

## **Dakota Boosters General Membership Meeting**

**September 14, 2015**

Board members Maureen LaFleure, Kelly Swanson, Christina Akoma, Blair Malian, Scott Zmija, Jackie Ribbentrop, Michelle Alfred and Grace Caporuscio were in attendance. Bridgette Deel (Craft show chair) was also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm by Maureen LaFleure, President. At this time new board members Kelly Swanson, Scott Zmija, Jackie Ribbentrop, Michelle Alfred and Grace Caporuscio were sworn in and introduced to the group.

**Principal's Report:** Given by Mr. Sibley.

Mr. Sibley opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the first Booster meeting of this school year. Dakota is now the largest high school in Michigan with an enrollment of 2977 students. With this many students this is a busy time of year trying to accommodate schedule change requests. Every attempt is made to try to honor these requests but this is not always possible.

Mr. Sibley is looking forward to the upcoming Meet the Teacher Night which will be Wednesday September 16, 2015. This is a very positive event in which the teachers welcome the parents and introduce their curriculum.

The Ninth Grade matriculation ceremony will also occur that week. This ceremony honors the commitment of each student to graduate on time and each sign in the book to formalize that agreement. Dakota has the highest graduate rate in the state of 98%.

Parent-Teacher conferences will be October 15 and 16, 2015.

Juniors will write the PSAT on October 14, 2015. Each student will receive a score report along with personal guided support through the Khan Academy. Khan Academy also will provide special reports for the other grades.

This is the first year Dakota students will be writing the SAT as a whole. It is a new test nationally. The SAT connects more closely with our curriculum as opposed to the ACT where teachers found they had to "teach the tricks" to better prepare students to attain a higher score.

Mr. Sibley announced the new Assistant Principal Ms. Ebony Carter. She previously taught math at Mount Clemens. We have 12 new teachers plus substitutes who have taken pay cuts to work in the Chippewa Valley School District. Our school district is well respected and some of these teachers have students in this district which further proves their confidence in our teachers and curriculum.

Ms. Hilker will have a long term sub for her classes as she is involved in working on the curriculum for the district. Mr. Downham also is away working this school year as an Administration Assistant. Substitutes are highly qualified and usually end up taking a permanent teaching position in the district when it becomes available. Ms. Lopiccolo teaches 3 hours/day and also does curricular work for the district.

There will be an upcoming visitation for accreditation. Mrs. Comoford is the school improvement chair.

Mr. Sibley has already met with each of the classes and they have set their goals for the school year. These goals are centered around discipline, attendance and academic performance. If the class meets their goal then they will be rewarded as a group at the end of the school year with something like a movie in the auditorium. Examples of goals could be making the honor roll all four quarters, having less than 3 cell phone referrals. The seniors did meet their goals from last year.

Mr. Sibley shared the overall ACT results with the juniors. We scored 20.9 (non-adjusted) which was higher than the state adjusted score of 20.8.

A new security guard company has been hired as there were numerous complaints last year.

Secretary Minute Approval- Minutes from last booster meeting from May 2015 were approved by Sheila Dettloff and Faith Knoll.

**President's Report:** Given by Maureen La Fleure, President

Maureen explained to the group the donation process for volunteers. Each volunteer earns a \$45 credit for their selected group which is paid to the group on a quarterly basis. If a coach/teacher needs to request money for their group they must present it at the monthly booster meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Given by Christina Akoma, Treasurer.

The treasurer's report from July 1, 2015-September 14, 2015 was distributed to the group. A copy is attached to these minutes. The current balance in the Booster's account is \$40,341.82. The balance is higher than usual as the Boosters are in the process of obtaining quotes for a new scoreboard for the gym.

**Donations Report:** Given by Diane Micale, Donations Trustee

Diane listed the credits earned per group to date. This is as follows:

Band 4  
Marching Band 2  
Baseball 4  
Boys Basketball 3  
Girl's Basketball 41  
Cheer JV 6  
Cheer V 6  
Choir 5

Cross Country 12  
Dance JV 13  
Dance V 4  
Football 40  
Model UN 2  
Quiz Bowl 2  
SANP 2016 6  
Softball 2  
STUGO 7  
Boy's Swim 2  
Girl's Swim 18  
Track 5  
Volleyball 17

Total 201

**Craft Show Report:** Given by Bridgette Deel, Craft Show Chair.

To date 50 booths have been rented which is higher than this time last year. Each space can be rented for \$70, tables are \$8 and \$5 for electricity.

**Fine Arts Report:** Given by Grace Caporuscio, Fine Arts Trustee

There is a band parent meeting tonight in the band room.

The marching band will be marching in the annual Richmond Good Old Days parade this weekend.

The band will be taking a trip to Florida this year. There will be a meeting this Thursday for interested students and their parents.

The marching band will once again be in the Detroit Thanksgiving Parade. The band is raffling off tickets to win an opportunity for the marching band to play outside your home on Thanksgiving Day.

The Collage Concert which showcases all of Dakota's bands and choirs will take place October 28 and 29, 2015 in the auditorium. This is a must see!! There is a \$5 admission fee.

December 17 the Holiday Choir concert will be performed.

Chippewa Valley Idol will take place in March 2016.

There is a choir parent meeting tonight in the choir room.

**Service Report:** Given by Michelle Alfred, Service Trustee

Nothing to report at this time.

Mr. Sibley did mention that Tom Keller will be the new leader of Quiz Bowl. He graduated from Dakota about 13 years ago. He obtained a degree from MSU in writing but then went in to comedy. He is an impressive individual.

**Sports Report:** Given by Scott Zmija, Sports Trustee

Scott emailed all fall coaches, including the dance and cheer teams and reminded them to encourage their athletes' parents to volunteer for concessions to earn money for their sport. He will be emailing the winter and spring coaches shortly to suggest they can get an early start on earning money for their teams.

Homecoming parade and game will be October 2, 2015 vs. Romeo. The dance will be held at the school on October 3, 2015.

### **New Business**

A mom thanked Mr. Sibley for banning the scattering of baby powder at the football games. She experienced an allergic reaction and needed to be carried out of the stadium. There are also no bags allowed in the stadium.

We will be starting Dakota Boosters Facebook and Twitter pages. Mr. Sibley already has a Twitter page and his address is dakotahs@dakadm

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Next meeting will be Tuesday October 13, 2015 at 7:00 pm.