



MEMORANDUM

To: Mattawan Board of Education
From: Pam Stermer, Chief Financial Officer
Date: 7/14/2025
Subject: High School Band Shell Replacement

When our school acquired the current band shell from Chenery Auditorium in 2007, it was a significant enhancement to our auditorium and performing arts programs. It has greatly improved the quality of rehearsals and performances by projecting sound effectively toward the audience. Over the years, it has become one of the most requested and utilized pieces of equipment in our facility.

However, the shell was originally manufactured in 1992 and is now over 30 years old, well beyond the typical 20-year service life for this type of equipment. Due to its age, increasing safety concerns, and the unavailability of replacement parts, this will be the final year we can use it before it must be retired. This project was identified as a need and is part of the 2024 Bond.

To ensure continuity and advancement in our performing arts offerings, we are seeking to purchase a new band shell from Wenger Corporation, a nationally recognized leader in performance equipment. This updated model represents a substantial upgrade, offering enhanced acoustics, greater flexibility, and the ability to accommodate larger groups and diverse event types. We believe this investment will have a lasting impact on the quality and versatility of our performing arts programming.

We recommend purchasing the band shell, motors and hoists from Wenger Corporation at a cost of \$284,389.92. This includes one (1) Maestro Full-Stage Acoustical Shell (7 towers, 3 clouds) and three (3) Wenger Power Assist Hoists. Wenger participates with Omnia Partners, a cooperative purchasing program to which we belong, and satisfies our competitive bid requirements.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Mattawan Board of Education approves the purchase of the band shell, motors and hoists from Wenger Corporation at a cost of \$284,389.92, as part of the 2024 Bond.