

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting of the Academic Boosters on 12/6/18.

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am by Spencer Brown, President. Spencer introduced Craig Weigel, Principal, for the Principal's report. Mr. Weigel noted that there are only 2 weeks left in the semester and that they are feeling a "crunch time" trying to wrap things up but that the change to having the semester end before break was exciting. Next week has holiday concerts and food drive scheduled. Arbor Circle is our food drive partner. With funds from the craft show Student Council will purchase perishables from Meijer. Each home room collects the nonperishables from student donations. Mr. Weigel had a meeting with the senior class leaders to discuss inclusion and the colors of graduation gowns. The senior class leaders decided to change from the traditional gold gown for girls and blue gown for boys to all graduating students will wear the same navy color gown. Mr. Weigel commented on the extra-long Spring Break this school year with the Friday before and the Monday after the first full week in April off. The Tuesday that students return is the State testing day for freshmen through Juniors so Seniors have that day off too if they have documented their required 4 hours of service.

Next up was Mrs. Lori Johnston with the Guidance report. Mrs. Johnston noted that the Guidance Office website is the best resource available and that it is loaded with information. The Annual report reviewed at the meeting last month is on the site as the Weebly report. Seniors applying to colleges with a January 1 – 15 application must list that college in Naviance by the end of the week. Transcripts of 1st semester grades are automatically sent to every college that has been sent an application. PSAT results will be available starting on Monday. Report cards available on January 11th.

Mrs. Shelly Boeve, Student Services Coordinator, presented alternate credit choices. Before she started it was noted that Kent ISD is hosting a February 2nd groundhog day job shadowing experience. It is county wide for 700 students and the sign up is tomorrow at 7:00 AM. Alternate credit choices are high school credits earned in another way than sitting in a classroom. KCTC (Kent Career Tech Center) at Kent ISD is the most common way for our EGRHS students. Flyers are available covering the 24 programs including health services and information technology. These programs can prepare students for college. The students spend 3 hours of their day at Kent ISD. There are 3 sessions per day and the bus goes to Kent ISD 5 times every day. To be in this program you must shadow an existing student and meet with Mrs. Boeve. All sophomores receive a presentation of the program. Students are in the program for a full year. Another program at Kent ISD is Kent Innovation. Students begin in this program as freshmen. This classes are project based. Students receive an EGRHS diploma.

The largest on-line course provider for our students is Michigan Virtual. Courses are self-paced using the Blackboard platform. Students meet with Mrs. Boeve to show course progress. Taking on-line classes allows students to take an elective they have an interest in or gives them flexibility in their schedule when the AP class they wanted conflicts with another class. Students must plan ahead and attend a March 19th mandatory meeting. The Michigan Virtual semester matches the EGRHS semester. Students receive a grade that goes toward their GPA. Another on-line provider is MySchool@Kent. It is primarily utilized as summer credit recovery. The classes are not as rigorous as Michigan Virtual. This is a good option for Health rather than testing out.

Dual enrollment allows students to take a class at a college such as Calvin, Aquinas and GRCC. Students need their own transportation and the class must work with your high school schedule and it is usually paired with lunch. It cannot be a class that is offered at the high school. There is a mandatory meeting on March 20th.

Testing out allows students to earn credit by demonstrating proficiency. It is done during the summer as independent study with an August test date where students must earn a 77% or higher on the scored test. Students do receive a packet with content expectations listed.

Summer school is not provided by EGRHS. Beginning in May summer school information becomes available for the non-seated classes offered by Michigan Virtual, MySchool@Kent and Northview Public Schools. Parents pay the cost for these programs and students do receive a grade.

Spencer moved on to the business portion of the meeting. There were Progressive Dinner sign-up sheets passed around for volunteers for host homes and for cooks for Friday Jan. 25 and Thursday Jan 24 (volunteers do not need to be skilled cooks). Spencer stated that sign-up sheets were also being passed around for volunteers to help with Winter Whirl date February 9th and the Academic Boosters Awards Ceremony. The minutes of the November Academic Boosters meeting were approved.

Spencer concluded the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Mooney, Treasurer