

**Spring-Ford Area School District
Extra-Curricular Committee
Board Committee Members:**

Mr. Tom DiBello (Chair), Mr. Will Cromley, Mr. Bern Pettit

MEETING AGENDA/MINUTES

Meeting Date: Monday November 9, 2015 – District Office Conference Room

Attendance: Dr. Nugent, Mr. Racich, Mr. Cromley, Student Eric, Mr. DiBello, Dr. Colyer, Mr. Reigner, Student Preem, Student Richard, Mrs. Flynn, Dr. Roche

Agenda:

- Acceptance of Minutes from October 2015 – Meeting began at 6:02pm
- Presentation: SFAHS New Club Proposal – Tech Club - Mrs. Flynn provided an overview of the mission of the club and shared student survey results as a part of the beginner club process. Mrs. Flynn gave a history of the club including a video presentation highlighting the Spring-Ford students in a local competition. In addition, Mrs. Flynn reviewed the current plans and activities that will be taking place during the rest of the school year. The end of the presentation was highlighted by an “A Solve the Rubric’s Cube” demo! The committee is recommending new funds to official start the Tech Club at the HS. An agenda item will be added to the work session for a committee recommendation.
 - **Tech Club Mission**
 - To provide students opportunities to explore STEM areas of interest beyond classroom instruction and to foster the pursuit of high-demand technical careers
 - Expressed areas of interest include:
 - VEX Robotics Competitions
 - Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning
 - Mobile Application Development
 - Game Development
 - Electronics (Arduino/Raspberry Pi)
 - Hackathons & Programming Competitions
 - **History**
 - Founded at the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year
 - Completed all the required tasks for a new club, based on student survey students are very supportive and would like to see a Tech Club created
 - 60 Members, 45 are very active
 - Competed in VEX Robotics Competition, Feb. 2015

- With only 3 weeks to prepare after receiving an equipment grant from Robot Events, it was a success!
 - Guest speakers: Former students currently pursuing STEM majors in college shared college experiences
 - “Solve the Rubik’s Cube” day, Dec. 2014
 - Small interest groups gathered after school to explore areas of interest including expanding class projects beyond requirements
- **Current Plans**
 - Philadelphia Classic Programming Competition, Nov. 2015
 - VEX Robotics State Qualifying Events, Jan.-Feb. 2016
 - Hosting VEX Robotics Event, Feb. 2016
 - MCIU 2016 PA Regional Computer Fair, April 2016
 - Guest speakers and mentorship
 - Kelsey Ritter, CMU Grad Student Bioengineered Robotic Prosthetic Hand
 - Lockheed Martin professionals
 - Continue with small interest groups after school collaboration
- **Corporate Sponsorship**
 - Generous grant from Lockheed Martin M&DS provided Tech Club with thousands of dollars worth of VEX Robotics equipment
 - Enabled us to add 3 more VEX Robotics teams
 - Purchase of competition equipment needed to host VEX Robotics competition events
 - Partnership will provide mentorship by Engineering and Computer Science professionals
- Presentation: SFAHS Club – Rampage – Student Eric shared an update of the student newspaper “Rampage.” Mr. Reigner provided a few samples of previous editions of Rampage.
 - Runs Very Smoothly as an club
 - 1st issue coming out in a few weeks
 - They try to do 4-5 issues a year
 - Get their own advertisers
 - Roughly 20-30 students participate in many roles
- Presentation: Middle School Athletics – Fall Update – Mr. Racich provided an update of the Middle School Fall Athletics records and number of athletes who made/cut the team.

SPRING-FORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Middle School Athletics
2015-16 Fall Report

Sport	Grade	Tried Out	Roster	# cut	Record
Football	7	51	51	0	5-1
Football	8	40	40	0	7-0
Boys Soccer	7	33	26	7	9-1-1
Boys Soccer	8	35	25	10	12-1-1
Volleyball	7	30	16	14	6-3
Volleyball	8	30	16	14	3-4
Field Hockey	7	19	17	2	5-1-3
Field Hockey	8	21	18	3	10-2-1
Cross Country	7 & 8	78	78	0	Boys- 7-1 Girls- 8-0
Cheer	7 & 8	56	40	16	
Totals		393	327	66	

NOTE: 233 Boys are in Registration Gateway
248 Girls are in Registration Gateway

463 Activity Fees have been paid
496 Including Orchestra

- In addition, Mr. Racich praised the new online Gateway Registration System and reviewed the revised eligibility rules.

Additional eligibility rules that meet P.I.A.A. requirements are as follows:

1. To be eligible to participate in an extracurricular activity, a student must maintain a 70% or above grade point average in a minimum of his/her four (4) major subjects. Eligibility shall be cumulative from the beginning of a grading period and shall be reported on a weekly basis.
2. In cases where a student's work in any preceding grading period does not meet the standards provided, said student shall be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity for at least fifteen (15) school days of the next grading period.
3. At the end of the school year, the student's final credits in the student's major subjects rather than the student's credits for the last grading period shall be used to determine the student's eligibility for the next grading period.
4. Under certain conditions, the principal may declare a pupil ineligible for special situations if conduct warrants such action.
5. How Academic Ineligibility Affects Participation. A student/athlete who is not passing the required 4 or more major subjects with a 70% or higher as per the P.I.A.A. constitution and by-laws and who is deemed ineligible shall participate under the following guidelines:

a. Practices- Student/athletes who are ineligible may participate in a portion of practice provided that they fulfill these requirements:

1. As a student first and athlete second, the student/athlete will be required to see the teacher(s) of those classes he/she is not maintaining a 70% or above grade point average after school until at least 3:30 p.m. for designated academic homework/study time.
2. If the teacher(s) of the classes that the student/athlete is not maintaining a 70% or above grade point average is unavailable to meet with the student/athlete after school, the student/athlete may work with another teacher of the same subject or attend homework club if available. Special arrangements for attendance may also be made with approval of the principal.
3. Students who have stayed afterschool for this designated academic homework/study time and provide their coach with signed documentation of their attendance from the teacher or office will be permitted to join their team after 3:30 and participate in the remainder of practice.
4. Students who do NOT attend a designated academic homework/study time will NOT be permitted to practice

5. The student athlete may participate in an evening practice providing he/she has completed their requirement(s) for the designated academic homework/study time and have delivered a signed note from their teacher(s) to the coach.

***Ineligible students who have fulfilled their obligations to participate in a portion of practice as stated above MUST secure their own transportation to their practice location or may walk with written parent permission

b. Contests: A student/athlete who is ineligible will not be able to participate in a contest and:

1. Will not be dismissed early from school to attend a contest of his/her particular team;
2. Will not be permitted to ride the bus or dress for an away game.
3. May attend a home game after they have completed their designated homework/study time with the teacher(s) with whom they are failing. The participant must deliver a note to the coach signed by the teacher(s) stating they have fulfilled their requirement for that day. **The student/athlete will not be permitted to dress for the contest.**
4. Participants may attend an evening contest provided they have delivered a signed note to the coach from the teacher(s) stating their work is completed for that particular day. **The student/athlete will not be permitted to dress for the contest.**

c. Eligibility:

1. Determinations of eligibility will be made on a weekly basis.
2. Students who are deemed ineligible will retain that status for one week (until the next eligibility report is generated).
3. Eligibility concerns, which the student/athlete believes are the result of an inaccurate gradebook or unreported grade should be brought to the attention of the Athletic Director immediately. In these cases the Athletic Director will work with the student/athlete to determine their eligibility or requirements for them to gain eligibility.
4. As a student first and athlete second, graded work missed due to absence from school or absence from class due to a sporting event will be included in the determination of weekly eligibility.
5. The Athletic Director has the final determination in all eligibility disputes.

Next Extra-Curricular Committee Meeting:

Monday January 11, 2016 - 6:00pm – District Office Conference Room