

WFHS Booster Club Meeting

Tuesday August 6, 2024 6:00

1. Welcome – President Sarah Chapman

Sarah introduced herself and the board and welcomed everyone to the new school year. She talked about how it has been a busy summer already securing new sponsorships and renewals.

2. Athletic Directors Report – Athletic Director Jeff Dunbar

AD Dunbar started by thanking Mike Champman, Adam from soccer and the parents who helped work on the stadium field. Melvin McLawhorn interjected a thank you to AD Dunbar for his help as well and continued to explain that WFHS was about to get some sod at a great value, and volunteers worked on the field. This whole project was done in a few days. This was a great savings for the school.

Next, discussed was the purpose of Booster Club. Schools are not allowed to fundraise so all fundraising goes through Booster Club. Any monies collected for teams that do not run through Booster Club would be considered fraud. Booster Club is governed by state, county, and school laws and polices and has a set of by-laws that it must operate within.

An explanation of the athletic department budget:

WFHS athletics run on a budget of about \$200,000, about \$80,000 comes from the school, but the difference needs to be made up by fundraising.

Some sources of Fundraising are HSOT Jamboree, concessions, spirit wear, cougar passes, reverse raffle, and golf tournament.

Some Expenditures are Huddle subscription, uniforms, coaches PD, field maintenance etc

What is taken in by the school is Fund 6 (gate receipts) (@ \$80,000)

\$30,000 goes to officials

\$20,000 goes to police

Other costs are awards, training supplies, stipends for helpers, paying ticket takers

Fundraising is vital to make up the difference

Been trying to work with eastern turf about field maintenance

Access road update:

The access road on the outside of the stadium is about to collapse because of recent rain. Looking to get a gate and a pathway put in, as a temporary fix so that visitors and home fans will not be entering the same gate. This will most likely not be done before HSOT.

Ice machines are all running smoothly

Hall of Fame update:

Class of 2024 donated their money towards the Hall of Fame, and with some money from the state, will be able to update the HoF with an enclosed touch board (@ \$17,000), lighting, and nice plaques.

We have caught up on all of our HoF inductees due to COVID delays.

New Coaches:

Coach Love – JV Volleyball

Coach Plunkett – Cheer

Coach Chris – Gymnastics

Still looking for a men's lacrosse coach

Administrators at games are Coach Dunbar, Coach Faulkner, and Coach Owens for Volleyball sometimes

Game schedules are posted on the school website by Coach Dunbar

Twitter is used to communicate as well

PA & Clock for Football and Basketball is taking care of by Coach Dunbar, other sports need to fill those spots with volunteers

A volunteer approval form needs to be filled out to volunteer/work concessions, this form needs to be re-filled out every year

Safety and development of our student athletes is the main point of our athletic program

3. Treasurer's Report – Melanie Sweeny

Budget Update:

Money is weak right now, but have paid a lot of bills this summer, so not too concerned

Checking: \$85, 310

Team acts: \$82,826

We've brought in \$26,120 in sponsorships, and \$17,876 in Cougar Paw sales YTD

Things we've paid out this summer: scholarships, coaches training trip, sod, huddle, new directional signs, Booster Hub renewal

4. New Business

Access Road: hoping for a temporary fix of a walkway and additional gate to be put in place by the start of the regular football season

5. Committee reports

1. Apparel – Mary Barnwell, John Sweeney

One large order has been placed, delivered and sorted. This should be the apparel for the whole year. This is different than what's been done in the past with multiple smaller orders done throughout the year

Looking for volunteers to help sell at events such as Cougar Camp. You can sign up on Booster Hub

2. Concessions (ordering/restocking) – Caroline Collupy, Mike Chapman

First 2 Pepsi orders are in, Sam's order going in. Should be ready for Fall Sports and HSOT

Pepsi offers Cheerwine, so we are going to try that

Chick-fil-a will replace PDQ as chicken sandwich provider since PDQ has closed

Mt. Olive is donated product for HSOT as a pilot test, individually packages of pickles, and pickle juicers

Some Concession prices have been raised from last year

Pizza raised to \$3 (Marco's has raised their prices)

Gatorade raised to \$3

Soda raised to \$3

There is no longer a \$5 minimum for card/app usage

Football games have not been assigned to teams yet

Discussion about 50/50 raffle and what teams will be assigned to which game, and what teams will work together. Coach Faulkner has suggested that the 50/50 raffle game assignments should rotate year to year so the same teams aren't getting the good games every year. HSOT is not a great 50/50 game to be assigned because while highly attended, people do not stay to the end because their teams have already paid, so they do not participate

Buckets, signs, and tickets for the 50/50 raffle are provided

3. BoosterHub Website – Open/Sarah Chapman, Beth Kozar

4. Corporate Sponsorship – Melanie Sweeney, Amy Warren

Sponsors needing a new sign need to have the information/logo in by August 12 to have their banner hung by HSOT (August 17)

Some of our new Sponsors this year: Village Deli, Smithfield's, Patronies, Raleigh Orthodontics, State Fair

Per John Schultz we have 21 sponsorships that we have collected payment from (\$51,000) and 24 not collected yet (\$38,000). These numbers include "in-kind" sponsorships

New Idea for a "Cougar Club" pitched by Jodi Helfrich and Melvin McLawhorn:

Create a cougar club for corporate sponsorships, make a nice area by the field house. Provide good seating, and maybe complimentary water and popcorn.

This could maybe lead to more corporate sponsorships. Concerns about logistics and need for more volunteers brought up. It was decided that the board will do more research and take a vote so that the decision can be made sooner than waiting until the next general meeting (September)

5. Fundraising Event – Tamar Harris Warren

Planned events are Reverse Raffle (date already set 2/20, and this is after spring sport tryouts), HSOT, and Golf Tournament

6. Cougar Pass – Amy Warren Dowdle

Passes are here from the printer and getting ready to be mailed out. They were misprinted with “Media Pass” instead of “Cougar Pass”, but there is no time to be reprinted and sent out in time for first home games.

7. Social Media Graphics – Mary Barnwell

Technical issues are being dealt with

8. Scholarship – leadership is open

9. Senior Cougar Paws - Heather Marsallo

Templates were planned to be painted this week, but will be delayed because of rain. Only templates will be painted by Booster Club, it is up to each parent who purchases to paint name, number and sport.