

Falcon Athletic Booster Club meeting, July 12, 2017

The Falcon Athletic Booster Club met on the afternoon of July 12, 2017, in the Multi-Purpose Room at St. John Paul II Catholic High School. Twenty-two people attended the meeting. Vice President Sherri Ross conducted the meeting in the absence of President Paul Andrzejewski, who was out of town on travel. The meeting began with a prayer at 5:33 p.m.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the June meeting, and the minutes were approved. There was no treasurer's report.

Athletic Director Cliff Pate gave the director's report. He discussed the upcoming meeting with the Alabama High School Athletic Association about the classification of private schools within the association. Among the proposals is to move the private schools into one classification. Another is to raise the multiplier. A task force has been create, he said, to make recommendations.

He said many of the coaching vacancies have been filled. New tennis and golf coaches have been hired, both full-time teachers at JP II. A middle school boys basketball coach also has been hired. He discussed the purchases of the two new buses, an ongoing project since January. The buses, purchased from the Morgan County system, are in need of painting over the "Morgan County Schools" logos. Painting is too expensive, he said, so vinyl stickers will be used. Maintenance and insurance costs have been taken care of, he said. He said he has met with companies to contract bus drivers. The school hopes to use the buses for transportation in the mornings. That service, though, will be not available when school begins in early August.

He reports that summer camps were "decent." About 100 students attended - "not bad," he said. He believes next year's camps will be attended more heavily. "Overall, they were not as successful as I'd like them to be," he said.

Assistant Athletic Director Kyle Overtstreet, instrumental in the weight room renovation, gave a report on the progress of the weight facility. He said the new weight equipment should arrive in the next day or two - a week or so at the latest, he said.

Sherri Ross gave an overview of the Falcon Athletic Booster Club's philosophy. "We're here to support Falcon athletics and do fundraisers," she said. "We vote and decide where the money goes. How do we raise money? With major fundraisers."

She mentioned the upcoming fundraiser, the Back to School Icebreaker on Aug. 12 at the Lumberyard. She discussed the importance of a "more community-type feeling" that the booster club is seeking to build. The second fundraiser will be later in the fall - a 20/20 fundraiser, in which students will be required to send out 20 letter, each requesting \$20. There will be a bowling bash in the winter, and the annual golf outing in the spring. "We're asking everyone to run everything through the Falcon Booster Club," she said. "We need to be aware of what's going on." She also touched on the upcoming

media guides, another large source of revenue. Each athlete will be required to sell an ad, she said. She also touched on the recent booster club purchases for various JPIL sports - more than \$7,000 in total purchases. "Of course, the well will run dry," she said. "We invite any suggestions."

She invited Mike Counts, former booster club president at Huntsville High School, to share his experiences in building the Huntsville High Booster Club. Mike's son, Jordan, was a basketball and baseball player at Huntsville High. Players had a sizable fee to play those sports at Huntsville High. But, he said, "no one held accountable" for the profitability of Huntsville High basketball. Baseball, he said, was altogether different because people, particularly parents, were held accountable. Among the ways revenues were increased at Huntsville High was that the booster club concentrated on four major fundraisers, getting rid of the smaller fundraisers. He also stressed the necessity to have parents involved, particularly as concession-stand workers. "It's the parents who will make the program work," he said. "If you don't do that, you won't have whatever you want to have." He also stressed the importance of communication - creating a website, along with sending texts and e-mails.

Harry Day, the new baseball coach at JPIL, gave an update on the baseball program. There were no summer workouts last year. There has been a complete turnaround in the offseason program, he said, with players working out this summer. "It'll go from no workouts to workouts every day," he said. The players have responded well, he said. "The biggest difference is we have to be more detailed in all categories."

Sherri Ross stressed the importance of a change in culture in JPIL athletics. "We will not be successful unless we all pull together," she said. "That's what we need in all the sports. Kids have to play multiple sports."

Don Kimminau, the new golf tournament chairman, gave an update on the tournament. He said he was seeking to get other parents involved in the tournament.

Joe Ross, the new middle school football coach and a former coach at Army, spoke about some of the great work that has been taking place this summer. In particular, he mentioned the strong participating in the off-season workouts. "It has been an awesome sight," he said. He also reiterated the importance of playing multiple sports and the benefits of athletics. "Sports is the only place where you bring mind, body and spirit together," he said.

The meeting ended with a prayer around 6:25 p.m.

Attending

Jessie M. Jeffries
Glenda Lewis
Mike Counts
Paul Page

Jeff Miller
John Shrontz
Amy Goddard
Nancy McMurray
Lynn Mayo
Darrell Brown
Harry Day
Doug Shores
Don Kimminau
Todd Slyman
Nicole Slyman
Sherri Ross
Joe Ross
Laura Stratton
Tricia Hall
Mike Marshall
Kyle Overstreet
Cliff Pate