

**AHS BOOSTER CLUB  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
September 19, 2023  
6pm - 7pm  
AHS Library, Arlington, WA**

**Executive Board Members and Directors Present:** Kimberly Meno (President), Jessica Hill (Secretary), Greer Verrier-Davis (Membership), Elise Birdsong (Arts Director), Frank Stallons, & Kim Wilson

**Executive Board Members and Online:** Deanne Moff (Arts Director) & Heidi Duskin (BAB)

**Attendees Present:** Merilee Herman, Mileesha Crews, Virginia Muiz, and Ana Weber

**Attendees Online:** Shannon Williamson, Amra Hayes & Laquene Jones

**AHS Councilors present:** Lisa Sullivan, Jim Evans, Shana Crookes, and Allison Bennett

Meeting called at 7:00 pm

### **Welcome and Introductions**

The 4 A's: Academics, Athletics, Arts and Activities (Kimberly Meno):

Our big umbrella that Boosters Club encompasses. Staff falls under that umbrella, students too. We try to help out in all ways we can and in all areas. The directors cover different areas (ie., Membership and Student Activities).

- We do have a current board director position open if anyone is interested. This position is Staff Activities. Things we would do in that position include: organizing the Back to School drink table for staff, organizing help out at conferences with volunteers and organizing volunteers to feed the staff at conferences between their break as well. There's about 4 or 5 activities per year that are staff related.

How our meetings go (Kimberly Meno): We usually meet 6 times a year. The second Tuesday, every other month from 6pm - 7pm. Please join us!

- You can find our meeting minutes online at <https://www.ahsboosterclub.com/>

Principal Remarks: Merilee Herman

Every kid at Arlington High School is asked to do 3 things: work hard, be kind, and get involved. This is done through a variety of things, as you will hear from our councilors today. They're really going to hit on how to be kind, getting involved, and how to get those support pieces here at the HS. Our big focus starting last year and continuing this year is those employability pieces and building culture around our students. We have a civility policy, dress code, and cell phone policy.

**Guest Speakers:** AHS Counseling Staff: Lisa Sullivan (Last name A-C), Jim Evans (Last names D-Hi), Shanna Crookes (Last names Mo-Sc), and Allison Bennett (Se-Z).  
[Not present] Cheyanne Hanshow (Last names Ho-Mi)

- Their caseloads range - 300; the councilors try to keep the same students yearly for continuity.
- Works with a data driven prospective
- Three primary areas of focus:
  - Social/emotional development
  - Academic development
    - Think critically...
  - Career readiness
    - A successful transition from school to post-secondary education, employment, and/or the military.
- From the professional perspective is to align what they do with the social/emotional standard. They are kind of like the common core standards but for social/emotional. Commonly referred to as SELs. They try to make it a safe space. Encourage students to have open communication with parents.
- Common Topics in Social / Emotional: Stress Management, Healthy Relationships, Conflict Resolution, Depression/Anxiety, Coping with change & disappointment, and Grief & Crisis. It is a difficult time to transition from HS to adulthood. These areas are where they ask for most of the Booster Club help.
- Common Topics in Academic Development: Graduation requirements, improvement strategies, relevant course selection, study skills, organizational skills, and self-awareness & reflection. In their everyday work, they spend a lot of time working with students on that last component of self-awareness and reflection.
- This year's goal: going over graduation requirements with students and even parents.
- Three Components to a HS diploma in Washington State:
  - 24 Credits in specific content areas
  - High School & Beyond Plan: This starts at the middle school and becomes more of a yearly project once in HS. The culmination of 4 years of tasks and activities results in a complete HS & Beyond Plan. As long as they do these tasks during Advisory, they can be done without doing any of it at home, by the end of their senior year.
  - Graduation Pathway: This is confusing to students and parents. To achieve their Graduation Pathway, students can do any of the following:
    - Pass the SBAC in ELA and/or math
    - Pass a college-level (dual credit class in ELA and/or math
    - Pass a Bridge to College class in ELA and/or math
    - Pass special Advanced Placement classes
    - Earn a high school cut score on the SAT or ACT: This is not the same score for college admission. It is aligned with the cut score on the SBAC.
      - \* Students can: Mix and match the above options for ELA and math
    - Other Pathways to graduation (as long as they are aligned with the HS & Beyond Plan:

\* Earn 2 credits in Career & Technical Education classes if aligned with High School & Beyond Plan; or

\* Pass the ASVAB if aligned with High School & Beyond Plan

- Questions: Would you encourage parents to familiarize themselves with their student's HS & Beyond Plan? ABSOLUTELY! Parents' access to this plan is through your student. Using MySchoolData as a resource is a great program that is underutilized. Also, on the front page on the AHS website is the course catalog. It is good to go through the catalog with your student to get an idea of what their pathway would look like.
- Common Topics in Career Readiness: High School & Beyond Plan
  - Interests, passions, skills
  - Short term goals
  - Long term goals
  - Post secondary education: any education that occurs after HS, not just college (apprenticeships for instance)
  - Employability skills
  - Financial literacy
  - Financial Aid
  - College applications
- Lisa Rodeno is a great help when a student needs more in depth help with the process like with job applications, FAFSA help, etc. Her office is located right outside the counseling center. There is also a great resource on this on the AHS website. She coordinates the ASVAB on campus as well. Counseling is trying to push more to Advisory so they can work with students more on career development.
  - FAFSA opens in December 2023. It must be done by February 1st for most colleges.
- Questions & Conversation:
  - Frank Stallons says THANK YOU for doing what you do for the kids and for staff. He mentioned how much the councilors help the teachers a bunch too as a support and resource. Kimberly Meno says the same. She mentions that the councilors didn't even mention they do, like scheduling but that is just a minor thing they do with all that they do accomplish.
  - How can Booster Club help assist/pass info to parents/etc?
    - Lisa said that anytime they've asked for financial help for a student in need, Boosters Club has helped and it is appreciated. They've helped both directly but also by connecting them to resources in the community.
    - Kimbely Meno also mentioned if the Counselors need us to push any information out to families via social media, please reach out to Shana Newell our Social Media guru.

#### Comments/Questions

- Next General Membership Meeting will be held at AHS Library on November 14th at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

## **Booster Club Directors**

Kimberly Meno, President

Kim Deisher-Allen, VP & Fundraising

Jessica Hill, Secretary

Sydney Costello, Treasurer

Frank Stallons, Asst. Treasurer

Kim Wilson, Academics

Deanne Moff, Arts

Christina Carbajal, Athletics

Heidi Duskin, Business Boosters

Greer Verrier-Davis, Membership

Staff Activities - open

Elise Birdsong, Student Activities

Shana Newell, Webmaster and Media