

## **PHS Athletic Booster Club Meeting Minutes Agenda**

**Thursday, September 21, 2023 (7:00 pm)**

**PHS Media Center**

**Purpose of Meeting** — Purpose of the meeting is to conduct general business for Poolesville High School Athletic Department and Booster Members.

### **Welcome & Introductions**

- Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm
- In attendance: Danielle Anderson (President), Alan Hobbs (VP), Lori Forcey (VP), Karen Salovich (Secretary), Mark Carothers (Principal), Regina Grubb (AD), Ryan Graves (Principal intern), George Penn, Kim Penn, Danielle Gilbert, Joel Gilbert
- Introduction of new board members: Danielle Anderson as President, Alan Hobbs as Vice President; Karen Salovich as Secretary
- Quarterly Meeting dates announced: December 6, 2023; March 6, 2024; June 5, 2024

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the June 7, 2023 meeting were approved as posted.

**Principals Comments:** Principal Carothers began the meeting by noting that he had no updates athletic related. Annual Safety Day will take place on Friday (9/22), the first half day of the year. Lock down drill is high anxiety. The teachers will present a slide deck of drills and have conversations about the drills. Principal Carothers introduced Mr. Graves, Principal intern. As of November 1st, he will be acting principal (Nov 1 – Dec 1 with Mr. Carothers support). December 1 – January 26 Principal Carothers will be at Walter Johnson HS and will return January 27<sup>th</sup>. Tim Britton, current Principal at Sherwood, will come to PHS to support Mr. Graves. Principal Carothers is confident Mr. Graves will do a great job. Mr. Graves thanks everyone and is excited to be here and looking forward to November 1st.

**Athletic Director's Report:** Regina Grubb stated that this Fall season was our top registration year to date. 436 students registered for all Fall sports. There are currently 351 actively on teams. Some withdrawal themselves due to commitment issues. Football had its highest number in years, which is a good thing for PHS. Cross Country has close to 100 kids. We are very fortunate to have a large Cross Country team. Volleyball had 60-70 students tryout. Boys Soccer had 60-70 try out. We have the numbers and involvement. So far, the season is going smooth. We have good crowds for different games. Working with student leadership to get more interest in attending competitions. Gina Grubb, Principal Carothers and Ryan Graves have met with student leaders to think about creative ways to support programs, especially during the week. Vertical Raise – Gina Grubb is pleased with over \$30,000 with only 41% participation rate. Some students were able to raise over \$1000 individually. Gina will talk to coaches to discuss what was raised, what was spent, big picture of why we raise funds. The coaches that participated raised the most money. Girls Soccer was the highest raiser. Cross Country second highest raiser.

Cheerleading had the most raised for them ever in the program. The goal was \$200 per student. Want to recognize the students that raised \$1000.

Senior nights planned:

10/2 Girls Soccer vs. Rockville (7:15 game)

10/3 Golf at Poolesville Golf Course after the match (start early in the day)

10/18 Field Hockey vs. SVHS (6:00 pm game)

10/23 Girls Volleyball vs. Walter Johnson (6:30 pm start time)

10/27 Football, Cheer and Poms vs. Watkins Mill

Boys Soccer will either be 10/4 vs. Watkins Mill or 10/17 vs. Quince Orchard

Cross Country seniors were celebrated on last week at JMPS at our one home match.

Homecoming is 10/6 vs. Boonesboro. Theme is Pink Out.

Boosters is supporting Volleyball Dink Pink on 10/10 vs. Kennedy. To raise money there will be a silent auction. Volleyball student athletes are asking resource teachers to donate themed baskets. There are a few already. Gina Grubb will help support. The auction will take place at the home game and will announce winners at the Dink Pink night.

Cheer competition will be on 10/28 at Blair HS at 2:00 pm. PHS is first on the schedule. PHS is in Division 3.

Winter registration opens on October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Wrestling weight certification notice was sent out to coaches. Weight certification will take place on November 4<sup>th</sup> at Clarksburg HS.

Playoff dates to come soon. Will be blasted on social media.

For the last Football game of the season Gina is working with Jim Capachelli to have the Legion Post attend to recognize local veterans. They will come with a large flag to walk out/roll out and display on field during the anthem.

Football game on Friday (9/22) vs. Damascus. We will have ROTC alumni Max Knight (Hood College) at the game with some other alumni. They will have a table outside the gate for questions. They will also do Color Guard during the anthem. Freshman student Ava Shelbourne will sing the National Anthem. The Grill Team will have a special of fresh pulled pork. Lots of donations: Lewis Orchards donated lots of vegetables and over 120 lbs potatoes, also the pork was donated by local farm. Principal Carothers will send thank you letter to Lewis Orchards.

JV game is a 3:30 pm game and Varsity at 7:00 pm. Because of time difference between games the stadium will be cleared after the game. Students will have to purchase separate tickets. If students remain on campus, they can stay but if they leave, they will have to pay to reenter. Principal Carothers stated that if students come for JV and leave and then return for the Varsity game, he feels responsible for them. Wants to encourage them to stay in a supervised location. Hope to have food. Unsure of number of attendees. Damascus will bring 3 buses for the JV game and 4 buses for the Varsity game. Gina will be

closing the parking lot by cafeteria for the buses and spectators will have to park in the staff parking area and student parking.

Message about Cross Country Watkins Mill match – Regina Grubb received a call and message from the Watkins Mill AD. The message was about a Gaithersburg runner with down syndrome participating in the race. He was the last runner. Our PHS team went back after they finished their race and ran with him, cheered for him, and created tunnel for him to finish. The mother of the student sent an email regarding the event. Principal Carothers read the email from the mother expressing her gratitude and appreciation for PHS sportsmanship.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Danielle Anderson (President) shared slide of last year’s budget and spend, outbreak of teams and what they received to show what the money goes towards: Cheer received new mats; Volleyball received new stands, Field Hockey received new nets; Wrestling received new dummies; Poms received new poms; and Bocce received a new set.

Budget approval for 2023-2024 year. Budget includes income, savings for emergency reserve and capital improvements, and donations/fundraising goals. Plans to keep fundraising going. Concession sales to continue for Fall sports and playoff games.

Question regarding the purchase of a season pass through GoFan – Does the school receive home game money from that? Gina explains that the school receive a percentage of the season pass, minus the service fee. Gina stated that the season or yearly pass is the best way to go as all the money goes to the school.

Danielle stated that the Booster Club has \$85K to contribute for athletic support for this year. Gina will talk to the coaches about needs and to MCPS for support on improvements to the stadium to help all the teams.

Perkins scholarship – awarded to 2 student athletes at \$1000 each. Jake Perkins was a Poolesville alumnus who was very involved in the school and community, served as a previous Booster Club President and was a HS coach to various teams. The scholarship was created in his memory. The fund needs to raise money. Coordinating a Golf tournament was too difficult and overwhelming and fell apart. Jake Perkins mother created a Mutual Fund in the past that funded the scholarship, however, Covid stopped the growth of fund and last year the fund was depleted. Looking for the Boosters to take over. For this year the Boosters budgeted \$2000 for the scholarship fund. The desire is to keep it going and will find a committee to continue the scholarship. Gina created the nomination committee of 5 people who knew Jake and who don’t know the students. Student applications are blinded. Committee votes.

Danielle asks for motion to approve budget. Kim presents motion, Lori seconds the motion.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Fundraising** – Danielle Anderson discussed current fundraising activities.

- Vertical Rise: funds raised through the site (not checks we received):
  - Girls Soccer - \$8,049
  - XC - \$7,425
  - Football - \$7,124
  - Field Hockey - \$4,340
  - Girls Volleyball - \$4,088
  - Cheer - \$2,760
  - Boys Soccer - \$2,436
  - Poms - \$884

- Gina stated that there will be a fundraiser for Winter and Spring sports. Something different than Vertical Raise such as on-line cards (like Falcon cards but Nationwide).
- Membership: 3 levels of support.

### **Spirit wear** – Lori Forcey

- The Sponsored \$5 T-shirts for home games are wildly popular with the students. Shirts sold out in 8 minutes. Team effort to design shirts. Sponsor logo on the back and Booster covers the delta. Not meant to be a money maker but to raise spirit. This is the third year of theme shirts to match the theme of the Football game. There will be two more; pink for homecoming and USA for senior Football night.
- Spirit ware sales are planned for Poolesville Day with new inventory; however, the weather forecast is unfavorable. Walking traffic not expected to be heavy so there will be a tent sale at the home Football game on Friday (9/22). Overall Boosters are doing well with spirit ware sales at Football games. The inventory was relocated to the brick building in stadium and there are plans to have sales out of there soon and have room for more inventory. Students are now aware of where to purchase spirit ware. Administration is working with student leadership in creating themes and working with students to promote school spirit. Themes are very popular.

### **Concessions** – Alan Hobbs

- Alan ran through the list of future improvements to support the concessions buildings. Most of the improvements include repairs as the buildings have been neglected over the years (facial boards are rotting and will be replaced with PVC, gutters are dripping and will be replaced with seamless gutters). Repairs will be done by Grill Team members. Grill Team is made up of all volunteers. All members no longer have students in school, except for one. Grill Team members have a lot of resources (time and materials) and own companies that can contribute to repairs and upkeep of stadium and concessions/booster buildings on a voluntary basis. Grill Team would like to build a new multi-purpose structure in the stadium for student safety (provide shade during excessive heat, cover during storms and a place to relax).
- Future improvements: Gina Grubb has big plans for entrance to stadium. Principal Carothers is driving around to view schools in Montgomery County. PHS stadium needs upgrades to be comparable with other MCPS schools and the new building. Principal Carothers and Gina Grubb are working with MCPS to figure out steps to make it happen. Not asking for money but MCPS requested list of improvements they will support. Unknown how the process will roll out. Want to match quality of new build. Principal Carothers proposing to use school/community resources and support, so no money is taken from construction budget. There is concern that doing stadium improvements “bit by bit” will exceed cost and require approval from the MCPS board. It will hurt PHS in the long run to go to board once or twice a year requesting approval. A MCPS representative requested a “big picture” of all the things we want to see done for next 2-5 years and make it comparable to other schools. Principal Carothers and Gina Grubb are creating a proposal to take to the board and are currently collecting data. Principal Carothers has made it his mission to make PHS comparable to other MCPS schools and will state to MCPS that students from 18 out of 26 clusters of schools are represented at PHS. Coach Penn inquired if practice fields will be included in proposal. Carothers says yes, it will include practice fields.
- Other improvements: new seal coating on asphalt; LED lighting in bathrooms and concession stand; painting concession stand (Winter project); new commercial refrigerator as the Grill Team produces a

lot of food for games (working with Pepsi to exchange the old refrigerator for new one; equipment in concession stand must be commercial); paint and install fan in brick building; safety tape on bleachers.

- Overall, there are good turnouts for concessions. Will grow resources to get better.

#### **Sponsorship** – Danielle Anderson

- New sponsors are Bupp Contracting, K-2 Café and Crossvines.
- Need new fence on back line facing bleachers to place sponsor banners; and need new fencing by baseball fields for sponsor banners.
- Part of improvements will be sponsor boards by the score board.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- Boosters will have a booth at Poolesville Day to sell spirit ware. The booth is located by the flag poles. A Sign-up Genius was sent to 2022-2023 members. Due to forecasted tropical storm we are not expecting a lot of foot traffic.

#### OPEN FORUM - Questions

- Discussed how to send out notice of meetings to school community and coaches. Gina will notify coaches to email parents, Booster Club will send out via social media, Karen Salovich will send email to members a week prior to meeting).

#### **Adjournment**

Called for the meeting to be adjourned at 8:02 pm