

# CONANT BOOSTERS 2022-2023

## Meeting Minutes Tuesday, August 9, 2022

**Welcome from President** – Traci Garcia opened the first Boosters meeting of the 2022-2023 school year, in person at the Media Center at Conant High School, at 7:04 pm and welcomed all in attendance.

Fourteen members were in attendance;

(4) Executive Board: Traci Garcia, Elizabeth Paveza, Heather Sharbaugh, Shawna Lochner  
(20) Lisa Seed, Noreen Gadawski, Molly Bryant, Anu Ortiz, Katie Palomo, Ann Woo, Domenica Iannotti, Giovanna Papucci, Lisa Schultz, Patty Perry, Allison Vura, Julie Henry, Paula Waterman, Tanvi Vore, Kris Story, Brett Julien, Stephanie Tambuello, Bridget Minogue, Tracy Gebhardt, Pam Drone  
(3) Julie Nowak, Jeannette Ardell, John Kane

Absent: Cheryl Jancaric

Traci asked for a motion and a second to approve the May 10, 2022 meeting minutes, Julie motioned and Paula approved.

**Principal Report** - Julie Nowak was present and reported it was great to see so many people at the Freshman kickoff. Today was our first institute day so it was really good to see all the staff back today. We have new teachers joining this year and we are very excited about our first day. We had to make a large pivot last year with an administrative change, Eric Hauser and Zia Nathan will be co-deans. Safety- we had a session for teachers today on how to respond and parents engaged; could there be anything different in what we are or are not doing? We had a few takeaways and the major change will be two entries only; Door 1 and Door 25. Off-campus students will only be allowed to enter the campus back during passing periods. After the school day starts, door 1 will only be open. Visitors receive an immediate background check. Students are not required to wear ID's during the day; they are all checked upon entry to the school and must be provided upon asking by any staff member. August 23rd meeting.

There will be 4 terms that the students will hear a lot:

1. Conant Community
2. Cougar Way (is what we do)
3. Trusted Adult (students should identify who this is at school - teacher, coach, etc.)
4. Sense of Belonging (social/health is better, academics are better)

Late start days, our teachers are doing a lot of curricular work, but in second period, once a month, we will have a Cougar Way meeting time.

**Activities Director Report** – Jeannette Ardell was present and reported that Freshman kickoff was a huge success. Mentors and upperclassmen did a great job. Yearbook pictures are coming up next week; Tuesday is Sr/Jr and Thursday is Soph/Fresh. Activity Fair will be coming up so that students can sign up for clubs that are of interest to them. The first late start is 8/23. Early dismissal and open house is 9/1 (7-9pm), meet the teachers and learn the schedule. The FA meeting is on 9/14. The music concert is on 9/15 and Homecoming is coming up at the end of September.

**Athletic Director Report** - John Kane was present and reported that Fall sports started out yesterday. This 2026 freshman class is one of the largest that we have ever had and pretty soon Conant will have the largest student body. It is not too late to sign up or try out for a fall sport. This is the first year that our conference is going to allow 2 sports in the same season. Parent/athlete meeting will be held on Friday, August 19, and all of our teams will have some sort of scrimmage. Boosters will be there to sell memberships and apparel. The first football game is on 8/26. Poms will start next Monday as they have moved over this year from a club to a sport! We have a big project next summer, we are going to redo our locker rooms, which may require some of our indoor sports to be played in other schools. We are the last school in the district to redo the locker rooms. Great numbers for our sports and we will continue to grow as students come into school. Put the word out to your friends and neighbors.

**President** – Traci Garcia was present and gave a very warm welcome to all of those in attendance today. Traci gave an introduction of herself. Nothing else to report.

**Vice President Report** – Elizabeth Paveza was present, she introduced herself. Liz reported that mini-grants will be started this week. The requests will be sent to Julie, at our next meeting we will decide as a club who is getting the grant.

**Treasurer Report** – Cheryl Jancaric was not present; Traci provided an update on the budget and mentioned that we need to make updates to the proposed draft and will update and vote on it at the next meeting.

**Corresponding Secretary Report** – Shawna Lochner was present and introduced herself. We sent out two baby boy cards.

### **Committee Reports**

**Communications** - Bridget was present, she introduced herself, and reported that she hopes to get a newsletter out this month. We also do a spotlight sport/club/activity. For this month we would like to highlight the Cougar Crazies. A new student and staff list will be provided shortly (reported by Julie Novak and Paula)

**Conant Social Fundraiser** - Traci and Heather were present and reported that we do have the night booked, we may change it to another venue that is better and cost-effective. We may also change the theme from casino night to trivia night.

**Volleyball Concessions** - Girls are fall, boys are spring. Dan may retire after the fall and we are looking for a replacement. This would be for games and tournaments.

**Craft Fair** - Tracy was present and reported that Craft Fair is locked in for October 22, 2022. 260 booths. This is Tracy's 15th year doing the Craft Fair. 2000-2200 that come through to shop. We need volunteers, there is a sign-up and we will also need students to volunteer. We will also be posting online signup.

**Craft Fair Concessions** - We have a new chair! Lisa F.

**Dances** - Julie introduced herself and Kathy was present and reported that Homecoming will need volunteers (12) for coat check and concessions (Patty and Lucy).

**Fundraisers** - Anu was present and reported that we will do gift card sales before the holidays and then again in spring. She would like to do this again and asked for more information to be posted in newsletters or social media posts. Noreen will be helping with dine for dollars. The first one will be at Sprinkles on August 27, 12-10 pm.

**Social Media:** Stephanie was present and provided an introduction on herself and reported that they are trying to get out as much as possible on social feeds. Lisa (the creative one) provided an introduction of herself.

**Special Events** - Molly Bryant was present and introduced herself and reported that tomorrow is the staff breakfast (and she loves working the special events).

**Membership** - Ann introduced herself and reported that she is in charge of setting up all the sign-ups. Paula was present and reported that we have 126 memberships as of yesterday. You can go through the Boosters website or MySchoolBucks. We have recently added cultural passes. We will have QR codes and are trying to move away from paper forms. Lisa asked if we have thought about having sponsors with the memberships.

**Post Prom** - Heather Sharbaugh was present and provided an introduction and had nothing to report.

**Scholarships** - Yassi was not present and there was nothing to report.

**Cougar Corner Spirit Store** - Julie H and Paula were present and reported that last year we lost our long-time vendor, he retired. We have a new vendor and 6 new pieces that we are working on getting them up on the website. The spirit store is open twice a month in the first semester and once a month in the second semester. Please sign up online to help with sales. We sold almost \$5000 at the Freshman kick-off, that you to all of those that were able to help out. We also have a new logo; you can check it out online on one of the new apparel items.

**Website** – Paula Waterman was present and mentioned to send any updates.

**Audit Committee-** Paula Waterman, Jeff Waterman, and Heather Sharbaugh were on the committee. The report was read to the attendees.

**Adjournment** – Traci Garcia asked for all attendees to go around and introduce themselves, adjourned the meeting, and thanked everyone for attending at 8:15 pm.

**Next Meeting** - Tuesday, September 13, 2022.

**Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by**  
Heather Sharbaugh  
2022-2023 Recording Secretary