

Barnstable Athletic Advisory Council – Meeting Minutes

Date: November 28, 2018 – 6 p.m.

Location: Barnstable High School Main Conference Room

Members Present:

Scott Thomas, *Athletic Director/ Head Boys Soccer Coach*; Ashley Bishop, *Athletic Assistant/Head Field Hockey Coach*; Meghan Fligg, *English Teacher/Co-Head Girls Soccer Coach*; Tabitha Thomas, *School Psychologist*; Carly Whiteside, *Senior Student-Athlete*; Diahann Cordeiro, *Parent*; Lynda Everett, *Parent*; Jenn Swaylik, *Parent/alumni*; Scott Swaylik, *Parent/alumni*; Robin Vine, *Parent*

Members Not Present:

Jose Suazo, *Senior Student-Athlete*

6 p.m. - Introductions

- Explanation of Council objectives and goals by Scott Thomas:
The Barnstable High School Athletic Advisory Council's objective is to support the enhancement of interscholastic athletics, while promoting a culture for BHS student-athletes, coaches, and parents that will represent and enhance the core values of our school community. The Council will be comprised of student-athletes, coaches, teachers, parents, and administrators. This group has been assembled to provide insight on the student-athlete experience and also to offer feedback on the rules, regulations, and policies that affect our athletes and teachers.
- Group Introductions
- Discussion of frequency of meeting dates (twice per sports season, perhaps more)
- Northeastern University Center for Sport Study explained by Scott Thomas – group will audit our sports program as a whole in the coming months (exact dates TBD)

6:15 p.m. – Open Discussion of Issues

- Creating a presence in the greater community with our sports team, encouraging community engagement to build “Raider Pride” and broader support.
- Lack of Middle School sports detrimental to our high school program – students are not exposed to Barnstable programs until 8th grade, lack fundamental skills coming into high school athletics.
- Creating a connection with Middle School students through clinics/practices hosted and run by varsity athletes and coaches.
- How do we train and value our coaches – how do we recruit qualified coaches at the youth level?
- Lack of Barnstable pride – can we bring back parades, pep rallies, all-school assemblies celebrating Barnstable athletic achievements and athletes?
- How do we engage alumni – ‘all alumni’ events that would bring them back to BHS and keep them connected with Raider athletics?
- Socio-economic challenges facing BHS students – how do we provide equal access to athletic opportunities for all of our student population? Are there grants available?
- Can we improve the athletic website – team pictures, listing rosters, schedules and scores?
- How do we connect all Barnstable Athletic teams? End of season all sports awards? Encouraging teams to attend other teams’ games during their season? How do we build a sense of Barnstable pride among all students and athletes at BHS?

7:25 p.m. – Meeting Closure

- *Discussion of future meeting dates – date in January TBD*
- *Adjournment by Scott Thomas*