



## **Student Athletics and Activities Committee**

November 2, 2017

**Board Chair**—Sandy Weisbrot

**Administrative Liaison**—Erik Pedersen

**Attendance**—Please see the accompanying committee attendance sheet.

Mrs. Weisbrot called the meeting to order at 5:30PM. The meeting was held earlier due to a playoff game that required Mr. Pedersen's attendance.

The minutes of the September 7, 2017 meeting were approved.

### **Old Business**

- Athletics planning was discussed. Specifically, the group discussed the need for through planning. Mr. Pedersen had a contractor conduct a non-cost analysis of the athletics facilities which resulted in some findings that will be added to the District's long-range facilities plan. Items that were included were: a press box, restrooms, and other upgrades. Dr. Yanni discussed that we are working with donors who may be amenable to donating funds to upgrade the athletics facilities. Dr. Yanni indicated that the District's responsibility is to bring the facilities to standard, and then donations can be used for work above and beyond that.
- Mr. Pedersen discussed the pros and cons of turf. Dr. Yanni also mentioned that we keep hearing about the poor conditions of our fields. Our fields are in good shape. We need to make sure that we get that message out.
- Mr. Pedersen noted that the District is no longer lining Hardy Bush Field (Field #4). Solebury Township is now lining the field.
- Mr. Pederson indicated that donor funds will be used for a uniform storage solution. Given that we have new uniforms, we want to be able to keep them in good shape. As a reminder, the donor funds were provided to be used at the discretion of the Athletic Director and Superintendent.
- Mr. Pederson discussed plans for basketball games due to the HS gym being under construction. Seven of the eight games were already scheduled, and Mr. Pedersen ensured the group that all games will be taken care of.

### **New Business**

- Mr. Bachart, HS Band teacher, discussed the proposed music trip to Italy in 2019. There will be no cost to the District for this trip, as it is student funded. Fundraising

began in August 2017. The trip will be taken over Presidents' Day weekend. Mr. Bachart worked with two companies in planning. Destinations will include Florence, Rome, the Vatican, and Venice. The trip will cost between \$2200-2500. A total of 120 students can participate. The trip, however, is not required.

- Mr. Band expressed his concerns about the cost of the trip and the fact that the fundraising information does not seem right. For instance, under the Right to Know Law, Mr. Band received information about very limited funds being raised for the trip, keeping the burden on the parents/families. He expressed that kids and families have talked to him about not being able to afford the trip. Mr. Bachart and Dr. Yanni both discussed that if there is a financial need, families can be assisted. Mr. Band said that families don't want to come forward to express a need. The committee moved this trip forward for Board approval.
- Mr. Wehr, Orchestra, discussed the invitation for our students to play at Carnegie Hall on April 4<sup>th</sup>. We are excited to have our students invited. The trip will be funded by students, and there is no cost to the District. This will be an overnight trip because of the length of the day. The committee moved this trip forward for Board approval.
- Ms. Nino, MS Student Council advisor, discussed the student trip to the Leadership Experience and Development (LEAD) conference in DC. This trip is student funded, and there is no cost to the District.
- Mr. Pedersen and Dr. Yanni briefly discussed fan behavior at games. Lately there have been a few instances of misbehavior. Dr. Yanni reminded the group that the students are held to the same standard at games as they are in school.
- Dr. Yanni then discussed athletics facilities upgrades. In January, Dr. Yanni and Mr. Pedersen will facilitate a group inclusive of all booster presidents (incoming and outgoing) to determine a comprehensive list of needs. The demographic study will be public by then, so we will have the data needed to develop an athletics facilities list as part of the long-range facilities plan being worked on by the District and the facilities committee.

#### **Public Comment**

- MS Soccer games need to be increased next year to ensure high school participation. Mr. Pedersen assured the group it will be taken care of.
- Ms. Arslanian commented on the great new website for athletics.
- Mrs. Mardarossian commented that the music trips are awesome.
- Mr. Band expressed concerns about funding music trips.

Mrs. Weisbrot adjourned the meeting at 6:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik Pedersen  
*Athletics Director*