Welcome, new families, and welcome back to returning families. The Booster Club is anxious for the new school year to begin. We have some new faces on the board, and we hope to see many of you who are not on the board attending Booster Club meetings and events.

You may be wondering what “bridging the gap” is all about. Admittedly, there can be some gaps when families from a variety of area school districts come together in a laboratory high school setting. The freshman curriculum at U-High works diligently to close those gaps for the students, but parents also need a way to make new friends, meet the parents of their student’s new friends, and feel connected to the school. The Booster Club can bridge that gap for you. The Club’s board is quite diverse, including parents of students coming from Bloomington, Chiddix, Epiphany, Heyworth, Holy Trinity, Kingsley, Metcalf, and Trinity Lutheran. That’s not every school that feeds into U-High, but it’s a pretty good start. If we included all the parents who volunteer to help with Booster events, all area schools would certainly be represented. So, you should never feel you would be out of place at a Booster meeting or event. Everyone is welcome, and we hope to see you soon.

There also tend to be funding gaps in all school districts. One of the Booster Club’s primary objectives is to provide financial support and volunteer assistance to all co-curricular activities at U-High. We conduct one large fundraiser each year, the Pioneer Gold Rush Raffle, which allows us to purchase some items for the school that never quite make it into the budget. Last year, that included purchasing two treadmills for the fitness room, and assisting with the purchase of a new soundboard for Stroud Auditorium; uniforms for marching band, cheerleaders, and softball; practice equipment for baseball; dance flooring for Orchesis; and costuming and props for Madrigals. Smaller fundraising efforts allow Boosters to host a safe and fun after prom party at Redbird Arena each year.

Booster meetings are held in the U-High library on the first Tuesday of every month, at 6 p.m. One of our U-High administrators attends each meeting, offering information and updates on schools events, as well as answering parents’ questions. Meeting dates for this year are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September 6</th>
<th>November 1</th>
<th>February 7</th>
<th>April 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 4</td>
<td>December 6</td>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>May 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Other important dates to remember:

**Saturday, August 27, Back to School Social—U-High library.** Parents meet to socialize and share some behind the scenes tips about life at U-High, while students attend the Back to School Dance downstairs.

**Friday, September 30, Homecoming Tailgate—Horton Field House.** Join parents, students, and alumni for pre-game food and entertainment.

**Saturday, February 11, “Swingin’ U Down Beaufort” Jazz Social—Children’s Discovery Museum.** It was a hit last year. Plan now to take your Valentine out for a night of fun.

All scheduled events are subject to change, and additional events may be scheduled throughout the year. Times and updates will be announced on the school and/or Booster websites.

Included in this mailing are the following Booster flyers:

- Booster Club Annual Membership Donation/Volunteer Form
- Parent/Student Directory Information Form
- Parent Support Network Agreement (a parent’s vital link to other parents)
- U-High clothing order form (a small portion of our selection)
- Pioneer Gold Rush Raffle Information
- Parents Back to School Social Information
- Homecoming Tailgate Information
- “Swingin’ U Down Beaufort” Jazz Social Information
- After Prom Student Party Information
- Hospitality Committee Information
- Orchestra Information
- Speech Team Information

Please stop by the Booster table at registration to drop off completed Booster forms ( ) and to sign up for volunteer opportunities.

Be sure to check the Booster website often. Go to [www.uhigh.ilstu.edu](http://www.uhigh.ilstu.edu). Click the “Boosters” link on the green pane on the left. Updates and additional information regarding Booster Club activities will be added as they become available.

Come to a meeting. Attend an event. Be a part of the Booster Club’s mission of **bridging the gap**!

Lois and Joe Morrow (454-6705)
[joelouis.morrow@verizon.net](mailto:joelouis.morrow@verizon.net)
2005-2006 Booster Club Presidents

Marsha and Tim Truty—Vice Presidents
Karen Chiodo—Secretary
Kevin Carroll—Treasurer