

Roaring Spring, PA: A ribbon cutting for the new Central High School Gymnasium was held on Tuesday, January 15, 2019, 7:15 p.m. prior to the Central High School Boys' Varsity basketball game against Tyrone Area High School. The event celebrated the combined efforts of Central High School and their community in the completion of their gymnasium renovation project.



Dr. Betsy Baker, Spring Cove School District Superintendent, shared with the attending large crowd, "This project has truly been a community effort, and it makes me extremely proud to be a Dragon! We had a large number of groups and individuals who contributed to this project, and we greatly appreciate their support."

According to Brian Gahagan, Spring Cove School Board President, the former gymnasium received significant water damage after a weekend of rainstorms in September of 2018. The 59-year-old floor was original to the building and had exceeded the lifespan of 50 years. Repairing only the damaged area was deemed impractical and not cost effective which led to the School Board to approve replacing the entire floor. Miller Flooring Company, Inc. of West Chester, PA was awarded the project with an estimated total cost of \$275,000. The new gym floor has several unique features including an AACER PowerVent Airflow System under the floor humidistat, which triggers fan units to begin circulating air if moisture is detected. This feature proactively protects the new floor from water damage.



Although the bleachers did not sustain water damage, they were already slated for replacement in the summer of 2019 and the Board approved their immediate replacement as part of the project. The red Interkal Motorized Telescoping Bleachers have a seating capacity of 602 (including ADA seating), in comparison to the prior 544 seats.



In addition, new red wall pads were purchased with the cost being offset by contributions from Central Athletic Booster Groups, which include a \$500 donation from Curry Supply.

Morrisons Cove Rotary Club donated \$6,350 towards the enhanced graphics for the gym floor including a larger center school logo, shaded three-point area, and red borders with Central at each end. "Morrisons Cove Rotary Club was proud to be able to step up and provide the funds for this great project," commented Chrissy Dively, Club Vice President. "As Rotary members, our fundraising allows us to give back to the community including this gym floor, providing dictionaries to Spring Cove School third grade students, sponsoring the Student of The Month and exchange students programs."

The Dragon Pride Foundation made a new Scorer's Table possible. Scott King, Dragon Pride Foundation Vice President, was present to affirm their donation of \$3,578.75 to purchase the new table that will arrive soon. "The Dragon Pride Foundation through our fundraising efforts and community donations strives to support the education of all students K-12 of the Spring Cove School District by providing opportunities for enhanced educational, arts, and athletic programs while bolstering school pride throughout the Spring Cove Community. We are happy to contribute the new Scorer's Table to this newly renovated gymnasium," shared King.



"In addition to the generous contributions from Morrisons Cove Rotary and Dragon Pride Foundation, a \$30,000 donation toward this project was received from Anonymous Alumni," shared Gahagan. "We greatly appreciate this support. We look forward to another 50 plus years of school spirit and memory making."

Stephanie Thompson, Central High School Principal commented, "I am honored to



be speaking on behalf of Central High School's students, staff, physical education department, athletic teams, and Boosters. We wish to thank the Boosters for contributing funds toward our new wall mats. At CHS we emphasize the pillars of Dragon PRIDE. Through this project, our entire school community has demonstrated adaptability, flexibility, and a positive attitude, and made the best of a difficult situation. We thank each of these groups. They make us proud to be Dragons.”

Stacy Kuster, Spring Cove School District Athletic Director, had the honor of cutting the ribbon along with an energized group of supporters including Dr. Betsy Baker, Spring Cove School District Superintendent; Chrissy Dively, Morrisons Cove Rotary Club Vice President; Scott King, Dragon Pride Foundation President; Stephanie Thompson, Central High School Principal; Brian Gahagan, Spring Cove School Board President; Spring Cove Dragon; Noah Muthler, Central Spring Cove High School Boys' Basketball Team/Boosters; Rob Mock, Central Spring Cove High School Girls' Basketball Team/Boosters; Dave Marko, Spring Cove High School Wrestling Team/Boosters; Sue Heuston, Central Spring Cove High School Girls' Volleyball Team/Boosters; Christine Wyant, Central High School Boys' Volleyball Team/Boosters; and Emmie Garver, Central Spring Cove High School Cheerleading Squad/Boosters.

All events scheduled for the gymnasium in December and early January were rescheduled to the opponent's facilities, Penn State Altoona, or to the Spring Cove Middle School. “This CHS gym renovation has required a tremendous amount of teamwork,” commented Kuster. “Although the timing of these renovations wasn't ideal, everyone impacted has been very cooperative throughout the past four months. I take great pride in being a part of a team that helped make these gym renovations possible for current and future Dragons to enjoy for many years to come.”

For more information on the Central High School Gymnasium renovation project, please contact Dr. Betsy Baker at 814-224-3060 or email at bbaker@springcovesd.org.