

## **Sentinel Booster Club Meeting**

### **October 9, 2017**

**Attendees:** Kim Brown, Deb Gass, Sindie Kennedy, Marria Hegel, Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, Liana Messer, Dane Oliver and Carl Woehler.

**Guests:** Diego Hammett, Lewis Nelson

### **September Meeting Minutes**

Liana Messer motioned to approve the minutes. Marria Hegel seconded the motion. All approved.

### **Introductions**

Diego Hammett, Track and Field - This year's Track and Field team is the biggest team Mr. Hammett has ever had: 64 runners. There is good depth with a lot of juniors and seniors. They are about three points away from being in the top three in the state. The majority of the girls on the team are freshman and sophomore. The future looks bright with the girls - with both teams.

The team runs all summer. Mr. Hammett is trying to build a running community. This is what it takes to be a top program in the state. He wants to be in the top five. The top teams right now are Hellgate and Bozeman. Sentinel hosted a meet at Fort Missoula. Kalispell was supposed to participate, but they had an issue with cyberterrorism. Darby was the only school to participate. Fort Missoula was very accommodating and the Parks and Rec Department was great to work with. Mr. Oliver would like to see this become a big event. Would like to get some band kids out there to play drums. Lewis Nelson offered to talk to his drum kids.

They have state coming up next weekend. They take nine guys and nine girls with two alternates on each team. Carla said it has been a tough season with the smoke. They had to run in the halls and the gym. Hopefully, they will get more training next summer.

Cross County parents worked the Spirit Closet during the last football game and have fulfilled their requirements. Kim explained we ask teachers/coaches to come in and speak about their programs. We ask two parents to work two closet shifts. Once fulfilled, the team will get \$250 from the Sentinel Booster Club.

Lewis Nelson, Sentinel Band: Mr. Nelson reported the band program has had a great start to the year. He is working on getting pep band together. The Pep Band performs at 10 to 15 games yearly. Last year, they performed at 20 games. Across town, the other schools do 15. The Sentinel Band program has been invited to go to Carnegie Hall in spring 2019. The cost will be somewhere between \$1,600 and \$2,000. First payment is due November 15. He will collect \$150 per month until the end of the year (the next payment will be in February). A lot of students want to go. Six bands across the nation were invited.

The Sentinel Band marched during a half-time show at a Sentinel football game. They were the only band, among local high schools, that marched during half time. They will march in the UM parade homecoming this weekend. They have a concert on October 17th. We want to get a fancy plaque from the governor. Hellgate got one before. They have a PayPal donate button on the web page. Kim has the link: <https://www.sentinelband.org/>. They spent \$1,000 on uniforms. Mr. Nelson had to buy pants, primarily, and needed to find people to hem the pants. He intends to replace equipment as it breaks. Mr. Nelson wants to buy a new drum line. The current drumline is from the 70s. The Tubas are from the 50s. As he fundraises, he will keep replacing equipment. Brass sousaphones cost about \$6,500.

The band program has fulfilled its requirements with Mr. Nelson reporting at a Booster Club meeting and band parents working the Spirit Closet or selling 50/50 tickets at games. (There was discussion as to whether Booster Club Board members should get credit for working the Booster Club closet or 50/50. The attendees agreed they should.)

### **Treasurer's Report**

Liana Messer reported family membership is way up from last year. We reached out to businesses from last year. We are still hurting a bit because of the cancelled football game. This past weekend was good. We sold roughly \$1,000 in spirit wear plus 50/50 sales.

We will open the Spirit Closet for orchestra and band concerts. We have a couple more games. We will have one more payment on the trophy display cases. Kim asked Lisa to contact Buffalo Wild Wings about a fundraising opportunity. Meagher Bar may be another option. They are doing a fundraiser for Hellgate. Buffalo Wild Wings might donate around 20% of their eligible sales. Other organizations that might donate a portion of their sales are Pizza Hut, Papa Murphy's or Five on Black. Lisa will contact these businesses.

Marria reported she has been opening the closet on Fridays. Most Fridays we don't sell anything. This last Friday, we did well because it was homecoming. It was also in the announcements last week.

One parent thought sending out info about the closet to parents would be helpful. We are trying to get more likes through Facebook. The district doesn't allow us to send out emails to parents very often. We need more Facebook likes. The closet opening can be better advertised. Marria is willing to come in on a special day and open the closet. We could open the closet on basketball game days and we could open sometime in early December for holiday shopping. The closet will be opened three more times in October. Dane will provide the winter sports schedule tomorrow.

There is a sign-up.com. It is on our webpage and Marria will share it on Facebook. This is where parents can sign-up for the closet and 50/50 shifts. We still need boys' soccer parents to work a

closet shift. Once the sport ends, it is hard to get parents involved. We never get golf. Carla will ask Kory Johnston. Golf is hard because the season is over soon after school starts.

### **Fall Sports**

Golf, Girls Volleyball, Soccer, Football

Football - Dane reported the team had a tough start to the year and they have a tough stretch ahead. They will be going to Billings and Helena. The freshman boys are very good. They have been winning a lot. The smoke was tough on all of the fall sports. Team records are based on a win/loss percentage, so missing the early game could impact the percentage. The boys are working hard and have a good attitude. Dane was pleased to look up in the stands during the last game and see a lot of Sentinel support.

The Booster Club makes most of its money at football games. Cancelling the first home game due to smoke was a big loss in revenue. Sindie asked if anyone let Hellgate know it was inappropriate to take over Sentinel's selling space during our homecoming game. Dane will communicate with the athletic director at Hellgate and make sure they are communicating with the other teams.

Girls Volleyball

Collette has a freshman, Katie (B team). She watches the B and varsity. They are doing well. Varsity got beat by Senior. They have some injuries this year. Dane expects them to play for a state championship. Their season ends the first week of November. They travel once per week. Next week they have the MCPS volleyball tournament during the MEA/MFT teachers' conference. It hurts attendance because it is during the MEA/MFT conference. Last year, Marria made a silkscreen for the state championship and made the shirts to order. We decided not to do that again this year because the sales did not make up for the work involved.

Dance

Deb indicated they are doing great. They had a lot of fun at the homecoming game. She does not know what else is set-up. There are 16 members. No freshman. They have four seniors that will graduate. One of the team members parent's bought their costumes this year. The coach will come to one of our meetings and then Dance will have fulfilled their Booster Club responsibilities.

Cheerleading - no parent representing cheer.

There are three cheer coaches. Lisa Anderson, Katie, Kirsten and ?. It has been a good structure.

Orchestra/Choir

Band has changed a lot. They are doing a fundraiser for the trip (selling fruit). They will be throwing out candy at the UM homecoming parade.

### **Old Business**

The board wants to want to do a program flyer this year to include business sponsors, similar to Big Sky's process. We need Dane's blessing. For team rosters, the business sponsors could be listed on the edges. We could include a blurb from the Athletic Director's Desk (or similar). We could also create a separate sheet to add as an insert with programs. Dane asked district leadership if the Booster Club could sponsor events. That is not an option. Dane is alright with the insert. We can get it in the Week 10 football game. We might need to work with Andrea to finalize the layout.

Lisa did an amazing job on the display board. We have some new businesses to add. Lisa can re-do the poster. There is a display board near the SpartaMart. There are two display boards. These boards are for Booster Club business sponsors. We are still using the glass-encased display boards but are using a poster instead of the white push-in letters.

We also have a new banner. It is too big to put on the Booster Club Closet. We might need a poster for the closet door.

The Facebook page and the website will include a schedule for Spirit Closet openings.

Getting the word out about membership - we are the only Booster Club that supports activities as well as sports. We started a \$250 scholarship that is awarded to seniors. We had two applications last year. Marria started doing a Facebook check-in for the closet so people can get a discount on their spirit wear purchase. Parents have to be members.

### **New Business**

Parent representatives - Marria has a list. Colette will be a parent rep for volleyball. Parent reps attend the meetings and reports back to the parents. The parent rep does not have to work the closet, but does need to coordinate parents to work the closet. In addition, we will be kicking off a trophy case contest. The new trophy cases have been installed. This is a project we have been working on since the beginning of the summer. This is something we felt the booster club could take on. Dane ordered the trophy cases. We want to have a decorating contest. We can set some guidelines for the contest. We want to keep everything current. We will have the staff members at the front desk judge them. The built-in trophy cases are for swimming and tennis. They will all have lights. We are having some electrical issues. We should have some former trophies included. We should have team pictures. Marria felt we should have some guidelines and then turn it over to the parents.

Deb suggested putting paper over the glass and have an unveiling. This could be a fundraising opportunity. Have the due date be late November (State Volleyball tournament). Deb asked if there is a fall assembly.

Liana asked if the Booster Club will pay for supplies. No. The Booster Club will buy prizes.

Dane passed out the trophy case invoice. There is a \$3,347.50 balance. The Booster club already paid \$4,000. Dane asked that it be paid as soon as possible.

Some ideas for the decorating contest included: Having the kids vote. Deb suggested having a popular vote and another vote (so the big teams don't always win). The prize will go to the club with the most votes. It was suggested to have two contests: One in the fall and in the spring.

The cases are based on the head coaches that are paid by the district. It is based on Montana High School Association sanctioned sports.

One parent asked about other activities besides athletics (e.g., band).

Decided to wait until early December. Opening weekend is December 1.

Kim asked if we could send a flyer to the coaches. Dane said we could if it is electronic. We need to get coaches to share it.

Requirements: team picture, pictures of current players, plaques, historic trophies (if any), school colors. We need rules about background (were there guidelines that came with the cases? Dane will look into it). No nails. Sticky tape. Command hooks, etc.

Deb will take care of the paper covers on the glass. She will work with Dane.

Prize ideas: \$50 to the popular vote; \$50 to staff vote.

### **Athletic Director's Report**

Dane Oliver: He is excited about the trophy cases. He appreciates the work the Booster Club is doing. Everyone thanked Dane for the work he has done. He feels we have had a good start to the year.

Concessions at the football game are managed by the district. If we are frustrated by the concessions, email Dane and he will forward it. Paula in the office is in charge of concessions for all sports except football.