

**Hinsdale Central Booster Board Meeting Minutes  
November 3, 2021, 7:00 PM  
Faculty Lunchroom @ HCHS**

Kim Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm and adjourned at 8:50 pm  
Minutes: Courtney Willman for Lee Gillman, Secretary

**Board Members Present:**

Kim Anderson, Suzanne Austin, Julie Boruff, Sally Phillip, Rob Tonn, William Walsh, Courtney Willman, Emily Zeng

Rob Tonn made a motion to approve the October 6, 2021, meeting minutes, Suzanne Austin seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

**Principal's report – William Walsh**

**Discussion:** Principal Walsh shared feedback that the school received from the parent survey sent out in September. One of the items that many parents believe needs to improve is communication. Principal Walsh asked the Board, as parents, to offer suggestions about how the school could do that and what specifically could be improved upon. Many of the parents offered their personal suggestions such as the timing of e-mails (Sunday is better than Monday), a summary of who, what, when and where at the beginning of a lengthy e-mail would be appreciated, D86 website is a bit hard to navigate and could use a link to old e-mails for easier reference.

Principal Walsh then discussed some issues raised related to the students' well-being. Parents expressed that the change in grading system was poorly timed considering the kids haven't been in the building for over a year. Changing the grades was always done however in the past, teachers had full discretion. The new district-wide grading system will be implemented first at Central and then at South.

Principal Walsh said teachers are addressing learning gaps and especially addressing the Sophomores who are struggling more than usual with executive functioning skills. Other issues of concern are test anxiety and that students don't always get to see what they got wrong on their tests.

**Activities Report – Sally Phillip**

Sally reported that things are moving along very well in Activities. After a long absence, there was live in-person theater at the school a couple of weeks ago and there will be another play on Friday and Saturday.

The "Day of Service" was held last weekend with 400 kids volunteering all over the community including a memory care facility and Feed My Starving Children.

Sally is currently working on a Month of Mental Health Program for December including an all-school speaker with a message to help kids make positive decisions and a month of activities promoting self-care. M&P will be giving the presentation which consists of a team of teachers from Sandburg High School who we've used at the Snowball events in years past.

Hinsdale Central recently hosted a chess meet and Sally is working on getting some volunteers to help sell concessions during the upcoming football playoff game. It was reiterated that a club sponsor should always be present while students volunteer at concessions.

**Action:** Sally will follow-up with concessions and give them a list of volunteers, probably from Habitat for Humanity.

## **Athletics Report** – Sally Phillip for Dan Jones who was not in attendance

Hinsdale Central is hosting the girls state swim meet at FMC Natatorium on November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, so Boosters is charged with running the concessions for the event. Dan has indicated that there will be 1,400 spectators and 300 swimmers/divers each day. The spectators cannot leave once they pay, so Dan anticipates that the concessions team can make good money at the two-day event. HC Boosters is also tasked with running concessions for the boy's state swim meet at FMC Natatorium on February 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

### **Grants** – Kim Anderson

**Discussion:** Fall grant requests totaled \$51,595.70. This is larger than normal due to no grants being issued during the 2020/2021 school year (Covid/remote learning). These grants represent a good balance between activities \$22,994 and athletics \$28,601 as well as equal distribution between boys' and girls' sports in compliance with Title IX. A copy of the detailed list is attached.

Kim Anderson presented the proposed list of grant requests for discussion. Many of the current requests are for things that Boosters feels are necessities and not a "nice to have," but because the Activity and Athletics budgets have been cut over the last few years the Board agreed that these requests were needed. Kim and Rob Tonn attended a recent D86 Finance Committee meeting and CFO, Josh Stephenson, and Superintendent, Tammy Prentiss were made aware of the necessities that Boosters is regularly funding. They believe that Boosters should not be responsible for covering these types of items but said previous administrations have not budgeted for a regular replacement cycle on things that need to be replaced regularly. They are supposedly working to address that, so we will see if that truly changes.

Kim made a motion to approve the fall grants as proposed. All members of the Board voted in the affirmative. The plan is to also offer a second round of Booster grants in February for review and approval at the March Board meeting.

**Action:** Julie Boruff, Treasurer, will issue checks to Activities and Athletics for their respective grant totals.

### **Fundraising** – Kim Anderson

A discussion was held regarding the proposed revenue stream from the new digital scoreboard at HCHS. Although HC Boosters originally planned to purchase the scoreboard for Dickinson Field and benefit from the digital ad revenue, D86 decided that they were going to purchase indoor and outdoor scoreboards for both schools (Central & South) and D86 will retain 100% of the revenue from these ad sales. D86 will not segregate the money raised by each school's scoreboards for that school. It will all go into the district's budget and they can use in any way they choose.

Many on the Board expressed disappointment in this approach since parents volunteer (solicit advertisers) at the school their child(ren) attends, and they don't want the money raised by their efforts going to a general district fund where they will not receive the reward for these efforts. There will be a Finance Committee meeting on Monday, November 29 which will further discuss this matter.

HC Boosters received a check for \$330 from the Bouq Box Homecoming fundraiser.

**Action:** Kim and Rob will attend the Finance Committee meeting and express Boosters' desire to have the revenue divided up by school, rather than funneled through the district. Julie Boruff will put a link on the bottom of emails and on the Boosters website for a link to join Amazon Smile.

### **Concessions** – Julie Boruff

Not much to report except that the number of volunteers has been light this year. A discussion was held for future potential expenses for the indoor concession booth including carving out money for a new sink, a new menu board, and professional cleaning.

Also discussed the need to staff and oversee the teams that are responsible for running indoor concessions at their sporting events. Since John Delaney's "retirement" from the Board Boosters has been having a difficult time finding the Board members to oversee the team parents. Kim mentioned that during the 2019/2020 school year Boosters paid Karen Ford (D86 employee) \$1,500 to open the concession area and get things rolling for team parent volunteers.

**Action:** Discuss potential upcoming expenditures with Concessions team and schedule a time to clean and stock indoor concessions prior to the first home sporting event the week of November 15th. Kim is going to reach out to Dan regarding the possibility of hiring Karen Ford to assist with managing the stocking and opening for indoor concession events.

### **Membership – Suzanne Austin**

There are currently 347 members. All membership items have been distributed except the chairs which are still on back-order until February or March of 2022. 100 chairs have been ordered. A shipment for blankets is arriving tomorrow, so they will have blanket inventory for new memberships.

**Action:** Suzanne Austin will write a Booster membership solicitation letter to parents who register on 8 to 18 for winter athletics.

### **Spirit Wear – Michelle Fisher**

Michelle is ordering more inventory of items that sell most often. The more popular items include sweatpants, pajama bottoms, yoga pants and a full-zip hoodie.

**Action:** They may have a sale the Friday before Thanksgiving and will also find a day to sell before winter break (which starts December 21<sup>st</sup>) for holiday gifts.

### **Treasurer – Julie Boruff**

**Discussion:** Boosters cash position is \$133,000, but we owe Athletics \$8,675 for gate fees (\$25 for each membership sold). After fall grants of \$51,595.70 are paid, we should have unrestricted cash of approximately \$72,000. We had some money set aside to purchase another concessions cooler, but the concessions team has determined they do not need this, so we no longer need to reserve for that expense.

**Action:** None

### **Volunteers – Courtney Willman**

**Discussion:** Courtney will continue to add new volunteers that come into a master list. They will regularly receive a Signup Genius to volunteer to help with spirit wear, membership, concessions, etc. at upcoming events.

### **Webmaster – Julie Boruff with Emily Zeng (shadowing)**

**Discussion:** None

**Action:** None

**Sponsorship/Special Projects – Nancy Dugan not in attendance.** No significant update due to sponsorship on hold pending video scoreboard deal with D86 being finalized.

**Discussion:**

**Action:** None

**Old/New Business**

**Discussion:** None

**Action:** None

**Next Meeting:**

**Wednesday, December 1 @ 7:00 pm in the HCHS Faculty Cafeteria**

Please mark your calendars for the future 2021-2022 Board Meetings.

Wed, January 5<sup>th</sup> – 7 pm

Wed, February 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7 pm

Wed, March 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7 pm

Wed, April 6<sup>th</sup> – 7 pm

Wed, May 4<sup>th</sup> – 7 pm