

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting of the Academic Boosters on 10/3/19

The meeting was called to order at 9:01am by Patty Woodhouse, President. Patty turned the floor over to Craig Weigel, Principal. Craig began his Principal's report by stating that it has been a busy start to the school year, and there have been a lot of schedule changes in sports due to the EEE Virus threat. Craig reported that there was a presentation at the High School a couple of weeks ago on vaping, covering the marketing behind the vaping industry, and nicotine addiction. A link was sent out to this presentation and Craig said it is worth the watch – both fascinating and scary. Craig then mentioned the presentation on Angst that is happening this week at the High School, which will include a panel of experts (a flyer with information about the presentation was handed out). Craig said that the High School students will also see the presentation at school, with processing and feedback opportunities afterwards. Craig elaborated on the challenges Tim Johnston, Athletic Director, is facing rescheduling events due to the EEE Virus threat. The advisory won't be lifted until there is a hard freeze, and the High School is working with the Health Department. Under the current advisory, the Hearts of Gold football game will be at 4:30, with the parade being rescheduled to Wednesday the 14th at 4:00. The District is partnering with the Epilepsy Foundation for the Hearts of Gold game this year, and many Gaslight Village businesses are partnering as well. Craig went on to report that the PSAT/NMSQT will be given in a couple of weeks, and all juniors participate in this testing, as well as any sophomores that want to. Craig also mentioned that a committee has been started at the High School modeled after a very successful program at Rockford High School called Rams Against Vaping, and a survey has been sent out through the East Vision. Craig stated that Parent-Teacher Conferences are coming up, and more information about that will be communicated soon. Craig also reviewed the testing schedule occurring during the first week back from spring break, and he mentioned that Jan Huff is returning as a new part-time Regular/AP Bio teacher at the High School beginning Oct. 21 (she started the AP Bio program at EGRHS years ago).

The floor was then turned over to Lori Johnston, Director of Counseling, and Elle Burgess, Counselor, who presented on "School and Stress." Lori began by stating that we all have stress because we want our kids to be successful – the key is to know how to use stress productively. Lori then showed a clip from the "Race to Nowhere," a movie that was first shown in the district in 2012 and started the conversation about stress at a community level. The presentation included the following slides:

- What a High School Student Faces Everyday (and add to that social media)
- What Stress May Look Like for Teenagers
- Key Points for Students to Remember
- Student Needs (including weekly Admin. Staff meeting to discuss at risk and at high risk students)
- Social Emotional Learning
- Peer to Peer Listeners Program (pilot program with trained students on hand to support other students)
- Coming Soon....The Angst Presentation Oct. 7 at 7pm in the PAC (EGRHS students will see this the following week in school)

Lori then discussed some good resources, including the book the Academic Boosters will be discussing at the February meeting (“Where You Go is not Who You’ll Be” by Frank Bruni), as well as the “Grown and Flown” blogs and compilation book.

Patty ended the meeting by mentioning that the next meeting of the Academic Boosters will be on Tuesday November 12 and is a joint meeting with the PTO including the Counseling Office annual update.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03am.

Respectfully submitted by Stacey Levitt, Recording Secretary