

**Sentinel Booster Club  
Meeting Minutes  
September 10, 2018**

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

**Guests:** Dan Lochridge (Girls Soccer) and Diego Hammett (Cross Country)

**Welcome and Introduction:**

The Sentinel Booster Club Board and all attendees introduced themselves.

**Sports/Activity Updates:**

**Dan Lochridge - Girls Soccer**

The team has played three games so far, to include a game against Big Sky that was cut short due to lightning. That game will be rescheduled. Coach Lochridge started coaching the girls' soccer team this year, transitioning from boys' soccer. The team has nine games left to play. He is optimistic about the varsity and JV teams. Several girls are competing for goalkeeper. The team plays nine regular season games and could play in the playoffs. Coach Lochridge is loving the switch.

**Diego Hammett - Cross Country (Girls and Boys)**

The team includes 38 boys and 33 girls. The team has already had a meet in the Flathead. The varsity and JV boys' teams placed first; girls placed second. The boys' team is loaded with seniors. One freshman made the varsity team. The girls' team has a lot of freshman and sophomores. It is a big learning curve for them. An average of 20 students per day train in the weight room and run. Hellgate is Sentinel's biggest cross-town competition. The girls could place third or fourth in the state. On the boys' side, the goal is to win a city championship and a state title. It will likely come down to Sentinel and Bozeman. The team has a meet this Saturday. Coach Hammett invited every team in the region to come. It is a 5K race. The big tournament for the team is Mountain West. There is usually a spaghetti feed September 29 (the last Saturday of September) for the runners from around the state. It is a chance for them to check out the course. This is Coach Hammett's 4th season with the team. Team members are committed to Coach Hammett's vision.

**Dane Oliver - Football**

Coach Oliver reported that the JV team is 2-0 and the varsity team is 2-1. The varsity team had a tough game in Great Falls. It was a heartbreaker. The homecoming game will be in the Washington Stadium this year. It is always big fun. This game will generate revenue for the Booster Club and the athletics department. There are 108 players in the program, representing grades 9-12. Forty players are freshman.

**Mission and Purpose of Sentinel Booster Club (SBC):**

Lisa shared the mission and purpose of the 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; and cheer on our Sentinel students.*

Lisa reported the booster club helped with the cost of trophy cases and facilitated a contest to get them decorated. The SBC generates revenue by selling spirit gear and clothing, collecting family membership dues, obtaining business partnerships and selling 50/50 tickets at home games. The revenue is used to offer two annual scholarships and support participating teams and activities throughout the school year.

**May 2018 Minutes:** Amy made a motion to approve the May 2018 minutes; Lisa seconded. All approved.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Amy would like to create a budget. So far, we have spent funds on refilling the helium tank, spirit apparel and gear, divisional track t-shirts, the scholarships and closet shifts (fulfilled last year). At this point, since the end of August the income generated has been from family membership fees, business partnerships and apparel sales. Amy has more membership fees to record. Amy reported Square sales for the divisional track meet were over \$1,100. There was a deposit around \$3,100 after the meet. Amy cannot verify that all of the deposits were from the divisional track meet.

Coach Oliver explained the divisional track meet happens every three years. There is not another event like that happening this year. Next year, we will have divisional basketball. Billings always gets state wrestling and Bozeman always get state volleyball. Coach Oliver has argued that Billings and Bozeman should not get any other state tournaments because they always get wrestling and volleyball. His lobbying has not resulted in any changes.

**Booster Club Closet** – The SBC has sold spirit gear and apparel at five events so far to include home volleyball and football games. The SBC hosted an online order for sales where parents could purchase t-shirts for band, football, volleyball and soccer. Carlett sent a message to the volleyball coaches to distribute to parents, and, as a volleyball parent, she received the first email but did not receive a second email from the coaches reminding parents of the upcoming deadline.

The SBC Closet will be open this Wednesday for open house. The SBC will try to have the closet open for the Thursday volleyball game and will be open at the Griz stadium for homecoming. It is a big event for the booster club. Sindie asked if we can get more people to help with selling 50/50 tickets at the homecoming game. Lisa explained we want parents to work closet shifts and/or sell 50/50 tickets. Volunteers can sign-up online.

### **Fall Activity Report**

**Golf**- Jack Johnson is doing very well. The team needs more players; they need another girl. The team is doing well. The boys won this past weekend.

**Boys Soccer** - Coach Stein is the new head coach. The team beat Big Sky 8-0 and lost to Helena High. They beat Capital.

**Volleyball** - a lot of the team members graduated last year. The dynasty may have ended. The Butte game went well. All Sentinel teams won. There is a freshman, sophomore, JV and varsity team. All four teams travel. Some teams take their A team and a B team to out-of-town games. The sophomore team lost; JV and varsity won. They go to Helena tomorrow to play Capital. They will play Helena High on Thursday and play Bozeman on Saturday. They are doing well. They had an invitational tournament in Great Falls; they placed 4th.

### **Year-Round Activity Reports**

**Band** - marching band had their first practice this last Saturday. They will march during halftime at the Sentinel homecoming game and will march in the UM homecoming parade. Pep band will play at home football games.

**Cheerleading** - the team has a new coach. They are looking good.

**Dance** - they have had a slow start. They have been practicing. They will do an 80s throwback dance for homecoming.

**Speech & Debate** has not started.

**Drama** - will start auditioning next month. They are doing *It's a Wonderful Life* around Christmas time.

### **New Business**

**Business Partnerships/Family Memberships** - The booster club is looking for new business partners. The form to sign up to be a business partner is on the website. Booster club members are asked to share the form with any businesses that might want to be a partner. The booster club can now accept family membership payments online.

**50/50 Tickets** - we need more people to help with selling 50/50 tickets at football games.

**Parent Reps for each Sport/Activity** - SBC needs parent reps from each sport and activity. We need a coach or faculty representative to come to monthly meetings and give an update about their sport or activity and we need parents to sell 50/50 tickets or work spirit gear closet shifts.

**SBC on Social Media** - We have Facebook, Instagram and Snap Chat accounts. Amy is posting to Instagram, but not so much to SnapChat. Lisa posts on Facebook. We need student help with Snap Chat.

Sindie announced we have a Remind account. We are still trying to figure out how to effectively utilize the online tool.

**Buzz Points** - Missoula Federal Credit Union has a program called Buzz Points. Members of the credit union can sign-up for the program and get points when they spend money at participating vendors. People can select SBC as the cause they want to support and SBC will get a percentage of the sale from participating vendors.

**Noodles & Company Fundraiser** is on Sept. 26 from 4 to 9.

#### **Athletic Director Report – Coach Dane Oliver**

Things are settling with construction. Coach Oliver does not have an office right now.

The school is hosting a bonfire tonight for homecoming week. There are a lot of activities going on this week, including home games.

Coach Oliver is trying to grow the cross-country meet.

Several expansion coaches were added this year. The cross country, girls' soccer and volleyball programs all raised funds to support expansion coaches. We are trying to match the coaching with the participation. Expansion coaches receive a \$1,500 stipend. The head coaches either have to cut their team or fundraise to have an expansion coach. Coach Oliver tries to cover half of the cost with revenue generated from other athletic programs. The revenue raised from entry fees, or the like support the costs of expansion coaches, uniforms, etc.

Sindie asked about the status of the district continuing to host the SBC website. Coach Oliver did not know anything about the website going away. He suggested Sindie email him and ask that he check into it.

Gina asked about using GoFundMe for fundraising. The dance program did some fundraising last year with GoFundMe, as did volleyball and girls soccer. Coach Oliver did not have any concerns with using GoFundMe.

Next meeting: Monday, October 8 at 6:30 PM