

Minutes of East High Booster Club Meeting
June 16, 2008

Present: Deb Amundson, Leigh Ellen Caro-Leverich, Deb Cerra, Kari Douglas, Ann Halbach, Alan Harris, Jill Jokela, David Kapp, Barb Kyle, Cindy Maitland, Ruth Mathe, Sherry Miner, Peter Oppeneer, Mike Park, Cathy Pierce, Chris Ramsey, Kathy Scholl, Vern Scholl, Jean Schroeder, Judith Strand, Paul Strommen, Jill Wanke, Faye Kubly, Stephen McKenzie, Tyler Cleveland

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Ann Halbach. The minutes of the May 19th meeting were approved.

Principal's Report:

Mr. Harris reported that the East graduation ceremony went really well. East always has a very formal and dignified ceremony and this year's speaker, retiring custodian Jim Ely, did a really nice job. Ann and other senior booster parents thanked administration and staff for the great graduation for our kids.

Mr. Harris also related his experience attending boys' tennis team state tournament and watching Johnny Schwerin come back on Friday night to win his match that allowed the team to advance. There were lots of East students in attendance to support Johnny and cheer him on to victory. It was a really memorable experience for those who were there to see it.

A question was asked as to how the outcome of the union grievance regarding the athletic director positions would affect East for next year. Mr. Harris explained that the arbitrator's decision in favor of the union, that the former athletic directors were entitled to their positions, affects only the athletic directors that were in place previously. The district is also considering filing an appeal. They are still sorting it out, but the district is committed to having the AD positions be administrators who are able to evaluate coaches. This is really important in being able to move programs forward. The new superintendent has the same approach; Kurt Gundlach was hired away from MMSD to Green Bay into an administrative AD position up there. The current AD's have contracts for next year, so Dave Kapp will continue to be the AD for East and LaFollette and Tim Svendson will continue to be the AD for West and Memorial. At this point, it looks like the worst case scenario is that they will each have an assistant if the former AD's choose to return to their positions. Jim Pliner (LaF) and Rick Raatz (East) have already indicated that they are not interested and will be moving on to other things; Boyce Hodge (West) and Tim Ritchie (Memorial) haven't indicated their plans. The long term outcome will be addressed in the fall. The district will file to permanently establish the ADs as non-union positions. Currently, in the MTI contract, the AD's are part of the teacher bargaining unit and can only do athletic director duties. So, as far as East goes, it's business as usual with Dave Kapp as AD for next year.

A question was asked by the baseball parents regarding the availability of the coaches' evaluation form. It was noted that MTI is holding up the process of putting a formal evaluation tool in place because they don't feel that coaches should be evaluated. However, booster parents are free to work directly with a coach to do an evaluation for formal feedback from parents. Steve McKenzie asked if the evaluation tool can be shared with parents. Dave Kapp said that his expectations for all coaches are compiled in the booklet that he gives coaches and are highlighted in the preseason coaches meetings. Dave will email this material to Jill to share with booster parents. He indicated that getting the formal district coach evaluation in place is going to be difficult given MTI's position, but they continue to work on it.

AD Report:

Spring sports have all completed competition. The East boys' tennis state runner-up finish was awesome. It was a great tournament, despite being interrupted by severe weather threats a couple of times. Dave is reviewing the coaching list and will have several new coaches and some vacancies to fill for next year.

A new WIAA rule regarding club sports has been proposed, attempting to restrict how many players from a single high school team can participate on the same club team. The rule was tabled, based on initial complaints, and likely won't be implemented for next year, but for the following year.

Spring Sports Reports:

Baseball – Deb Amundson

- Varsity was 9 – 7 for season; JV won 3; Freshmen won 2
- There were 4 All Conference players – Danny Amundson, Max Strommen, Jake Page, and Sam Topping; Sam and Danny were also All City and were selected to play in the high school baseball coaches' association All Star tournament in June.
- There will be junior and senior legion teams this summer
- A strong group of senior players is leaving; but there is also a strong group of incoming 9th graders
- The baseball banquet was held at Pooleys and was very good.

Boys Golf – Stephen S

- No report

Girls Soccer – Judith

- Two girls made All City – Angel Garcia and Sarah Czechowicz
- Sarah and Brooke Raimond were All Conference
- Coaches are hosting a camp this week at Demetral for K – 8 soccer girls; 25 kids attended today
- The girls are planning to train with Chad Gunnelson this summer
- Judith is contacting incoming freshmen families and sending emails over the summer to keep in contact with everybody.

Softball – Jill J (in relief for Kathy Monson)

- Ended season with a loss to Waunakee in the playoffs by 1 run in extra innings
- Banquet at Pedro's was good; Coach Rick Monson recognized the kids who were on honor roll, in addition to recognizing athletic accomplishments; that was a very nice touch
- Dave presented Coach Rick's written request to replace our current helmets. The helmets do not meet standards due to changes in WIAA regulations; the noncompliance is due to the way the facemask is fastened on and was noted by a ref at one of the games this year; continued noncompliance could result in potential forfeits of games.
- Dave indicated that 30 new helmets at \$24 a piece will cost \$720; and it is cheaper to buy new helmets than to refurbish and recertify the old ones at \$17.95 per helmet plus shipping.
- There was general consensus that this was a reasonable and safety-related request that merited approval, although some folks are uncomfortable entertaining funding requests at every meeting, which is what seems to be happening lately. Dave noted that the helmet should last for 3 – 5 years and 30 was the price break point. Dave indicated that it really needed to be done and if booster club did not fund the request he would have to find money for it elsewhere. A motion was made, seconded and approved to fund Rick's request to replace the helmets.

Boys Tennis – Sherry

- As previously noted, the boys were State Runners-up; it was a great year
- Next year will be a rebuilding year; losing some great senior talent and an excellent exchange student; and it's questionable as to whether all underclassmen will be coming back
- Enthusiastic group of younger boys are playing a lot in the offseason
- Banquet at Pedro's was a good experience; very reasonably priced with a semi-private room
- Coach Jamey is not planning on returning next year; assistants may not either
- There is a good group of incoming 9th graders for next year

Boys/Girls Track – Jill W

- Lindsey Parker took 5th in pole vault at State
- The girls 3200 relay broke the East team record by 13 seconds
- The boys 3200 relay also broke the team record and took Gabe Jennings off the record board!
- The banquet at the Eastside Businessmen's Club was well attended and reasonable. ESBM has a reasonable high school rate of \$11/person.

Committee/Officer Reports:

Treasurer's Report – Ruth

- Ruth inquired as to who deposited \$1362 on June 5th; Cindy thinks it is her spirit wear deposit from the last Thursday and Friday sale
- Cindy still has \$60 in cash on hand for spirit wear sales
- Cathy deposited the \$300 cash on hand for concessions, along with the proceeds from the alumni tournament.
- A huge "thank you" to Ruth for everything she has done this year to organize the books. Ruth graciously agreed to get the taxes done this summer before handing off the job to the next, yet to be name, booster club treasurer.

Nominees for New Treasurer

- So far, we have no nominees for the new treasurer. We need somebody soon. If you know of someone who would make a good treasurer and who may be interested, please encourage them to contact Ann.

Concessions – Vern/Peter

- Planning is underway for fall football concessions; Peter will coordinate getting teams to work; home dates are: Sept 5 - Warner Park night, Sept 26 - Homecoming, Oct 10 – Parents night, Oct 27 (Wed) - last game
- Sept 5 game – Boys Cross-county volunteered for early shift; Girls track for late shift
- Sept 26 game – Boys basketball volunteered to work
- Wednesday, August 27th is All Sports night; 6:30 in the spec gym, may split into two groups
- The concessions committee will meet between now and then; Current committee consists of Peter, Vern, Cathy, Kathy, Cindy, and Barb. More concession committee members are needed.

Golf Outing Committee – Ann

- The Golf Outing is scheduled for Monday, August 25th.
- Brochures will be coming out soon; they will be sent to current booster club members and previous golf outing participants. The brochure will also be available on the website.
- We need donations from booster reps for the raffle or auction and will be keeping track to make sure every sport contributes something. Cash donations also accepted.

New Business:

District Sports Participation Numbers for 07-08 – Jill

- Jill handed out participation numbers to peruse. There were ups and downs in participation, depending on sport; football was down 22 players from the previous year, baseball was up 22, girls cross country was down 13, girls' soccer was up 22; overall participation was down a little.
- A concern was raised about participation and academic issues; the current athletic code doesn't support students as much as it could to help reinforce academics and maintain eligibility.

State Championship Banners - Jill

- Jill proposed that booster club consider funding championship banners for the pool and tennis courts for this year's girls swim and boys tennis teams; booster clubs typically fund these types of requests at other schools
- Jean volunteered to head up a committee to work on this; potential committee members are Fay, Jill, and Sherry.

Booster Reps for next year – Jill J

- We still need sports reps for next year for: Boys Hockey, Spirit Squad, Boys Tennis, Wrestling, and Dance Team (if that continues).

Old Business:

Boys Volleyball Funding Request – Tyler Cleveland

- Tyler presented his request for new volleyball uniforms; 24 jerseys for both teams; 17 shorts for varsity for sure; if more shorts are needed for JV, they will fundraise. Price includes lettering and numbering; no shipping charges if we pick it up.
- Current inventory has 3 sets of uniforms; one really old set, one newer gold set with only 4 uniforms, and last year's purple JV uniforms
- 14 kids showed up for initial team meeting; tryouts will be in late August
- Cindy asked about what happens to jerseys that disappear. Dave indicated that coaches need to follow up and report an obligation for students who don't turn in jerseys in order to get the money back. A question was asked as to where the money collected goes, since the checks are written to East High. Alan will have to check with Gloria on that.
- A motion was made, seconded and approved to grant Tyler's request for uniforms from Impact Sports for up to \$1000 plus shipping.
- It was noted that Tyler is a very organized and enthusiastic coach. Parents and kids had a great experience with Tyler for freshmen basketball.
- Dave reported that he is working with Richard Lyons to implement a better equipment inventory process and that return of equipment will be part of the coaches' evaluation. Someone mentioned that they observed a senior wearing a soccer jersey at graduation party. Dave intends next year's inventory process to be much more effective. Barb mentioned that she thought it had started improving this year. A suggestion was made to make sure that the inventory is whole before we approve funding requests for next year; an inventory checklist needs to be included with the request form.

Special Funding Requests – Dave Kapp

- Bleacher – movable bleachers are on the back burner for now
- Wind Screens – will need to be replaced in a year or two according to maintenance staff
- Scoreboards – back to square one, but can wait on this; the district will not fund new scoreboards; the controversy over scoreboard ads has led to moratorium on new ad projects for now because of complaints; need to talk to someone on the Board, perhaps Ed Hughes, about options for replacing the field house board; upgrade to LED board could last 15 years.

Status of FMPS Interest & DVD Equipment Request – Peter & Cathy

- Peter said the interest has been set aside and will be available in September.
- Cathy will write a request in September to use the money to fund the DVD equipment.

For the Good of East Athletics:

Boys' basketball tournament – Mike Park

- Tournament was a big success. 26 teams from all over participated and everybody had a great time and good experience. 30+ East kids participated. The tournament was worked around the Badger Sporting Goods schedule so there wasn't a conflict. Raised enough money to pay for

summer programming and will share some profit with booster club. Planning to host another tournament at winter break. The East Varsity got 2nd in the tournament.

A big thanks to Ruth Mathe and Chris Ramsey, our outgoing booster club senior parents in attendance for their final meeting.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held in the East LMC on **Monday, August 18th, at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Jokela, Recording Secretary