

**Sentinel Booster Club
Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2018**

Attendees: Andy Commons, Amy Dupras, Gena Blahnik-Elliott, Carlett Hogan, Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, Sindie Kennedy and Dane Oliver

Guests: Lewis Nelson (Band), Ryan Davis (Orchestra), Gary Stein (Boys' Soccer)

Minutes: Amy made a motion to approve the October minutes. Carlett seconded. All approved.

Sports/Activity Updates:

Lewis Nelson - Band

The program just finished marching season. There was a concert in October. It went well. 400 people were in attendance. Pep band starts practicing next week, in preparation for basketball season. The symphonic band is preparing for the spring trip to New York for a performance at Carnegie Hall. The students are fundraising for that trip. The citrus fundraiser just ended. Fruit will arrive in December. Band participants will be very busy during second semester in preparation for the AA competition. There are 167 total band members making up three concert bands, jazz band (29) and the percussion ensemble. The Jazz Band is too big. We will need to break into two jazz bands next year. Mr. Nelson was very pleased with how well everything is going. He will be visiting the middle schools. It is great to see the 8th graders. The Band Booster Club meets the second Tuesday night each month. Julie Hiatt is the president.

Ryan Davis - Orchestra

They had a concert a couple of weeks ago. The auditorium is not currently available. Mr. Davis also teaches at Hellgate and is thinking about moving their holiday concert to Hellgate. He is excited to move into a new room. Construction is behind schedule. Apparently, there has an issue getting steel. The orchestra is not traveling this year. They traveled last year to Chicago. KPAX is doing a story on the Missoula Youth Symphony; there is great participation from Sentinel students. Orchestra and band kids participate. It is the only symphonic experience they can get. Mr. Davis has 80 students (two orchestras - intermediate and advanced). He splits his time between Sentinel and Hellgate. The students are all high achieving and have great attitudes.

Band and Orchestra have fulfilled their Booster Club obligations, and now each program can receive \$250.

Gary Stein - Boys Soccer

The program played a successful conference. They won their playoff game against Glacier. The team went to State. Overall, they came in 3rd place in the conference. Most of the players were positive about coming back next year. Gary is looking forward next year. The players and parents are great.

Mr. Oliver and the administration were very supportive and view the season as successful. Fifty students tried out; the team was made up of 36 players total (they started with 38, but there were two injuries at the start of the season). Mr. Stein tried to not have a split between varsity and JV; he wants one family. It is hard to do. There were no major injuries during the season. The players and the program are strong. No one in the conference liked playing Sentinel. He was impressed with the students. They understood they needed to leave money for the hotel housekeeping staff when they traveled. They carried themselves well when traveling and did a good job representing Sentinel. Two soccer parents signed-up for a closet shift. We need two boys' parents to work the closet.

Treasurer's Report:

Amy tried a different format. She created an expense and revenue report based on categories, then created a year-to-date report. She tried to do a budget based on the categories in the expense and revenue report.

The expenses category is expected expenditures. Amy does not think the amount for apparel/spirit wear is accurate at \$6,000. She used the check register to figure out what was spent.

She was able to find specific data related to the family booster membership. We made up the difference with the business memberships.

Pink Out Football done by Spartan Touchdown Club - There are pink shirts left over. They made around \$1,200. Dane would like to take on other causes. Football players do not really relate to breast cancer. Lisa suggested the booster club could do a generic pink shirt. The proceeds were donated to the cause. Next year, Dane wants the players to write a letter as to why they want to wear pink shirts. They do not understand or relate to the cause.

Button Making - we need to have expense and income in the budget. We want to get on it for basketball.

Everyone agreed Amy's reports are a good start.

Reimbursements for programs - cross country, football, girls' soccer, volleyball all have met requirements. Amy paid out for girls and boys soccer state tournaments.

Vote on Budget - itemize the difference between activity support from closet support and the state tournament payout. Sindie suggested waiting to raise the amount from \$5 to \$10 until we know more about that expense. Add that to a budget. Sindie suggested using this budget template for this year and then start next year with a formalized budget. There was no vote on the budget.

Booster Closet:

We have not had the closet open lately. We will start having the closet open again during basketball. We will try to open it during wrestling. The closet will be open on the 7th of December. Carlett asked if we have ordered any specialized shirts for the winter sports. Lisa reported we did not sell as much of the fall sports shirts. Lisa could ask the coaches. The students seem to be interested in the shirts; parents, not so much. Carlett thinks parents might want to have shirts for basketball. She bought a shirt for volleyball and other parents bought them. We can try to do basketball shirts.

November 24 - Craft Fair - could have the closet open. Could do it without having to pay a fee. 9-3.

Christmas sale - December 8 (Boys) and December 14 (Girls)

Fall Activity Report:

Soccer finished. Girls came in 4th place. Boys came in 6th place. Volleyball lost to Hellgate. Football lost their tie breaker and did not make the playoffs. Freshman and JV football were undefeated. Golf came in 2nd place. Cross Country beat Hellgate (first time in a long time). They lost one player due to illness. They ended the season in 8th place. Both soccer teams made state.

Year-Round Activity:

Speech and Debate - they had their first tournament in Kalispell and took 3rd overall. Andy's freshman daughter took 5th in her event. Eighty students traveled. They had to use two buses. This is the first time there were this many students. They are having a tournament in Missoula this weekend. They need judges. Anyone can be a speech and debate judge. The tournament is Friday night and Saturday. Judges can sign-up for as many slots as wanted. Ms. Brooks and Ms. Brit are the faculty advisors. Go to: www.missoulaspeechanddebate.com. Dane shared info with Lisa to share on Facebook.

Drama - they are rehearsing for It's a Wonderful Life, which is opening November 30 at Hellgate. They are practicing in the Orchestra pit. They will have a musical in the spring. They are doing How to Succeed at Business. Amy will try to get Ms. Cassidy here for the next meeting to give us a report.

Choir - the Spartanaires performed at Meadow Hill the other day.

Dance - Getting ready for basketball season. They were invited to perform at the Globetrotters event the end of November. Rachel wanted Gena to talk about the cross-town event - there is a meeting this Thursday at 3 room 225 (Lisa will try to go). Dane emailed Nick, the Hellgate Athletic Director to attend. He asked the student government at Hellgate to participate. Target date for the game is January 19. The dance team performed at the volleyball tournament. It went well, but there was a lot of waiting.

Robotics - the adviser will attend a future booster club meeting. Robotics has a t-shirt gun, but it cannot be used because it violates rules. Gena suggested shooting out footballs. This is prohibited too.

Old Business:

Snapchat - let it go by the wayside. No one is using it.

Increasing Per Student Rate - There was a discussion about Increasing the per student rate from \$5 to \$10 for state tournaments - when programs fulfill their Booster Club obligations. Amy feels it is feasible. Dane wonders if there is a way to do a project that is more beneficial. We did the trophy cases. That was Phase I. Phase II is the hall of fame and the Gatorade Player of the Year. The students have a good state experience. Dane suggesting continued to provide \$5 per student and do something else to support the programs (instead of increasing the per student amount). Invest the money in something more permanent. Dane will bring some ideas. Sindie asked if the Booster Club could receive some credit for contributions.

Trophy Cases - what do we want to do about updating them? Dane would like to see some pictures of last year's graduating seniors. The new football equipment coach could take this on. Carlett updated volleyball. We need a parent rep for each program who would take on this duty. Dane needs to send an email to the team reps. Dane asked that emails from the booster club go to him for him to distribute to parents. What has worked in the past is for Dane to email a parent directly. Lisa has success emailing coaches directly and asking them to find a parent. Carlett has the pictures on a flashdrive. Are there boundaries for what can and cannot be done in the trophy cases? The main boundaries are with materials and supplies used for attaching items to the cases.

Gena asked if there could be trophy cases or bulletin boards for other activities. There is a case for the Speech and Debate team. There are bulletin boards throughout the school that are designated for different activities. They are used for relaying information. Trophy cases are for MHSA-sanctioned sports. We could combine cheerleading and dance, etc. It is not too hard to add cases or bulletin boards to the school walls. There should be a place to display for every activity. Sindie wondered if there is enough interest and motivation. Everyone felt there is interest. We could combine Band and Orchestra, Dance and Cheerleading and Choir. We should have performing arts displays near the theatre.

Next Monday is Winter Sports Meeting.

Depository for Graduation Gowns - a parent reached out to the booster club and suggested graduation gowns be donated to the booster club and distributed for free to students in need. Where would we store them? Basement? We could incentivize the students by giving them a gift certificate.

New Business Posters have been displayed. We are supposed to do a vinyl banner. We could ask Monique to do that. Carlett will get the logos. We cannot hang anything in the gym. It could be hung above the booster closet. We need to know what type of file Monique needs and we need to determine the size of the banner. We want it to be the width of the door. We could add “Thank you for sponsoring the Booster Club.” Lisa will ask Monique about that. It would be nice to have it displayed by the start of basketball.

We still need parent reps for other activities.

Next Meeting: December 10, 2019