

February Booster Minutes
February 13, 2007

Present: Kathy Bonfigli, Jill King, Maria Stowell, Valerie McNamara, Ed Hockenbury, Betsy Weischedel, Laura Darden, Tim Gendron, Steve Mayville, Dustin Snyder

Ed's Reports:

- Dustin Snyder has made the USA U18 Rugby Team and will be traveling to England April 9-17. The trip will cost \$1,500. Will Boosters consider helping with part of the cost of the trip? Ed might have some money and Rob is looking to help as well. Dustin was present to answer any of our questions. [Approved \\$200 for Dustin Snyder \(USA Rugby team\), matching the school's and the athletic department's contributions \(Amended 2/23/2007\).](#)
- Leadership Conference coming up. Thanks to Boosters for paying for 8 juniors to attend: Ethan Clark, Gabe Nicasio, Brandon Keift, Tim Carpenter, Cait Teegarden, Autumn Reilly, Britney Wells and Catherine Ramsey. Mike Goodrich will facilitate.
- ALC recently had a guest speaker, Brian Kane. He is a gifted speaker and the students enjoyed him. An upcoming events the ALC has planned is a bowling tournament (1 teacher, 3 students per team, uniform required). This will take place on March 14th from 3-5. Awards given for highest combined score, lowest combined score, and best uniform. Also in March, the Athletes Ball on March 10th. This will take place in the gym with a DJ, \$5 per ticket and is a semi-formal.
- Indoor Track won the girls' and boys' state championships. It is recognized as a varsity sport this year. We are hoping to get it approved to permanently become a varsity sport. The

cost can be anywhere from \$8,000-\$10,000 with coach fees and transportation.

- Bill O'Neill has received the National Boys High School Hockey Coach of the Year. Congratulations Bill!
- Captains' Leadership Training has been cut from the budget. Will Boosters consider supporting part of the cost next year? We could have Shelia come to the next meeting along with captains and coaches to discuss how it went this year. Ed feels that it was extremely beneficial to the teams. The captains learned valuable skills to help lead their team. Shelia communicates with the coaches, and contacts the captains. We could also ask the coaches at the coaches meeting coming up March 7th. There is a chance to fundraise by getting sponsors on the athlete calendars that are made each season.
- Ed's vision is to hire a strength and conditioning coach for Essex High School. The new weight room will be twice the size it is now and will have all new equipment. This person would work with the coaches in the weight room and on the field with sports specific training. Would Boosters be willing to help cover a part of the cost of this similar to when an athletic trainer was added? We discussed the importance of this person working with athletes in the preseason of a sport as well.
- Healthy Youth Collaborative: Ed attended a workshop at his National Athletic Directors Convention about giving kids healthy alternatives on Friday and Saturday nights. Do we see this happening at Essex? BFA has the 5th Quarter where a team has an opportunity to get together after their game and does something fun together. Should this be mandatory? Should we try it out next year? Discussion followed as to whether this would be effective and well received by the students. We will continue discussion in March. Ed can get more information on the BFA 5th Quarter.

Other:

- Laura reports that Joe Gonilla has asked for the Hershey Track Meet as a fundraiser. Brad Luck from Rugby has asked for an event as well. Brad just did the wrestling classic, so we felt that Joe could have this one. All in favor.
- April 5th is Meet the Coaches night. We will need representatives from each sport to go to the meeting.
- Merchandise: Jeanne did well last month. We gave a sweatshirt to an exchange student and discussed that it would be a great gesture to do so to all exchange students.
- No treasurer's report this month
- Indoor Track New England's; Ed will send the names of the students attending. We usually donate \$50 per athlete.

VOTE:

We will support Dustin Snyder going to England. Amount to be determined once Ed and Rob have decided on what they can give.\

New England's for Indoor Track: \$50/athlete

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, March 13th, 7:00PM