

PRAIRIE RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL BOOSTER CLUB
Monday, January 8, 2024 @ 7:00pm
Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the PRHS Booster Club was held on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 7:00 pm in the PRHS Library.

Board Attendees: Sieglinde Savas, President; Tatiana Gray, Treasurer; Shannon Vrbancic, VP Operations-Concessions; Margie Palmer, Secretary

Call To Order: Prairie Ridge High School Booster Club President, Sieglinde Savas, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Athletic Director Report: Coach Chris Schremp attended the meeting as PR's new Athletic Director as of December 2023, replacing Mark Gilbert who will retire in June 2024. Mr. Schremp introduced himself and provided a synopsis of his vast coaching career, which included basketball, wrestling, girl's softball and more. He shared his vision for the position, with a focus extending beyond the PR football program, and with a goal of leaving both the athletic program and school in a better position. Having worked as the Assistant Director for 11 years, he is very familiar with the history of PR's athletic program, but is planning to incorporate some changes, some of which have already been implemented. He has been working with the Construction class, who will be designing new cases for the trophy display in the front hallway to really improve the look of the main hall. Additionally, the Construction class will be working on building picnic tables around the football viewing area to provide more seating for fans to eat and socialize. He reported that the Volleyball Coach openings are still pending but expects to have announcements made by February. Mr. Schremp will be heading the interview process, and will be looking for coaches who will be the best teachers and who will support the players, which will then lead to wins. In closing, Mr. Schremp emphasized how much he is looking forward to working with everyone.

In closing, Sieglinde Savas shared how Mr. Schremp is looking to bring cohesiveness and continuity to both the athletic program and PR as a whole.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes from the November 13, 2023, meeting, was seconded and carried.

Vice Principal Report: Due to Mr. Koeppen's absence, a report was not provided.

Introduction of Attendees: Sieglinde initiated a round of self-introductions among the meeting attendees.

Board Reports:

President/Fundraising Report: Sieglinde wished everyone a Happy New Year, and thanked everyone for attending the evening's meeting. She reported on the Booster Board's upcoming focuses, which include the Annual Allocations, Merit Scholarship and Ridge Raffle at Rookies. Allocation applications will be going out to coaches and activity directors. Sieglinde provided some background on the application process and how this is an opportunity for coaches and club and activity sponsors to request funding for specific needs. Applications will be received and reviewed by Dr. Koch, Mr. Koeppen, Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Janshego, and Coach Schremp who

will then make their recommendations for allocations to the Booster Board for final determination. This process drains the coffers, leaving only what is needed for operating expenses (fall concessions and spirit wear inventory). Last year, the PR Boosters awarded \$76,000, but this year will not be quite as much. The larger sum was due to Covid when two years of allocations had to be skipped. In addition to the Annual Allocations, the Board also provides a number of \$1,000 merit scholarships to students moving onto higher education. She explained that the PR Boosters Scholarship is merit-based, and not a recognition of academic achievement. The Board has been working on revamping the application and will be making it available to students in February. Lastly, Sieglinde reported on the return of the Ridge Raffle at Rookies fundraiser, which will be held April 21, 2024 at Rookies in downtown Crystal Lake. In line with last year's raffle, there will be a total of \$15,000 in prize awards, as follows: Grand Prize: \$10,000; three \$1,000 prizes and four \$500 prizes. Everyone is encouraged to purchase tickets and volunteers are needed to sell tickets. To entice families of graduating seniors, an additional raffle will be held for those purchasing raffle tickets with a drawing of one of 5 front row parking spots for graduation day. In closing, Sieglinde encouraged everyone to continue sharing sports and club and activity highlights and accomplishments for posting.

Vice President Operations: Shannon reported on concession sales. Basketball team concessions are still being tallied. Wrestling final numbers have been completed, and grossed \$1700 for five meets, which is quite the accomplishment for wrestling. Shannon explained the financial benefits of teams supporting concessions by volunteering during games, as total revenue is split between the Boosters and the volunteering team..

Vice President Spirit Wear: In the absence of Katie Czarnecki, Sieglinde Savas reported on the results from the Holiday Sale. PR Boosters sold \$4500 in spirit wear merchandise during the 3-hour sale. Upcoming sales dates are during the joint Boys/Girls basketball games on Fridays in addition to 8th Grade Night, on 1/18 which is a good opportunity for incoming freshmen to get their PR bling. Volunteers are needed for the two hour shift. Last year's sales were upward of \$8,000.

Treasurer's Report: As of last meeting, Booster Club income balance was \$69,197. Sales including Concessions, Ridge Fest, and Spirit Wear, totaled \$12,026 vs. expenses of \$15,889. Expenses included inventory for concessions, printing for the winter roster, spirit wear inventory, concessions allocations for fall volunteer events and other operating expenses. Balance as of January 5, 2024, is \$65,335. It is expected more fundraising revenue will be generated as a result of the Ridge Raffle at Rookies.

Team & Activity Reports:

Adventure Club: Next Ski Night is scheduled for Friday, January 12th at Alpine Valley and January 27th at Devil's Head in Wisconsin for an all day outing.

Hockey Team: Dine Out Wednesday 5-8 at Portillos.

Cheer / Dance Team: Dance Team has two competitions this weekend: Grayslake North (Saturday) and Fox Valley at Jacobs (Monday). Another is scheduled for Tuesday, January 9th at Hampshire, but due to pending inclement weather, it is unsure if the competition will take place.

Toys for Tots: It was reported that 366 toys were collected from PR students for the holiday toy drive. Sieglinde will post results to ensure all are thanked for their generous contributions.

PR Musical Meeting: Set building will begin this weekend.

Upcoming Dates:

Booster Club Meetings this year: Feb. 12th, March 11th, April 8th, May 13th

Spirit Wear Sales during Boys/Girls Combo basketball night on Wrestling balcony : 1/19, 1/26 and 2/2

8th Grade Night - January 18th 6-8pm

Spring Break: March 25- 29

Sunday, April 21st - Ridge Raffle at Rookies (at Rookies) in downtown Crystal Lake

\$100 Raffle Winner: Margie Palmer, Student Council

A motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Palmer, Secretary PRHS Booster Club