get to 10,000 for letter writing, and we made just over 10,000 for the Tech Concessions
 - f. Checkbook balance- is over \$14,000.
 - g. This is the most we have had in our checkbook in many years.
 - h. We are doing really well with fundraising. There is a lot to be proud of this year.
 - i. We have spent about \$15,000 for classroom expenses and the budget is \$18,000
 - j. Mr. Farmer- wrote check to Bassett for the flags and the color guard uniform for the leader, and then also there was money to spent for the All District
3. Fundraising
 - a. VT Beer Concessions update
 - i. We got the final check, over \$10,000 for beer concessions.
 - ii. If anyone wants to sign up we can add people. There are baseball games coming up, but these are harder to get in than football. They only operate 3 stands for concessions. They have one beer portable stand. Donna will send out the schedule once it comes in. We have to try to get signed up before others to get the stands.
 - iii. When are baseball games? Most of them are during the day. The type of game and if they are high profile matters. You still have to be there 3 hours before the game. Do they stop selling at a certain point? They probably do-maybe around the 7th inning. Probably have to commit the full day because not sure what the times are
 - iv. If anyone else wants to sign up to volunteer please text Donna. The training is good for 3 years.
 - v. For the beer concessions at baseball-4-5, for the food need 6-8
 - b. Letter Writing Campaign Update
 - i. This is going really well

- ii. The thank you notes were a big hit. People liked these and they reached out to Donna to thank her for these
- c. Raffle/Swag Sales at Concert
 - i. This went well. If we want to do it again, Misti will start asking people over the summer and we could possibly double or twice as many prizes if we can get enough people. This was well received and it went well.
 - ii. We will try to make this an annual thing-the Holiday concert is a good way to do this
- d. Upcoming Fundraisers
 - i. Snap Raise- this is done usually around February or March. Who is going to set this up? This is an email campaign. Every kid has to have 10-20 emails. The entire thing is managed through the Snap Raise page. Mr. Farmer will start looking at this.
 - ii. Donna will send an email to Mr. Saunders and include Ken to keep everyone in the loop.
 - iii. Diecast Car Show Dates- February 28th, June 6th, September 12th for concession sales at the toy shows. There will be another one in November or December that no one has signed up for, but they are going to wait and see. As we get closer keep Donna in the loop to get the sign ups out.
 - iv. Trivia night- Ken is waiting to hear back about this. This will likely be when it warms up. Possibly around St. Patrick's day.
- 4. Miscellaneous Updates
 - a. Updates from Committees
 - i. Uniform- nothing at this point
 - ii. Food-Nothing is needed
- 5. Band Director's Report- Harry Farmer
 - a. Holiday Season- great holiday concert with the kids. Received nice comments. The kids are rehearsing well, they lived up to doing this. Likes the raffle and this was well received. Very successful first semester
 - b. Second Semester-focus is changing. In concert mode in the classroom. The group has the music for the concert assessment. March 10th will be the concert at William Fleming High School. They will get a rating at this and if they get superior then they will become a VA band of distinction
 - c. There will be a pre-assessment concert that all parents can go to. This will be February 26th at Blacksburg High school. This concert will be at another school so that everyone can get used to working out of a different school. Percussion will have to play on things that are owned by another school. The kids need to get used to playing on different instruments. It will also be good for them to hear some of the other concert bands. There will be bands from Blacksburg HS, Christiansburg HS, Auburn HS. Not sure what the time will be. The other band directors will give feedback and give comments. This will give another week and a half to work on things in class.

- d. All District- took 8 kids to All District. They did very well. Middle School- Jade Sanchez Rodriguez made this. High school-Caroline Gibbs made this.
- e. Next year- expect more kids to try out, will work on scales in class.
- f. VT Honor band on January 23- this is a Friday, Saturday and Sunday event. Middle school had to submit a video to place where they sit, the high school kids will be placed in a band the day of. There will be a concert for the parents at the Moss Arts Center
- g. The All District concert is also at the Moss Arts Center. There will be a cost that boosters will cover. The concert for Middle School is in Lynchburg in EC Glass. Kids rehearse on Friday and then have to be back the next morning at 830. Look at putting Jade in a hotel and possibly having her mother stay the night. Can boosters pay for the hotel and the fee? Boosters are good with paying for the hotel. Do not need to do a per diem -at the event all meals are covered. Breakfast will be at the hotel.
- h. Mr. Farmer will look at Carowinds and set the date for this. This will be sometime in May and possibly around Mother's Day. There will be a ratings concert for this. Do we need to set up accounts for the kids? Mr. Farmer can keep track of this on a spreadsheet. The kids will give the check to Mr. Farmer. Plan for cost- kids can pay in installments. The kids can cover the cost. There will be a letter that comes out. There will also be an option for scholarships for kids to go beyond their own child. Look at every kid that did Marching band to go. 1 Chaperone for 10 kids, around 5-6 chaperones. The 1:10 can be parents that follow the bus. The kids have been really good on the trips that have happened so far. We will need parents to sign up if they want to ride the bus, and then parents that want to chaperone without riding the bus. Mr. Farmer will charge a bit extra per kid to assist with purchasing chaperone tickets. There is no limit on parents that want to go. There will be a limit on seats on the bus. There will be a performance at Carowinds. Could possibly talk about Disney in 2 years. If the kids go to Disney- go in to where they record the movie music and get conducted by the same person and learn how to be a studio musician.
- i. Marching Band- Mr. Farmer is starting to get emails about marching band. Has not thought about this yet. Will think about this in mid to late March. Will not do anything radical with this at all, it will be around the same time as last year. There will be one more color guard instructor. Ms. Shockley who is an English teacher would like to be the instructor. Several kids are looking to join the guard.
- j. Need to get another drumline instructor in the Fall, Ian is going to Grad School. Possibly look at getting a student at Tech or Radford to also come in and help out.
- k. Will probably pick a show around April.
- l. Other things Mr. Farmer is looking at. Every instrument has been checked. There is an estimate that will be given to make everything in playing condition. Some things are not worth fixing. The program needs a base

clarinet. Possibly need 3-4 instruments. Need new Saxophones. Instruments are not cheap. When do we look to purchase or lease them? Mr. Farmer will look at how much this will cost. Mr. Farmer will also submit the information to the school to see how they can help. There were several things purchased with COVID money that are in good shape.

- m. Trailer- look at purchasing one. Angelina- found a place to build one to the specs needed and make sure it is what the band needs, could also include shelving. They are back logged for a few months, but hopefully will get in a few months to get this process started. Will come up with how big this needs to be. It would be March to get the specs in, and the turn around time is 4-5 months. Could be ready by the time marching season starts.
- n. Might talk about uniforms more once the show is selected. Maybe have a uniform that is specific to the show. The traditional uniforms can be used for parades. The current uniforms don't breath well, move well. Will talk more about this around March and April.

6. Booster Members/Parents Q&A

- a. Tromblowin at JMU- There is a trombone congregation. This is on the 31st this year. The kids sign up on their own and do this.
- b. There could be some other things for kids to do. Blacksburg has a Community Band. Radford University has a Community band. Mr. Farmer will go with them if they want to do the community band. Mr. Farmer emailed out the information for scholarship for Community band.
- c. Do we need chaperones for the Concert Assessment- will need some to ride the bus.

7. Closing Comments/ set next meeting date

- a. February 10th. This is a Tuesday meeting.

8. Adjournment