

Minutes of East High Booster Club Meeting
February 18, 2008

Present: Kari Douglas, Cheryl Parzych, Alan Harris, Jill Jokela, Barb Kyle, Cindy Maitland, Dan Wanke, Ruth Mathe, Peter Oppeneer, Karen Kennedy-Parker, Jim Penczykowski, Chris Ramsey, Steve Stephenson, David Krause, Jean Schroeder, Sherry Miner, Cathy Pierce, Dave Kapp, Sharon Redinger

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Peter Oppeneer. The minutes of the January 28th meeting were approved.

Principal's Report:

Mr. Harris reported that the year is moving along smoothly. Students are currently selecting their courses for next year. Overall, East will be losing about 120 students next year, due to a large senior class graduating and a small incoming 9th grade.

The East High United meeting on March 13th will address the topic of athletics and will begin the dialogue with the community on improving and/or enhancing the athletic programs. Coaches have been instructed that they should have open door policies and work with parents on getting better as whole programs. Athletics is an area that Mr. Harris thought would be further along at this point in his tenure as principal, but having 3 AD's in 3 years has inhibited making as much progress as he would have liked. Coaches need to hear in a constructive way how to improve their programs and move forward.

AD Report:

Dave Kapp gave a brief update on winter sports. Wrestling and boys hockey have completed their seasons. Basketball playoffs start on Tuesday.

The varsity soccer coach vacancy should be posted by the end of next week. Any MMSD employee who applies gets an interview if they meet the qualifications.

Dave was asked about the meetings that are held at the middle schools to talk to 8th graders about participating in East athletics. Dave said he was only able to get to Sherman so far, since the scheduled meetings with Black Hawk and O'Keeffe students had been snowed out. Some incoming parents have expressed concerns about not knowing how to connect with coaches for fall sports in particular. Mr. Harris mentioned that the February parent newsletter has also been sent to incoming freshman families for next year and the subsequent newsletters will be as well, so parents will be able to access information on athletics that way. There was also a general comment that the process for payment of fees for fall sports needs to be made clear, since Mary no longer works in the summer and isn't in the office when fall sports practices begin.

A general question was asked about the process for creating co-op athletic programs. East is currently participating in co-ops for boys' hockey and gymnastics with LaFollette and for girls' hockey with Sun Prairie, LaFollette, and Waunakee. Dave explained that development of a co-op usually begins with a request from the coaches of the particular sport and a discussion with the respective AD's and principals. If there is agreement that creating a co-op seems to be in everybody's best interests, the superintendent(s) and school board(s) need to sign off on it. Co-ops are generally created due to participation numbers being too low to sustain individual programs at the schools involved. A question was posed as to whether East should pursue a co-op arrangement, perhaps also with LaFollette, for wrestling, since participation numbers have been down. It would also be possible to co-op with a D2 school, if one were interested and willing. In that case, enrollments at both schools would be added together to determine the division for competition.

Dave is doing a "Purgolder pride sheet" to highlight East athletic accomplishments on a weekly basis. This is currently sent internally to staff and coaches at East. A suggestion was made that we put a link

from the booster club site too if possible and perhaps put up a hardcopy on the bulletin board. Dave is interested in hearing from more coaches about the successes of their student/athletes. If parents have ideas to submit, send them to the coach and ask him/her to pass along to Dave. If there are items that are appropriate for the daily announcements (Purgolder Press), they should also be cc:'d to Mary and Jessica.

On a side note, the new video tech teacher, Greg Rittman, is exploring doing webcast announcements, which could be posted to East's website. This could be used for general weekly school announcements and for special events, like recognizing teams going to State. .

Fall Sports Reports:

Boys Basketball – Dave Kapp

- Banquet is Wed, 2/27, at 6:30 in cafeteria.
- Pregame dinner at Jim Schuler's for the playoffs.
- Playing at LaCrosse on Tuesday in first round.

Girls basketball – Peter

- Varsity struggling.
- Freshman and JV holding their own and doing okay.

Gymnastics – Karen K-P

- Sectionals this Friday.
- All 3 seniors may qualify.
- Conference was at Memorial last week; had high score for the year and some girls medaled.

Hockey – Chris R

- Started out well, but went in downhill in the last half of the season.
- Should have 20 -21 skaters for next year; losing 5 seniors.
- Will be co-op again with LaFollette next year.
- LaFollette was paying for jerseys, last we heard. The order was messed up between screen printing and embroidery and there was an extra bill.
- We may have paid the wrong thing...\$880 instead of \$2200...Chris will try and clarify our obligation for Ruth and get this resolved.

Girls Hockey – Jill J

- Playoff game tonight against Fond du Lac/Waupun Co-op in Fond du Lac.
- Girls have had a strong season; record is 15 – 6 – 0. Go Cap City Cougars!

Boys Swimming - Cindy

- Fabulous season! The boys had a great year!
- Brian Johnson has been the head coach for 4 years; Bill Martin was a 1st year assistant coach (2004 East grad) and Steve Weakley (1975 East grad) a volunteer assistant coach.
- Season is completed; dual record of 4 – 3; 2nd at one invite, 4th at conference, 6th at sectionals.
- Qualified 3 relays and 4 individuals for State; 8 team members participated in the State meet.
- The 200 free relay (Eric Langum, Edd Simeon, Kyle Maitland, Aaron Lickel) broke the team record at State.

Wrestling - Cathy

- Varsity was short 5 weight classes all season so it was difficult to be competitive.
- There were only 2 kids on JV; everybody else on Varsity.
- Dayton Yu and Patrick Martin qualified for Sectionals.
- There were general concerns about a bad team atmosphere this year; several kids decided not to come out for the team.

- Team banquet is scheduled for 2/26; All City banquet is March 4th
- Paul Blair announced that he will not be coming back as head coach for next year.

Spirit squad – Dave Kapp

- State champs in co-ed division at Alliant cheer competition; Dave has trophy.
- Need new spirit squad rep.

Dance Team – Ruth

- Ceased to exist for winter; not sure if it will start up again in fall.
- There were some issues with the assistant coach; a lot of girls dropped out.
- Facility issues were worked out and we would like to see the dance team continued next year.
- Head coach, Sarah, is a good coach; if she doesn't come back we'll need to hire someone new if team is to continue.

Committee/Officer Reports:

Concessions/Alumni Tournament - Peter

- Big 8 Conference league basketball games are over; only had one game not covered.
- Will still need concessions assistance for the Alumni Tournament.
- Tournament has 12 teams; running from about 9:00 – 3:00 on Saturday, March 8; last game tips off at 2:00.
- Current inventory should be okay for alumni tournament; will have to plan to get rid of any leftover chocolate sooner rather than later; rest of candy should be okay to keep 'til football season.
- Basketball players are needed to do score keeping - Peter will talk to Jim.

“East on Ice” - Jean

- So far, 84 people committed to attending. RSVP's coming in slowly.
- Goal is to get 200 people; Edgewater is providing banquet area and we need to let them know expected attendance about 10 days prior.
- The cost to us is about \$25 per person for food and other expenses.
- AD has sent emails expressing importance of attending; two coaches have asked about it so far
- Jean would like to send coaches a letter from Booster Club to remind them we spent \$30,000 on fulfilling requests this year.
- We're hoping to make this an annual event to increase Booster Club revenues so that we're not always spending more than we're making each year, as we have been the past few years.
- Volunteers are needed to help run event; will be doing an email solicitation for help.
- Everybody needs to ask as many people as possible to support this event and make it successful.

Membership – Cheryl

- Cheryl provided an excellent detailed membership report. The membership brochure was sent out in August; 283 sold so far this year.
- Cheryl researched several other booster websites and provided some examples. Middleton has seven levels. Cheryl suggests 3 levels; she recommends elimination of the purple level and renaming the levels - Single, Double, Purgolder. She also suggests adding 3 business membership levels.
- A motion was made, seconded and approved to go with Cheryl's suggestions. Cheryl can proceed with making these changes, implementing the business memberships, and revamping materials as needed.
- Dave Kapp noted that he worked with a multi-level booster club membership structure at his previous job, and that coaches had to be members in order to request funds. (Novel idea!) He also noted that it costs \$350 to join the booster club at Sun Prairie, and that Sun Prairie is somewhat subsidizing our girls in the hockey co-op.

- Sherry noted that West has flags available for sale on their website; she has the info if we want to pursue; cost was \$25
- Cheryl is checking to see if next year's booster club cards can be cut the size of a credit card so they fit in wallets better; they are currently cut slightly larger.
- Sherry also suggested that we consider some other form of recognition of booster membership, other than the card, for those who want to be members but aren't interested in going to athletic events.

Treasurer's Report – Ruth

- Ruth provided the Profit & Loss statement for May 1, 2007 – February 15, 2008 and the Balance Sheet as of February 15, 2007.
- There are still some things hanging out there in addition to liabilities listed.
- Ruth is looking for a bill for related to outstanding baseball expenses.

Spirit Wear – Cindy

- Made \$575 on spirit wear sales at 8th grade orientation night.

New Business:

Football Special Request - Cathy

- A special request was submitted from Coach Hill for additional funds to cover training and professional development items for the upcoming football season. The request included funds to purchase a DVD system to replace the existing VHS system; coaching DVD's, DVD camcorders, and coaching clinic fees. It also included shoulder pads for quarterback and receivers. The total request was for roughly \$4,000.
- A question was raised as to why this request was not submitted at the January meeting along with the rest of the annual requests. Dave Kapp noted that he was not aware of this request until the meeting tonight.
- A suggestion was made that this might be a good use for the foundation grant money, but more information is needed. A question came up as to whether or not the camcorders could or would be shared with other sports, noting that the basketball team also has video equipment. This seems like a purchase that should be made for the benefit of all athletic programs, not just football. It would be helpful to find out how other sports/schools are handling video equipment.
- A motion was made, seconded and approved to table this item until next meeting.

Next Booster Club meeting date

- Our next regularly scheduled meeting (3rd Monday) falls during spring break
- Per consensus of those at the meeting, the next meeting date was rescheduled for March 31, to avoid conflicting with either of the Mondays during spring break.

Old Business: None.

For the Good of East Athletics:

- Sharon Redinger reminded booster reps that Subway on Sherman Ave is willing to provide subs to East athletics at reduced prices to feed teams (\$2.00 for a one meat sub) or sell at concessions (\$1.50 for resale). For taking to a game, you should order a day ahead of time. Subway is very supportive of East athletics.
- Jim P. asked if we have an alumni list; unfortunately, we do not. Development of such a list has been an expressed need and desire of Booster Club for some time now. West has a very extensive and successful list and we would like something similar. This could be a great project for East students, perhaps working with technology teacher Greg Rittman. Discussion on how to proceed will be continued at a future meeting.

- A question came up as to the process for distributing the interest for the Foundation grant money. How do we apply for the money? When are the dates? Should this be an annual agenda item for Booster Club? Karen and Alan Crossley were, and likely still are, the contacts on the Foundation endowments. A suggestion was made to change contact info to the Booster Club PO box so any correspondence from the Foundation for the East athletics endowment will always go directly to someone currently active in Booster Club. This item requires additional follow up.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. The next meeting will be held in the LMC on **Monday, March 31st, at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Jokela, Recording Secretary