

## **WCHS BOOSTER CLUB GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**

**Tues., Dec. 3, 2024 – 7:00 PM (Room 117)**

**Attendees: Marcy Kreindler, Ashleigh O'Brien, Bridget Calhoun, Barbara Mallon, Amy Oram, Wendy Feldman, Patrick Corkin, Marie O'Connor, Jesse Smith, Beth Dubin, Rachael Datch, Bess Siegal, Jenna Breitstein, Sana Akili, Steven Connaughtan, Cheryl Sheer**

- **Welcome and President's Update**

- Introductions
  - Note: need to ensure obtaining sufficient concessions volunteers (esp JV)
- Review and Approval of 11/6/24 General Membership Minutes
  - 11/6/24 Minutes Approved

- **Athletic Department Update - Jesse Smith**

- Winter Season Begins:
  - 12/06: first home Girls basketball game; first home Boys basketball games on 12/05 & 12/06; first swim meet 12/07
  - Rosters have been set for all teams
- Jenna Breitstein, parent of Outdoor Track athlete, raised a discussion concerning improvements to the shot put and discus areas adjacent to the outdoor track
  - WCHS lacks equipment that meets regulations
    - discus safety net and poles do not meet regulations
    - ring does not meet regulations
    - shot put area is not maintained
  - requests partial Booster funds for a new discus cage estimated to cost \$4k; cement area with ring needs to be redone estimated to cost \$500 plus labor
    - Jesse and Coach Scott Silverstein have spoken and received quotes from Game Day to complete shot put area
    - Track & Field needs to fundraise for the discus funds
- A question was raised about the status of new artificial turf installations in the County: Jesse and Bridget understand that MCPS

AD, Jeff Sullivan, intends to advocate for County-wide artificial turf installation but presently needs funding from the County. His office commissioned a feasibility study issued in 2024 that seemed somewhat inconclusive. Bridget connected Rachael Datch with one of the other Booster Club presidents who is interested in building a coalition to advocate for artificial turf installations at those high schools that currently lack artificial turf fields. Rachael reached out but got no response.

- **Financial Report**

- Through 11/24, membership is up 4%
- Banner sales are down - some renewals did not go through
- Concession sales are down (not as many playoff games compared to last year)
- School store - sales down 30%; profitability much better this year
- To date, not as much athletic department funding compared to last year
- Overall, more profitable than a year ago but less revenue

- **Committee Updates**

- Membership
  - One two Fall teams have reached 100% membership- Golf & Varsity Cheer
  - Giving Tuesday (12/3/24) - discussed pushing for Booster Club membership and donations - members receive a tax donation
- Bulldog Bash
  - Marie and Beth have been working on the Bash webpage that will go live soon after winter break.
  - Aiming for tickets to go on sale on or after 01/01/25 once the webpage is finished
    - Looking into having 2 different ticket prices - member vs. non-member ticket price
- Advertising/Sponsorship
  - Circling back to previous sponsors regarding tax deduction

- Looking to revive Buy a Brick program in stadium
  - need to figure out correct price point - lower the price (from \$150 - 350)
  - Need to pay for installation so looking into getting a sponsorship installer and installations would be done in groups to keep costs down.
- Spirit Committee
  - All Fall Team Seniors signed the wall.
  - 4 community days planned - need Team reps to participate
  - Cluster night - students free but parents pay & students eat
  - Check in with sponsors re community night or halftime
  - Winter Team Wall signings - will start scheduling after winter break
- School Store
  - new inventory of pajamas
  - hats & long sleeves have not been ordered yet
  - some markdowns
  - volunteers - 2 "regular" volunteers; would like to have more
    - Sign Up:
   
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0545ADAB2CAA8-spirit#/>
- Concessions
  - have moved indoors from outdoors
  - Winter concessions for most home Wrestling and Basketball events - need volunteers from V & JV
- Newsletter
  - Booster Club newsletter issued on 12/16 - sent out by cherylsheer@gmail.com
    - included blast regarding school store merchandise and sponsor spotlight
    - 1400 contacts; 69% open rate for newsletter; 53% open rate for meeting notice
    - Send info to Marie regarding Booster club calendar for website

Adjourned at 8:00 pm.