

Sentinel Booster Club Meeting October 7, 2019

Attendees: Ann Bates, Andy Commons, Amy Dupras, Carlett Hogan, Sindie Kennedy, Dawn Podolske, Coryll Rupert, Cindy Sandau, Molly Stockdale, Susan Sullivan and Carla Woehler

Guests: Diego Hammett (Cross Country), Dan Lochridge (Girls Soccer), Braelin Small (Cheerleading), Gary Stein (Boys Soccer), Erin Keffeler (Volleyball)

Welcome and Introductions

Sports/Activity Updates

Erin Keffeler, Volleyball - Eighty girls tried out for the team this year. The team is made up of some great players, some of which are currently injured. They lost to Big Sky. The team travels to Kalispell to play Glacier tomorrow. Coach Keffeler anticipates a tough year. Hopefully, they will make it to the playoffs and reach the state tournament. At the least, Coach Keffeler hopes the team will be ceded in the top three in their division. Two new coaches have been added to the program to coach the JV and sophomore teams.

Dan Lochridge, Girls' Soccer - This is Coach Lochridge's second year coaching the program. Thirty-five players tried out for the team. Coach Lochridge was able to keep them all. So far, the team's games have all ended in a tie. They play Hellgate tomorrow. Currently, the team is in first place. The team has lost two players to season-ending ACL injuries. Nevertheless, the girls are keeping their spirits up.

Gary Stein, Boys' Soccer - Nearly 55 players tried out with 32 making the team (last year, Coach Stein kept 36 players but that was too many in terms of playing time). Coach Stein thanked the booster club for the support. The team has had challenges with fundraising in the past. The booster club's financial support helps. The team includes a lot of talented players who are playing well and are healthy. Finding time for all of them to play has been the hard part. They were on a winning streak but recently lost to Capital. They have four games left. The team plays Hellgate tomorrow. Next week they play Butte and then after that they travel to Kalispell. There is no tournament for soccer. Two teams in our conference are not doing well. The top two teams get an easier route to state. Coach Stein would like Sentinel to be in the top four if not the top two teams. Their regular season ends next week and then they start the playoffs. They need more local support next time they have a local game. If Missoula gets a chance to host a playoff game, it would be great to have more support. Dawn is helping as a freshman parent. The JV team is doing great; they have lost only two games. Cameron Ayers is the new JV coach.

Diego Hammett, Cross Country - The team started with 82 runners: 42 boys and 40 girls. They had a great season other than this last weekend at Butte (it was cold and snowing). Eight boys

graduated last year. Two senior boys are leading the boys' varsity team. Two of the girls on the girls' team are seniors. The future of the team looks bright. Thursday, they will be in Helena. The team has nine races. The JV team includes seven runners made up of girls and boys who run together. Sometimes the girls beat the boys. The JV team has two meets left. The team with the biggest fan base is Hellgate. It would be nice to see more Sentinel fans at the meets. The state tournament is in Great Falls this year. Sentinel has a shot. They have been injury free. Seven runners from each school get to run at state but Sentinel takes nine athletes, so we have two alternates.

Robotics - Molly Stockdale signed up to be the parent Spartner. She will attend future meetings.

Braelin Small - Cheerleading - She took over for Lisa, Katy and Kristin. This season is like night and day compared to last year. The team is made up of almost all sophomores and freshmen. The team includes one senior and two juniors, as well as three boys. The best thing they have going on is the head coach from Frenchtown, Hellgate, Big Sky and Hamilton have teamed up to do a showcase where the public can come and pay \$5 or a canned-food donation. MCPS is putting out a press release and it will be on the news. This year's team is very talented. Ann Bates is the Spartner. They have fulfilled their closet and meeting responsibilities.

Mission and Purpose of the Sentinel Booster Club

The booster club raises and distributes money to all sports and activities related to our Spartan community. We find room in our budget to help groups. This year we have partnered with a Purple Rush locker room renovation for the boys' locker room. This is a side fundraiser where folks can contribute. Construction will start in December. A GoFundMe effort is up and running. The district is helping with some of the costs as well.

September Minutes

Carla moved to approve the minutes. Amy seconded. All approved.

Treasurer's Report

August and September were lucrative which is normal. We have a lot of community/business sponsors. We are up from last year. We have included all the business sponsor names in a trophy case by the gym. Family memberships are also up this year. We have had good sales with the Spirit Store. This is how we fund our program.

At the end of the balance sheet, there is a \$20 discrepancy - in our favor. Amy will work on reconciling the discrepancy.

Andy asked when Amazon Smiles and BuzzPoints pays. They both only pay quarterly. Andy would like to get information to share with team parents. For Amazon Smiles, members can log in and search for the Sentinel Booster Club. It was explained that not all Amazon purchases qualify for an

AmazonSmiles donation. Amy will share more info about Buzz Points with Andy. Sindie suggested adding this information to the Sentinel Booster Club website and Facebook and Instagram pages.

The booster club is always looking for parents to work a Spirit Store shift. We need parents to work two separate shifts (it could be one parent that works two shifts).

Once October ends, the next shifts will likely be scheduled for December, as the fall sports seasons end. There might be a store opening in the beginning of November if there is a home game during tournaments.

We have opened the Spirit Store during the school-day lunch hour. A parent could sign up for one of those shifts. The store is also sometimes open during band concerts.

Fall Activities Report

Golf– The team went to the state tournament in Great Falls.

Cross Country - It has been very cold (see above).

Football– The varsity team is doing well: 5-1. Carlett did not know about JV. Freshman are doing well. They have had a few injuries. They are winning. She thinks the freshman team is 4-3 (they beat Big Sky 45-0 last week). This Friday they are playing Hellgate. Andy will work the store if it is open Friday.

Year-round Activities

Band - They marched and performed at the Sentinel Homecoming football game. They marched in the UM Homecoming Parade. They have a concert on Monday, October 14. They will start fundraising for future travel opportunities.

Orchestra - They have a concert in December. The All-state Orchestra members perform October 16-18 in Billings. There will also be a fall orchestra concert October 23 at 7PM.

Choir - They sounded lovely before the football game.

Cheer - Cheer and dance split responsibilities to perform during half-time at football games.

Dance - They performed during the UM Homecoming Parade along with the cheerleaders.

Robotics - The team raised a lot of money during their recent fundraising effort.

Speech and Debate - Last week was their first meeting. The team kick-off is the first weekend of November. Judges are needed for tournaments. The first tournament is November 15. Cindy will share the link for signing up to judge.

Drama - They have a play coming up for November 21, 22 and 23. The play's title is 26 Pebbles. It is based on Sandy Hook. Max tried out for a part and got it.

Old Business

Noodles & Company Fundraiser – The booster club made \$104. We could table at the restaurant next time to remind customers.

New Business

Boys' Locker Room - Money is coming in. The GoFundMe campaign has raised \$670, so far. The district is set with starting construction in December.

Spartner Representatives - We are asking for a parent representative from each activity who is willing to share program information with the booster club and, in turn, share booster-club information with coaches and parents. One of the main requests from the booster club is for parents to maintain the trophy cases. New trophy cases will be installed for band/orchestra/choir, speech and debate, cheerleading, etc. The trophy cases need to be updated and cleaned. So far, the boys' soccer and volleyball trophy have been cleaned and updated this year.

Amy will ask Lisa to provide a list of where we need Spartners.

Social Media - We are posting a lot on Facebook and Instagram. The booster club has a Snapchat account, but it is not active.

Sign-up for Buzz Points at Clearwater Credit Union and Amazon Smiles - Sindie will add information and links to the Sentinel Booster Club website. Information will also be added on social media accounts.

Other Business

The booster club has been asked to sell Montana High School Athletic Association programs this year during the state track meet and softball tournament. Because of these tournaments and the number of involved students, the district has modified the school schedule.

Andy announced the City Cross Country meet at Linda Vista was moved up by one day - Tuesday, October 15. Hellgate is hosting.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 11, 2019. 6:30 PM