

WCHS BOOSTER CLUB GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Wed., June 4, 2025 – 7:00 PM (Room 156A)

Attendees: Bridget Calhoun, Steve Connaughton, Ashleigh O'Brien, Chris Bugel, Marie Gengler O'Connor, Amy Oram, Christa Thorpe, Aby Filomeno, Cheryl Sheer, Rachael Datch, Brian Dubin, Jake Lynn, Jesse Smith

Notes taken by Cheryl Sheer and Minutes drafted by Bridget Calhoun.

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm.

Welcome and President's Update

- Motion and second made to approve 5/7/25 General Membership Meeting Minutes; unanimous vote of approval.
- Update from May 28th Booster Club Presidents Meeting and Discussion:
 - Booster Presidents meet twice a year with MCPS Athletics staff.
 - New central/district-wide website/app for MCPS Athletics ready later next year but new websites for local school athletic departments by this summer, including platform for Booster Clubs. Delays due to vendor ownership change. New platform should correct all the game schedule issues on the current VNN sites.
 - Game scheduling: new 2-year cycle in the fall that Dr. Sullivan reported to be "more competitive;" scheduling conflicts due to shortage of officials affecting FB schedules as well as fewer rival JV basketball double headers
 - Officials were paid through MCPS Athletics for the first time this year. Still in dire need of more officials; projecting serious issues in a few years due to aging ranks. Only need to be 18 and HS graduate.
 - Coach Evaluation form is being reviewed and updated.
 - Girls Flag FB was a success; ending dual sport participation because not necessary and created situations where teams using ringers from other teams.
 - Athletic Specialists are renamed Athletic Directors and changed unions from MCEA to MCCAAP (teachers to admins)

- Summer Operations – no Friday summer workouts from July 4th to Aug. 8th
- MCPS Athletics partnership with National Amateur Sports (NAS) to enhance marketing efforts and draw more investment in MoCo athletics. Will not interfere with local school Booster Club fundraising.
- Spring Sports Under Review - Co-ed Volleyball, Gymnastics, and Allied Softball – will undergo a review. Possible transition from Co-Ed Varsity VB to JV Boys VB, for example. Suggestion to add sports like badminton or ultimate frisbee. No decisions have been made.
- Artificial Turf: Need Booster Presidents to advocate for artificial turf to be funded at all schools. Currently only 12 of 25 schools have artificial turf. Point person is Mark Pharoah, Booster Club President at Paint Branch.
- Funding Request – Shed for Athletic Trainer's Cart and Supplies:
 - Kinsey needs a shed to store her cart and coolers/supplies up near current shed on the back side of the building overlooking the field hockey field.
 - Jesse has found an option for around \$7K and is requesting \$5K from the Booster Club and Athletics will cover the rest.
 - Motion and second to vote to fund \$5K towards this project; unanimous approval. Bridget voted by proxy for Mitun Sequin and Wendy Feldman.
- Fiscal Year-End Logistics
 - Incentives for membership and sponsorship referrals will be calculated and communicated to the coaches before the end of June. Marie was able to create a spreadsheet to automatically calculate the 10% of allocated membership donations per team.
 - Only 3 teams reached 100% membership, earning \$300 each, which is down from past years. These 3 teams repeatedly reach 100% membership each year in large part due to the support of their coaches.
 - Discussed briefly changing the membership incentive structure for next year.

- o Few new sponsors this year so fewer teams earned \$150 sponsorship renewal incentives. (Attman's Deli renewal divided equally between Girls JV Soccer, Girls Varsity Lacrosse, and Boys Varsity Baseball per Donna Attman.)

Election of New Officers for the 2025-26 Fiscal year

- Motion and second to elect the slate of officers for 2025-26 school year; unanimous approval:
 - o Co-Presidents: Chris Bugel and Steve Connaughton
 - o Executive VP: Amy Oram
 - o Vice President: Wendy Feldman
 - o Secretary: Marcy Kreindler
- No candidates for Treasurer yet.
- Open Board Positions include: Treasurer, Communications Co-Chairs (Newsletter Editor and Webmaster)

Athletic Department Update

- Main Gym floor refinishing in process
- Aux Gym: new sound boards and lighting installed; new floors coming
- State championship banners and 200 wins banner for Coach Ben Woods hung at Championship Corner
- Coach of the Year announcements coming
- Summer practices (12 permitted per team) moving ahead with some using other schools due to WCHS closed for the summer for painting and new gym floors.
 - o Football weight room @ Wootton
 - o Volleyball @ Wootton
 - o Basketball @ B-CC

Financial Report (figures as of 5/31/25 compared to 5/31/24)

- **Membership revenue** down by only 2% (\$40,760 vs. \$41,765.25 on 5/31/24)
- **Banner sales** down 50%; expenses down 32%; net profit down 34%
- **Bulldog Bash** revenues approximately \$12K (ticket sales down 34% but corp sponsors up 253%; no income from "games"); net profit 72% but \$\$ down 30%.

- **Concessions** revenue down 24% and expenses down 25%. Net profit 47.21% (no change from last year) but \$\$ down 24% due to fewer events and fewer sales.
- **School Store** revenue down 25% but inventory expenses down 60% so net profit of 44% (vs. -2.79% last year); net profit \$\$ also up (\$9K vs. -\$750 the same time last year).
- **Spirit Committee** is not a revenue generating committee. Expenses were only \$45.65 this year vs. \$502.66 last year.
 - o Did not spend as much on freebies and decorations for Community Nights. Teams paid for their own.
 - o Repainting the Senior Wall booked as Athletics funding.
- **Reserves** for next year discussed (Concessions and School Store should indicate how much needed for initial inventory.)

Committee Updates & End of Year/Transition Activities

- **Sponsorship:** New realtor finally paid (R Collective); banner already produced and hanging in stadium and payment good through August 2026.
- **Spirit Committee:** Will issue a "last call" for any remaining seniors to sign the wall, including Boys Tennis. (*Since the meeting, the wall has been painted over by the MCPS painting crew. Will need to have Allegra repaint the 202 and add a 6 in August. Ask whether they still have stencils for the 2 and 0 but will need to pay for new stencil for "6" and repainting of all 4 numerals Usually only the last number is completely painted over. They just touch up the white inside portion of the 2, 0, and 2.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.