

MEETING MINUTES

Metro Booster Club Exec Board & Athletic Directors

Date: October 3, 2024

Time: 7:00 pm

Attendees: Samantha Jones (Co-Athletic Director), Elizabeth Arens (Co-Athletic Director), Satyen Vora (Chair), Christina Robinson (Parliamentarian), Denise LeBegue (Treasurer)

BUDGET

- Senior Banners: every sport should have them if any sport has them. The Booster Club will provide one per senior for the sport of their choice. If additional banners are desired for other sports, families will have the option to pay for them. Pictures for Fall banners have been taken.
- The Boosters would like to budget for year end recognition night and any expenses associated with going to District and State playoffs. Christina said that there was a cost associated with all-district nominations for volleyball. She forwarded Denise an email with the costs from last year. (After the meeting it was determined that for Volleyball this cost is \$80 until October 11 when it jumps to \$200. Boosters should factor this into the budget for related sports.)
- ADs are putting together a list of items needed every year and inventory of what we already have
- Uniform Discussion:
 - District provides new uniforms every 3 years
 - AD Jones has families sign a contract taking responsibility for cheer uniforms and keeps track of who has what pieces. ADs will ask all coaches to do this.
 - By doing a better job of tracking uniforms we can minimize Booster Club cost related to uniforms. Infill for additional players or different sizing requirements should be the Booster Club focus for uniform expenses.
- Reviewed actual costs by sport since August 2023.
 - Noted an uneven level of expenses among sports.
 - Booster Club desire to make sure coaches know what is available for their sport or activity and that every activity receives what they need. ADs to help spread that message.
 - AD Arens talked about focusing Booster Club funds on items that can benefit multiple seasons/years and/or have a big impact on practices and performance. E.g. new cones and pinnies for soccer are inexpensive, but make practice run much more efficiently.
- There are a number of items to add to the budget that are not sport-specific: water jugs, coolers, weight room items.
- AD Arens suggested asking each team or season come up with a fundraiser they can do to raise money for the the Boosters. We could make it a competition and it would keep funds flowing in throughout the year.
- AD Jones asked if the Boosters could run a concession stand during home games. Boys soccer parents did that last year and the Boosters will get volunteers to try this out during the girls and boys basketball season. We can utilize students who can earn service hours for manning the stand.
- Speech & Debate has a new coach, Mr. Perniciaro. Denise will reach out to him to determine the budget needs for that activity.
- To finalize the budget, Denise will incorporate the needs as determined by the ADs with the experience from last year.

AD Organization

- In addition to taking an inventory of uniforms/equipment on hand, the ADs are trying to

implement procedures that can carry forward to future years.

- Coach Arens mentioned having a meet the coach night, where parents come to a meeting with the coach and other prospective players' families. The coach would have talking points to let families know what to expect from tryouts through the season. Players would learn what the Coach is looking for on the field/court/track, etc. These meetings could be sport by sport or the whole season could meet at the same time. An officer from the Booster Club could be invited to speak as well. Parents would have a chance to connect with others for carpooling, etc.
- The Boosters would like to incorporate a message from the Coach highlighting how Booster Club donations help their specific team and why it's important to donate if you are able.
- Coach Arens mentioned that being organized and proactive has led to better results when submitting requests to the SLPS Athletic Department.
- Denise suggested we track rosters in a central place to determine how many students take part in athletics/activities. We can use these statistics to show how important athletics and activities are to the school community and in fundraising appeals.
- It was decided that expenses will pass through the ADs for approval before being submitted to the Booster Club for payment or reimbursement. A Google Form can be set up to facilitate this.
- ADs are collaborating with Metro's counselor to see how the school can help students with the goal and potential of being college athletes navigate the recruiting process.

Bylaws

- Denise explained that the bylaws were reviewed at the last Booster Club meeting and several changes were suggested. Those suggestions were implemented in the latest draft which was made to mirror the PTO bylaws where possible.
- Some specific changes made were discussed:
 - The requirement for Booster Club officers to be SLPS-approved volunteers has been removed.
 - The rule prohibiting coaches paid by SLPS from holding office was amended to allow these members to hold office but not allow them to vote on budget matters.
 - The bylaws still include a provision that the Executive Board can approve an expense up to \$250 that was not budgeted without approval of membership.
- Coach Arens expressed concern over some of the less tangible purposes listed in the bylaws.