

Minutes of East High Booster Club Meeting
March 31, 2008

Present: Kari Douglas, Cheryl Parzych, Ann Halbach, Alan Harris, Kris Holmes, Jill Jokela, Barb Kyle, Cindy Maitland, Jill Wanke, Ruth Mathe, Kathy Monson, Peter Oppeneer, Karen Kennedy-Parker, Jim Penczykowski, Chris Ramsey, Steve Stephenson, David Krause, Kathy Scholl, Vern Scholl, Jean Schroeder, Jim Schuler, Sherry Miner, Cathy Pierce, Dave Kapp, Deb Amundson, Theresa McKenzie, Steve McKenzie, Kari Sensenbrenner, Jeanne Herrin, Leigh Ellen Caro-Leverich, John Schwictenberg, Paul Strommen, Eric Bertun, Chad Gunnelson, Faye Kubly

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Peter Oppeneer. The minutes of the February 18th meeting were approved.

Principal's Report:

Mr. Harris talked about the sadness being experienced in the East community after learning of former principal Milt McPike's death over the weekend, after a long battle with cancer. Visitation will be held at East in field house on Wednesday night. Services are on Thursday. All information is posted on the East website. Milt embodied the values of Eastside pride and will be remembered fondly. Donations to the Milt McPike scholarship fund can be made through the Bassett Foundation.

Things are going well at East as we head down the homestretch of the school year. The track program did an excellent job running the indoor All City track meet. Students are doing well in and out of classroom.

AD Report:

Dave Kapp reported that there wasn't a lot to report on the spring seasons so far due to the recent inclement weather. Aside from indoor track, none of the other sports have been able to play yet due to soft, wet fields and cold weather. Contests will be rescheduled as much as possible, but the longer the bad weather lasts the more difficult it will be to get everything rescheduled. The spring season is getting squeezed.

The varsity boys' soccer coach position was posted internally in the district and garnered one applicant. The person was interviewed and a decision was made to re-post to look for external candidates. There is about a week left for external candidates to apply. The position has been posted on the UW site and soccer central. Emails inquiries have also been sent out to soccer community contacts. Peter suggested collecting names of free websites that would be appropriate for posting coaching positions and could be used for future vacancies. Ann Halbach may be able to help with identifying appropriate websites.

Kari requested that Dave post a copy of his Purgolder Pride newsletter on the bulletin board in the mall. Kari also asked how much was available annually from the Madison Schools Foundation Purgolder Athletic endowment in order to fund requests. Nobody knew exactly, but Alan will look into it.

With a reminder from Cindy, Dave announced that Brian Johnson, boys swim coach, was the AD's winter season "coach of the year".

Jim S. asked about the expanded role of booster reps as it was brought up at the March East High United meeting. Alan explained that booster reps should be a liaison between other parents and the coach when issues come up and parents aren't comfortable going to the coach directly. Most agreed that this would be a helpful role for booster reps. Dave explained that this is just one part of the systems and structures that are being put in place to help programs improve. He expects all coaches to hold a coach-parent meeting at beginning of the season to share what the expectations are and get everyone on the same page. Booster reps can facilitate feedback and communication. Jim explained that he and

Mike approached Rich Cleveland with a survey for basketball. Rich approved the survey to be sent out to parents and for results to be shared with the coaching staff only (not administration). Jim said the survey was pretty simple and contained 10 or 15 questions. Barb said she did something similar for girls' soccer at their banquet last year. Jim said parents who attended the basketball banquet or were on their email list got the survey. Jim will email a copy of the survey to Jill to distribute with the meeting minutes so people can see an example if they wish to pursue something similar for their sport. The expectation is that the booster rep will seek approval from the coach first and will not do a survey if the coach doesn't agree. However, Dave said that part of his expectation for coaches is that they seek feedback from parents, so coaches should be amenable to using a survey as a tool to meet that expectation. The surveys can be anonymous and will be helpful in identifying both problems and positives within programs. Faye thought that the basketball survey was very good and constructive. Jim indicated they will be tabulating the results and then meeting with the coaching staff to share the information and answer questions. Jim didn't know if the results of the survey would be shared with parents. He said that would be up to the coach to decide.

In response to an inquiry from one of the new sports reps, there was a discussion about the general responsibilities of sports reps. Peter explained that the main responsibilities were to represent your sport at booster club meetings, coordinate working concessions at least once during the year, and to work with your coaches to support whatever else is needed for your sport. In most cases, that will include things such as communicating general info with other parents, helping with planning of the end of season banquet, helping coordinate transportation to events when buses are not provided, and identifying parent reps to facilitate communication for JV/Freshmen teams. Karen found a copy of a booster club rep job description that was written up several years ago but remains fairly accurate today. Jill will include a copy of that document when minutes from this meeting are distributed.

Spring Sports Reports:

Baseball – Deb Amundson & Deb Cerra

- 56 players this year; this is double last year's participation
- There will be varsity, junior varsity, and a freshmen team
- 10 – 12 returning seniors, so varsity is experienced and should have a good year
- Going to Miller Park on Friday, April 18, at 2:00 to play Verona
- No games have been played yet due to the weather

Boys Golf – Stephen S

- 24 boys came to the organizational meeting
- There will be varsity and 2 jvs; same as last year
- No opportunity to practice yet, but hope to get out this week; Bridges opens on Sunday
- The boys need new shirts and will be buying their own this year. (It was noted that they should not have to pay sales tax. The girls' golf team will be receiving new shirts via the coaches funding requests that were approved in January, since it was the girls turn to request this year.)
- Golf has a surcharge on athletic fees; it costs \$230 to play
- Steve is working with the coach on the funding request for the boys for next year; the coach is considering some equipment to practice indoors (mats, nets, training aides, etc.), in case the weather is bad again next year
- Matches start next week. The team will be meeting at the course tomorrow.

Girls Soccer – Barb

- 80 girls participating; there will be Varsity, 2 JVs, and a freshmen team
- No practice outside yet, due to the weather; will find out soon if Warner is playable
- Breese Stevens won't be playable this year; games will return there next year
- Barb suggested that it would be helpful to have a spring sports night to facilitate better communication with parents. Since we have dropped the individual season sports nights, there hasn't been much communication from the coaches to parents. For example, since girls' soccer

doesn't have a freshmen coach yet, no one has met with the freshmen parents and Barb may not have their contact info. Whether coaches organize separately or do it together, it would be helpful to have a formal spring sports formal meeting. Track Coach Chad noted that it needs to be flexible since each program has a different start date for spring practices.

Softball – Kathy

- Will have Varsity and JV; 33 girls tried out; there were cuts to 28; 14 on each team
- 6 sophomores are starting for Varsity
- 1st game scheduled for tomorrow, but won't happen due to inclement weather

Boys Tennis – Sherry

- 32 boys are participating; will have Varsity, JV, and Freshmen teams; have lots of freshmen
- Have only practiced outside a little bit due to weather
- All varsity players belong to an indoor club and have been able to practice
- No parent meeting has been held yet
- 1st match scheduled for next week

Boys Track – Chad, in Colleen's absence

- Have had 3 meets; 2 co-ed, 1 boys only
- Hosted city indoor; finished 10 minutes earlier than scheduled
- Teams were 3rd & 3rd at indoor; last year were 4th and 4th
- Edd Simeon was 6th at West Relays in pole vault.
- Indoor State is this weekend at Whitewater; 1st outdoor meet is next week
- 70 kids participated in the bowl-a-thon at Dream Lanes; Raised over \$3,000
- For more info, see the track website (madisoneasttrackandfield.com)

Girls Track – Jill W

- Over 40 girls are participating this year; everybody is having fun
- Claire Brickson won the mile at the city indoor meet
- Team is practicing at Lussier twice a week; running at East otherwise; it would be nice to have a better track at East
- MSCR is paying for a youth program (both boys and girls); 30 kids (7th and 8th graders) are coming from the middle schools to practice with the high school team

Committee/Officer Reports:

Treasurer's Report – Ruth

- Financial reports were distributed
- Pursuing Anchor Bank's "commodore program" to get a personal banker assigned to our account to help with transition between treasurers. That person will understand what's been done in past and will be a stable contact at the bank as treasurers change over time.
- Request from Dennis Hill for state football clinic has been submitted. This is within his regular yearly training allocation. The Madison East football activity account paid for it up front and Ruth will be reimbursing that account.
- Pepsi paid us \$2,000 per our contract agreement.
- Have about \$50,000 in cash on hand after accounting for outstanding liabilities.

"East on Ice" - Jean

- It was a great event!
- 171 people attended, plus some sent donations, brought in over \$9,000
- \$4,000 bid on auction; \$400 on euchre, "\$100+ on shots in the shanty"
- Raffle tickets and other donations generated about \$2300
- Accounting is not quite final, but expect to have made at least \$12,000 for that night; it was very successful for first time doing it; there were lots of comments that people hoped it would happen

again next year; people had a lot of fun; when the band was done playing, we had to kick people out at the end. The food was great too.

- The date has been already been tentatively reserved for March 7th for next year; we have assurances from the band parents that this will not conflict with the jazz dinner dance; it will be state wrestling tournament weekend. A motion was made, seconded, and approved for Jean to sign a contract with the Edgewater for next year.

Alumni Basketball Tournament - Peter

- 12 teams participated; participants really look forward to and enjoy this event
- Referee fees went from \$20 to \$25 this year; entry fees remained at \$125, so didn't make much
- Peter wants to turn over the tournament next year to the alumni team managers, in cooperation with the boys basketball program; Peter met with the alums to propose this
- Concessions was profitable; made roughly \$800

Nominating Committee for New Officers – Peter

- A nominating committee needs to be formed to identify officers for next year.
- Generally people who are leaving are on the nominating committee.
- Peter and Ruth will be stepping down from their positions; Ann and Jill are likely to continue.
- Please email Peter if you're interested in an officer position.

New Business:

Special Funding Requests

- Scoreboards – Dave Kapp
 - Scoreboards in the field house are outdated and poor; running on bulbs which are hard to even find to replace; all 6 scoreboards in the spec gym and field house will be replaced.
 - The District will put up all the money for the scoreboards themselves; Dave is requesting that Booster Club pay for installation; which will be done by the maintenance/facilities guys. Dave believes it is about \$1500 for installation.
- Weight Room
 - Dave explained the weight room program at his previous school, West Allis Central, where they had a weight room coordinator who scheduled use of the room, had programs and tailored workouts for different sports, and had a small budget to buy stuff for weight room. The room was used consistently by all sports, not just football players and wrestlers. Their booster club funded the coordinators salary for 3 hours/day, which amounted to \$6000/yr (\$2000 each semester and \$2000 in summer). The coordinator kept track of weight room usage and assisted coaches with appropriate weight training programs, which ultimately resulted in improvements in their athletic programs. Dave believes that East would benefit from a similar program. Currently the weight room is underutilized and having a weight room coordinator would help ensure that the weight room is available to all athletes for purposes of getting stronger and preventing injuries.
 - Chad commented on how important weight training is for injury prevention, particularly for girls with ACLs. His athletes are lifting 2 days a week within season.
 - Aside from hiring a position to coordinate scheduling of the weight room, the room itself as a facility needs updating and improvement. An improved weight room would provide the opportunity for East athletics to improve in general. All kids would benefit and there would be more consistency across programs. Dave would have an expectation for coaches to take advantage of the weight room and have appropriate programs for their athletes.
 - A question was asked as to whether other schools (West, Memorial) have a position like this, how they fund it, and if it would be a union position. Dave mentioned that the athletic trainer position is paid for out of his general athletic budget and he may be able to create a weight room activity account to pay for this position with funds coming from booster club if we agree to support it. Dave said that LaFollette has long had a system in place for managing their weight room and currently pays supervision pay (\$9.50 hr) for the people who do it. All agreed that we need more details about how this would work before

deciding whether or not to move forward on this idea. Dave will look into the logistics of administering this position and will get back to the Booster Club with more details.

- Bleachers – Dave Kapp
 - Dave got a quote of \$1800/piece including dolly and delivery
 - The particular bleacher model has 3 rows, 32 seats; need dolly to move
 - They should move well on hard ground and okay on grass
 - Total of \$8000 for 4 sets; approx. 300 lbs
 - Dave is waiting for another quote
 - Intent is for these to be easily movable for football and soccer; will likely need to store them in the purple shed at Demetral.
 - This will be discussed further at a future meeting after Dave gets additional quote.
- Basketball – Jim S
 - Jim made another pitch to purchase new basketball warm ups; purchase of warm ups was not approved in Coach Cleveland’s funding request presented in January.
 - There is a one time offer from Impact Sports on the table; cost will be \$1680
 - The old warm ups will be handed-down to the sophomore team; the sophomores wore “M&M” warm ups this year and did not have East team warm ups.
 - Basketball is planning to do a holiday tournament and more fundraising next year; will share revenues with booster club.
 - A question came up as to where money raised from the summer program is spent. Jim explained that summer fees and fundraising goes to pay for summer team expenses such as tournament fees, league fees, and coaches. The summer program is essentially self-funded in that way.
 - A motion was made, seconded, and approved to purchase warm ups per Jim’s request.
- Football – Cathy P
 - A request was made by the football program for special shoulder pads for quarterbacks and receivers. Currently this equipment has been borrowed from the Warner Park football program.
 - Two quotes were received; the lower one being \$792 for 14 pairs of shoulders pads.
 - It was noted that this request should have been brought to Booster Club at the January meeting where annual funding requests were reviewed and approved.
 - A motion was made, seconded, and approved to purchase the shoulder pads as specified for \$792.

School Store/Spirit Wear Joint Venture

- A plan is in the works for a student-operated school store to open next school year. The store will be in the space where spirit wear is currently stored in the room off the cafeteria. Business/marketing students will be responsible for running the store and would like to make spirit wear available. Booster Club would still purchase spirit wear and then allocate a limited supply of inventory to the store to sell. The details need to be worked out, but most agreed that this is a good idea and that we support making spirit wear available through the store.

Soccer Field Initiative

- Eric Bertun is leading an effort to rehabilitate the Demetral soccer fields, which are currently in horrible condition and almost to the point of being unsafe. Eric has experience working with the group that did rehabilitation of the Reindahl soccer fields. The plan will be to identify what work needs to be done in terms of aerating, irrigation, seeding, pesticide treatment, etc, and to work with the maintenance staff to make sure the fields will be watered regularly and then to get volunteers and schedule a “work day” to do some of the major rehab work this summer so fields will be in improved condition for the fall. Eric was given the go ahead to form a committee to get this effort up and running.

Update on Booster Reps for 2008 – 09

- Jill reviewed the current Booster Rep roster and identified known changes and vacancies. Booster reps who are vacating their positions are responsible for finding replacements. An updated roster will be distributed with the minutes from this meeting.

Old Business: None.

For the Good of East Athletics:

- Happy Birthday Cheryl Parzych! Thanks for the excellent German chocolate cupcakes!

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m. The next meeting will be held in the LMC on **Monday, April 21st, at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Jokela, Recording Secretary