

Sentinel Booster Club Meeting December 2, 2019

Attendees: Gina Blahnik-Elliott, Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, Sindie Kennedy, Carlett Hogan, Dawn Podolske, and Molly Stockdale

Guests: Karen Deden (Girls' Basketball) and Jessica Franks (Choir)

Welcome and Introductions

Sports/Activity Updates

Jessica Franks, Choir – Ms. Franks was excited to see all the activities the Sentinel Booster Club supports. The choir performs one concert per quarter. They recently traveled to the AA Choir Festival in Great Falls for two days and joined other AA choirs. The choir performed on their own and then as a group with the other choirs. This is the time of year the Sparty's are singing everywhere. They sang at Washington and Meadow Hill Middle Schools and will visit other middle schools, to include Lolo and Bonner. They sang during the MCPS retirees' luncheon. The choir will sing for the Sunrise Rotary Meeting. They have an ugly sweater tour coming up in December. Sparty's are singing December 8 on the steps of the Dennison Theatre prior to the holiday symphony concert. The group does have financial needs, including a need for festival fees for students that audition for something outside of the program budget. An example is the UM All-star Honor Choir (a three-day festival in January). Two of the students need help financially. It is about \$100 for each. Ms. Franks could possibly scrape that amount together for them. Fees for students is a one-off thing. Next year is their travel year. They go to Seattle. Another need is addressing the need to cover glass doors to the choir room. The new choir room has three doors. It has one single door and double doors. They are clear glass door. For lockdowns, teachers are supposed to lock down their room. She has three giant clear glass doors and does not have a way to cover the glass. She could put up a curtain. It is the same situation for band (two double doors). Everyone thought this should be the district's responsibility to address. Every room is supposed to cover their windows. There are about 120 students in choir. Sparty is the elite group that includes 28 students - they perform from all genres. Charlotte Nelson, choir parent has offered to be a Spartner. Once choir parents work two spirit stores shifts, the program will get \$250.

Karen Deden, Girls' Basketball - this is coach Deden's 20th year. This year's team is young; however, it does include some solid varsity players. Coach Deden is very excited about the season, which starts this Friday with JV and the sophomore/freshman. The varsity team travels to Billings for the next two games. This is the first time they will only play three games before Christmas. January/February is when they have most of their games.

The team sponsors families at Christmas time. They do not know the names of the families, but usually they have three families. The players contribute money and put it in a pool and divide it up.

It is amazing what they contribute to the families. They have two hours to purchase the gifts. They wrap all the presents. It helps the students develop empathy. The JV and Varsity teams always seem to have the needed funds. Members of the freshman and sophomore teams are all low-income. Students of the program have done this for 12 to 15 years. The students learn to manage money and be tactful. Lisa asked for pictures to post on the booster club Facebook page.

Karen only fundraises every other year. They worked the Cowboy Ball. The basketball parents worked valet parking. The students provided direction to attendees. Pete Joseph ran an AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) basketball tournament last weekend. He offered it to Sentinel. Jay's kids referee and work the score table. Karen's players worked the entrance and collected fees. They also raised funds through GoFundMe. She coordinated this opportunity for the athletes who were not part of the other fundraisers. They get enough funding through these efforts. The team will need uniforms next year. Somebody donated black uniforms. The district counted that as part of the new uniforms. They will get white uniforms next year. The AU basketball tournament - Pete Joseph is the freshman coach and social studies teacher. He used all four high schools. All the students worked it. Parents did not have to do anything.

Karen thinks she could find one more parent to work a spirit store shift. The booster club will start selling Battle of the Goat shirts early - December 20, which is a basketball game. The booster club will sell shirts.

Michelle Manning could not be here.

Mission and Purpose of Sentinel Booster Club

Raise and distribute money for the benefit of Sentinel students; promote Sentinel internally and within the community; facilitate trophy cases; offer scholarships. Cheer on our Sentinel students!

November Meeting Minutes

Correction - change spelling - Theresa McGear

Girdie the Goat- change spelling

Gina made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Molly seconded. All approved.

Treasurer's Report (Amy Dupras)

Amy could not make it.

Purple Rush Lock Room Update - no update this month.

Closet Sales (winter sports night, Sentinel craft show)

For closet sales, the closet store was open during the Winter Sports Meeting and the craft fair; the booster club earned around \$650.

Donations - \$250 to cheer for uniforms; \$250 to dance for stolen pom poms (VOTE). Lisa made a motion to spend \$250 for cheer and \$250 for dance. Carlett seconded. All approved.

Spirit Store Updates

Lisa has not yet added spirit store shifts for basketball yet. There is only one home game in December (20th). Dance and choir will get the first opportunity to work a shift. Dawn will serve as the Spartner for boys' basketball. They need to work one shift.

Battle of the Goat - last year the event included a girls' basketball game and a boys' basketball game, both played at Sentinel. This year the game will be held at the Adam's Center at the University of Montana. Both schools choose a theme and dress-up accordingly. The event is a spirit contest that focuses on crowd response. Karen suggested student athletes could buy purple t-shirts and write something on them. It is like the Battle of the Brawl. The dance team and band are involved. Lisa Anderson is in charge. Last year, Sentinel students did not know they should dress up. Hellgate went all out last year.

The booster club will start selling the goat shirts December 20 during the girls' basketball game. Jeremy LaPorte, wrestling coach has a graphics design business and has made the design. The booster club will not make transfers. Marria will do it. It was cheaper to have Marria do two transfers (front and back). Jeremy works with Marria. The shirts will be short-sleeved. Hellgate will have their own design and will sell the shirts for the same price. Gina wondered if Karen understands that every Sentinel supporter needs to wear the same shirt and part of the contest is about the number of shirts sold. Carlett suggested taking pictures and getting it out. The design is supposed to be a secret until the game. The Rock Jam theme is Sentinel's theme (Hellgate will have their own theme).

Winter Activity Report

Boys' Basketball - the teams have been practicing for a couple of weeks. The Sophomore and Freshman players scrimmage against each other. The Senior and Junior players scrimmage against each other. The teams are travelling the first two months. The teams will play at home during the last month of the season. The Freshman team includes 14 players; the Sophomore team has 13 players; and JV and Varsity teams both have 10 players. A lot of players tried out; not all made a team. Everyone is staying in their grade. There might be some sophomores going up to JV. It is a strong program. They are hoping the AAU tournament will continue. This was the first year.

Girls' Basketball - see above

Wrestling - no report. Jeremy will come next time (January 13)

Swimming - the team has a new coach, Morgan Zimmer (Lisa will invite her to a meeting)

Year-round Activity Report

Band - all bands will perform at a concert next Tuesday. Members of the bands are selling citrus and coffee to raise funds for future travel. Band members are getting ready to perform in pep band. The Jazz Band is travelling to a festival in February in Moscow, Idaho.

Orchestra - they will perform a concert next week. A citrus fundraiser is happening. The orchestra will travel to Seattle April 23-26.

Choir - see above

Cheerleading - the team is getting new uniforms. There is a cheerleading competition in Missoula this week.

Dance - the team is working on new dances for the basketball season. Dance is now sanctioned for the first time. The team is considered part of the athletic program. They are looking for ideas on how to volunteer and contribute to the community. There is a new trophy case that will be split between dance and cheer. Molly explained the robotics team has a community service requirement as part of the national robotics organization; the team is required to do volunteer work. They will help with empower packs at the food bank, for instance. The dance team wants to give back to the school. Rachel set-up opportunities for students to teach dance to young children.

Drama - they had a good show.

Robotics - next Monday, the 9th, the Robotic Team has a fundraiser at Noodles & Co. They raised \$700 at the Sentinel Craft Fair. They will sell at the Big Sky Craft Fair this coming weekend. The students make metal art (key ring holders). There is a team that does the cad work (design) and a team that works the plasma cutter. This year, students designed Christmas ornaments with electronics. There is a team that is specifically doing electronics works. They do the wiring and soldering and assemble the ornaments. They are raffling off a custom fire ring. Raffle tickets are \$10; the team is only selling 100 tickets. Molly can sell tickets. The booster club could promote the raffle on Facebook. This year, the team will only go to one competition. The entry fee is \$5,000 for each competition. One of the team mom's is trying to do the restaurant fundraisers at least once per month. She is trying to coordinate them so it is when the students are meeting - so they can have dinner together.

Speech and Debate - the team has tournaments over the next two weekends. They travel to Kalispell this week and Great Falls the following week. Dawn encouraged attendees to judge; she has done it and really enjoyed it. Lisa asked for a schedule so she can add info to the Sentinel Booster Club Facebook page. The schedule is on the Speech and Debate page.

Old/Ongoing Business

Trophy Cases - the Robotics case will be outside the new STEM center. It will include plaques. Molly asked if there are any restrictions. Lisa and Carlett indicated they do not know of any restrictions. Carlett suggested the Robotics group get a picture of the group for their trophy case. Nothing should be nailed or permanently added to the trophy cases. The office and booster club always have a key. We need a trophy case for Girdie the Goat.

New Business

- Report from Principal, Ryan Rettig - no report this month
- Vinyl installation on east-side doors happening December 5. It will take up all six doors off the Bancroft parking lot. Sign Pro will do the installation.
- Selling 50/50 tickets at the Jug Beck Wrestling tournament (Sindie did it last year and has some good tips). The tournament is the weekend of January 17-18, 2020.
- Battle of the Goat, January 31 - see above for an update on shirts.
- Track and Field fundraiser - Meagher Bar December 30, 6PM to close; 20% of all sales. Booster club to get out the word for the event.
- Spartner parent representatives for winter/spring sports. The booster club needs one for wrestling and swimming. Potentially for FIT. We have Computer Science Spartner. Could Dan Lande come and talk with us about Computer Science? Wendy Deaton has a swimmer. Carlett could ask her.
- Coffee Cart - the Life Skills program runs it and takes the proceeds. Carlett asked about the concession stand. This is also run by the Life Skills teacher. Paula in the office handles the paperwork. She gets groups to sign up.
- Sign-up for Buzzpoints at Clearwater Credit Union, use AmazonSmiles and select Sentinel Booster Club

Athletic Director Report

No report this month.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 13 at 6:30 PM