



Greeley Sports Boosters

Horace Greeley High School

Chappaqua, New York

Minutes

December 19, 2018, 7:30pm

Physical Education Classroom

ATTENDANCE

Board Members

Laura Brail
Cindy Greenstein
Amanda Goodstadt
Heather Laforteza
Karen Yarasavage

CCSD

Jane Shepardson, Board of Education Representative

Committee Chairs, Team Liaisons, Members & Guests

Lori Townsend, Susan Flanagan, Stacey Reynolds, Lori Venturino Salore

WELCOME

The November 2018 minutes were approved.

BOOSTERS UPDATE

- **Web Store – Winter Sales & Feedback** Laura has received varied feedback and gave some examples. Boys swim uses the web store as its main fundraiser. Last year, the team had to lay out \$4,000 and took in \$4,500. This year the team made \$400 without having to lay out any money upfront. Despite making slightly less, the process was much more streamlined. Indoor track & field made approximately \$300. Basketball ran the store three times (because of multiple tryout periods) and made \$650. Karen suggested finding a way to see how many purchases are made by non-team members. Stacey suggested that coaches make it clear that the stores are fundraisers in order to encourage parents to purchase more items.
- **Town Sign – Process for Posting Messages** The new sign is up near Bell. Boosters (as well as other groups serving the district like Friends of Greeley Theater) can post

messages through David Hayes, who will communicate with Town Hall about putting information up on the sign. How long any particular message will be posted has not yet been determined. The sign will be used for special events and fundraisers, not for regular games as there are too many of those. Though the sign has been installed, it is not yet functioning.

- **Membership & Merchandise Income (December 2017 vs December 2018)** As of December 11, 2017, Boosters had taken in \$20,440 in membership payments. As of now for 2018, we've taken in \$23,000, so we are up approximately 11 percent. For merchandise, we are slightly above December 2017 in terms of what we have netted (2017 was \$986 and 2018 is \$1261), however there is a big difference in terms of laying out money upfront. Last year, merchandise outlay was almost \$3,885 (with income of \$4871) and this year, outlay was only \$1060 with income of \$2321. This is all during a time of transition, without a merchandise chair. We are also waiting for the new logo before ordering anything new.
- **Pamphlet for Incoming Ninth Grade Orientation** Orientation is in five weeks. Last year's postcard is now a pamphlet. The chart was expanded to include additional information (e.g., off-season training). Laura will distribute it. There's also an FAQ section (how and when do I register? eligibility requirements to play, who governs interscholastic sports?) Every sport for each season is listed together with all available levels.
- **Modified Survey – Round Two** The survey went out. We have received 45 responses (out of 125-150 participants), an excellent participation rate. Feedback was consistent with what we received last year.
- **Web & Social Media** Laura relayed that Jeff said rosters should be up by December 25. It would be great if more people could report scores. There is good social media coverage for winter sports, especially hockey.
- **Financials** Cindy distributed financial reports via email. She mentioned that Pete will do our tax return again.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT UPDATE

- **Facilities Agreement with Town** The district is not renewing its contract with the Town for use of school facilities. It had been a point of contention for a long time. Going forward, organizations will work directly with the district to schedule use of school facilities. Jane indicated that all rates are delineated in BOE policies. The BOE's goal was to not have teams be required to spend additional amounts of money. Money raised by the district on the facility fees will go towards hiring a new support staff employee for the Athletic Department who will spend half his/her time scheduling and half doing other tasks Jason needs. All scheduling will now go through Jason's office.

Because of the two turf fields, there is now a custodial issue. Not all teams clean up after themselves. Instead of charging each group a separate custodial fee, general fees will be modestly increased. Most people seem happy with the field arrangements they already have. The new procedures will begin 1/1/19, but the youth sports organizations have until 7/1/19 to follow the new rules because they've already paid in full for this school year.

When asked about the covered benches for Field C, Laura noted that money is already allocated, but we're waiting for the Athletic Department to go ahead and actually procure them.

- **Fitness Center & Studio** The fitness center will open right after break. A few things came in incorrectly and need to be fixed. Over the break, the HVAC guys will begin duct work. Removal of some old equipment will begin this Friday and run through break. The district is looking to get additional certifications for the current PE teachers so they can teach some new classes (e.g., personal training, yoga). There will be a new PE curriculum. Rather than sign up for electives such as Games or Walking, students will sign up for 10th grade PE and within that course, there will be blocks of classes from which to choose. Jason and Steve McCleese (strength and conditioning coach) are holding orientations with the PE staff. Games and Walking will be adjusted and possibly phased out. Lori suggested surveying students about what they do and do not like about the high school PE curriculum. Heather mentioned her concern about whether losing the Games class will impact the HGSF funball tournament as students learn to play funball in the class.

During free periods, Steve will be in the fitness center (10am until 6pm) and the fitness area will be supervised. The hope is that students visit during frees to utilize rowers, bikes, treadmills, etc. Jason is talking to CSF about getting iPads for these machines that will have workouts-of-the-day. He also hopes that Greeley clubs will want to use the equipment. Teams will be able to request when they want their members using the equipment; Steve has already started the new schedules and many more teams can be accommodated in the new spaces.

- **Contest Scheduling** Laura provided answers Jason gave her to questions asked at previous meetings.

How is scheduling done? The majority of the schedule is done by the section. Athletic schedules are designed by using "play days", taking holidays into consideration, as well as trying to avoid playing multiple games in a row. Another major consideration is the lack of officials. Typically, play day blocks are done on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays or Tuesdays and Thursdays. Saturdays are rarely included in primary schedules, which allows for flexibility when games need to be rescheduled. After taking section-scheduled games into account, remaining games are filled by the Athletic Department office. Depending upon the sport, coaches may have games they request, or the

department will find games for a team. The majority of our teams' schedules are completed the prior season (i.e., spring schedules are already 95% complete).

Why aren't there Friday night home basketball games? This is simply how the schedule worked out. If there are lots of snow days, there could end up being many Friday night home games. Also, if a game is scheduled away this year, it will typically be a home game next year. Also, this is our first year playing at the A level, but Jason anticipates that the school will likely move back to AA next year.

How can we develop schedules for all seasons that allow more Friday night games in order to bring out more students and community members? Jason told Laura this is a common sentiment among schools but reiterated that his primary concern is creating balanced schedules so there are no big gaps, front/back-loading of games, or playing multiple games in a row. Last night, there was terrific turnout for basketball and it was a Tuesday! Jason loves the big crowds/community spirit, but needs to focus on each team's schedule as a whole, as well as the section's desires and the availability of officials.

Jane said we should put all of this information in the FAQs on the Athletic Department website because these questions are asked all the time. It needs to be clear that many decisions are dictated by the section.

- **Chappaqua Transportation & Joan Corwin's passing** Joan's funeral is tomorrow and Laura agreed that the Boosters will purchase lunch for the garage on Friday as a token of sympathy. They transport all of our athletes. Diane ordered wraps for fifty people. Jason will pick up and drop off. Lori suggested a donation to the Chappaqua Volunteer Ambulance Corps in Joan's memory as she was a big supporter of this organization. Laura will look into taking care of this.

TEAM ACTIVITIES SURVEY

Laura is working on a survey to find out what fundraising and social activities various teams do so we can determine whether there is a way for Boosters to support them. Laura has information for some sports, but not others. She is also looking at who from each team takes care of certain things (e.g., does the coach organize the web store? Is communication done by parents? Do students or parents take photos?) We will attempt to determine what is common across sports. Team sports seem to do more social activities than individual sports like skiing, tennis and track.

FITNESS CENTER TOUR Attendees toured the new fitness center.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 9pm.