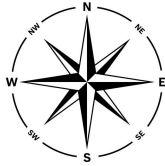


MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

Cultivating and Sustaining a Healthy Music Booster Program



THE ROLE

THEIR ROLE & YOUR
ROLE



FINANCIAL

BUDGETS, TAXES,
FUNDRAISING



LOGISTICAL

DIVIDE & CONQUER



ADVOCACY

PROACTIVE &
"CALL TO ACTION"



What is the purpose of a Music Booster Program?

- Supporting the teachers' vision of the program
- Securing and organizing volunteers
- Collecting and managing funding sources
- Creating an advocacy message
- Mobilizing parents when needed

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Booster Leadership

- Do not leave this up to chance.
- Who shares your vision for the program?
- Who has specific skills?
 - Lawyers, Accounting, etc.
- Don't underestimate the power of social capital.

Music Teacher Role

- Articulate the vision
- Outline priorities that need support
- Provide clarity for long-range needs
- Have a presence at meetings
- Providing the best possible music education and membership experience to students

Non-Profit Status

- 501(c)3
 - Tax Exempt and Advocacy
- 501(h)
 - This allows for legislative lobbying



Advocacy

Proactive

- What does the music program do for students that no other subject can?
- Tailor your messaging to your specific context, Avoid clichés
- Keep a consistent positive presence
- Give thanks

Call to Action

- Keep proactive messages, but with the lens of how fragile it can be
- Have proposed solutions
- In-person is most effective
- Keep a "on message" and be sure to have a unified front

Fundraising

- Less can be more!
- Donation programs can be very effective
- Consider hosting events that include music making
 - Festivals, Jazz nights, etc.

References

- Elpus, K. (2008). Organizing your parents for effective advocacy. *Music Educators Journal*, 95(2), 56-61. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0027432108325688>
- Elpus, K., & Gris , A. (2019). Music booster groups: Alleviating or exacerbating funding inequality in American public school music education?. *Journal of Research in Music Education*, 67(1), 6-22. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022429418812433>