The first meeting of the 2015-2016 school year was held on September 8. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Washburn (in lieu of a coordinator) at 7 pm. The minutes were reviewed from the May, 2015 meeting and treasurer Hank Henderson reported a balance of $4708.44.

Mr. Washburn requested bus chaperone assistance for our competition trips this fall. There was also a discussion on the food needs for this Saturday’s Belleville East/Trentonfest events. Laurie Henderson will work with Mr. Washburn to coordinate this. Finally, Mr. Washburn shared the two websites that may be of interest - the band site (www.wesclinhsband.weebly.com) and the band parent site (www.whsbandparents.weebly.com).

There was no old/pending business.

Under new business, Mr. Washburn took a moment to share the importance of a booster organization. He stated there are three items that come into play:

1. Encouragement - when our children see us interested and excited about an activity, it’s usually contagious and makes them even more excited
2. Support - …it takes a village, there are numerous tasks that Mr. Washburn cannot complete alone, there are a number of student helpers, but parent support is also needed (uniforms, chaperones, etc.)
3. Financial - the expenses for a high school band program are extreme

The structure of the Wesclin Band Parent Organization:

 Band Director--------------Coordinator

 | |

 | -> Secretary & Treasurer

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 V

 Numerous event chairs

Josh Siegfried agreed to be coordinator and Marcy Gonzalez will serve as secretary.

Meetings will be held on the 1st Monday of each month.

Mr. Washburn requested the organization once again pay the fee for the Charms renewal. Charms is used for communication with band families and to keep track of the band music inventory. This $400 fee will cover us for three years.

A discussion was held regarding the organization’s bank account and use of the school’s EIN number. First County Bank is requiring us to list the Wesclin School District as the owner of the account. Mrs. Filyaw has stated (and was confirmed by Hank Henderson following a visit to the bank) that essentially nothing will change with our account - we still make our own deposits, we still receive the statements and balance our own account. The school auditors *may* request to look at our records and, if the organization were ever to disband, the money would become the property of the school. Hank and/or Mr. Washburn will get the appropriate paperwork to Mrs. Filyaw to be completed by the Board.

Mr. Washburn shared an updated needs/wish list for the band. This list included typical expenditures to give everyone an overview of what is spent each year. He will work on a more detailed list of what the exact needs are so future fundraising activities can be targeted toward those items.

Mr. Washburn also shared a list of last year’s fundraising activities for both the BPO and the band students. Positive comments were made about continuing the Cardinal Calendar fundraiser as well as the Berkemann’s Bakery donut cards. The leadership group will meet via email and come up with a fundraising plan for the year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.