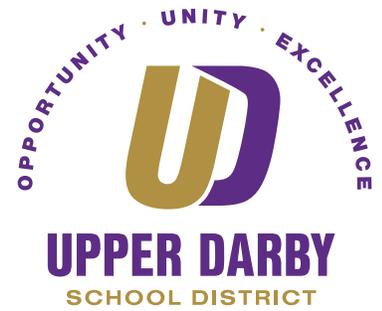


ROYAL SCROLL



52nd Edition January 2020

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER



Dr. Daniel McGarry

Happy New Year! Board President Brown, members of the Board, administration, teachers, staff, students, parents and members of the community of the Upper Darby School District, good evening. I

hope everyone is as energized as I am following winter break and eager to continue to move our district forward.

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DHMS Grammy Finalist Jason Majerczak



Congratulations to Drexel Hill Middle School band & orchestra director Jason Majerczak, who has made it to the final round of this year's Grammy Music Educator Award! Narrowed down from the initial 3,300 nominees, he now stands in the top ten, with the winner to be announced during Grammy week later this month!

Majerczak's Drexel Hill Middle School students are a big fan of the music teacher. "He makes it fun and exciting," said Kaylen Davis. "He's just a really good teacher," said student John McCarthy said. They'll

tell you that Majerczak's passion for inspiring his young musicians is contagious. "Those dynamics are what make it really exciting," Majerczak said. "He just doesn't just help you with music and stuff. He also teaches us about confidence and he helps us with that and you feel really good about yourself."

UDHS Student Travels to Honolulu!



Sophomore Jenna Yocco travelled to Honolulu, Hawaii with teacher Roseann Burns to present original research on the relationship between the nulling of pulsars and their age. Pulsars, neutron stars that emit pulsing energy along their magnetic axes, are detectable here on Earth and are used

to study general relativity. Yocco remotely accessed a 20m telescope at the Green Bank Observatory in West Virginia to collect data and was selected by the Pulsar Search Collaboratory for an all expense paid trip to the American Astronomical Society's annual conference. Burns was also selected to present on the topic of Teacher Roles within the Pulsar Search Collaboratory. Highlights of the trip included a series of lectures by world renowned astronomers, a cultural excursion to Pearl Harbor, and a hike to Diamond Head National Monument.



Kindergarten Center Enjoys Pajama Day



Polar Pajama Day Students enjoyed wearing pajamas while singing seasonal songs and making a winter craft. What a fun day!

Kindergarten Students are benefiting from Yoga



The students are improving their balance and coordination. Yoga also encourages students to clear their minds and focus on the pose. What a great way to start each day!



Kindergarten STEM activities encourage experimentation, teamwork and problem solving.



UDKC teachers participated in a STEM activity before they introduce it to their students.

The challenge was to build the tallest tower with plastic cups and sticks. The winning team earned a dress down day!



Upcoming Events

- 2/3-2/7 Counselor Appreciation Week
- 2/7 SH- Black History Assembly
- 2/11 School Board Meeting 7:30PM
- 2/17 President's Day (All Schools & Offices Closed)

- 2/18 UDHS 9th Grade Shadow Day
- 2/22 Freshman Dance - Gym 7:00 - 10:00PM
- 2/25 School Board Committee Meeting 6:00PM
- 2/27 UDHS Commencement Meeting - PAC 6:00-8:00PM

ARONIMINK NEWS

Aronimink Fifth Grade News



The fifth grade has been working on writing editorials in ELA and having fun with fractions in Math. Many of the fifth graders are involved in the upcoming UDSD Gala. Come see the musical talent UDSD has to offer on January 18th.

We also have a huge fund raiser, our annual Pancake Breakfast coming up on February 1st to help aid in our camping trip to Echo Hill in Maryland. All are welcome.

~Miss Pauly, 5th Grade Teacher

Aronimink's Students Thank Mr. Dunn and Mrs. Pearce!



ARONIMINK'S REINDEER ROMP

Congratulations to our Reindeer Romp runners and grade level champions. Kudos also to the Aronimink student council and all who donated hats, gloves, scarves and mittens to the needy in our Upper Darby community.

GARRETTFORD NEWS

Garrettford's Fifth Grade Students Learn Coding



What is STEM? It is educating with Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Our students learned the importance of each and how it relates to our real world and more importantly our future. Computer Science Education Week and is held annually in recognition of the birthday of computing pioneer Admiral Grace Murray Hopper (Dec 9, 1906.) To celebrate, our students learned Coding. Coding is the process of using a programming language to get a computer to behave how you want it to. Every line of code tells the computer to do something. Our students experienced coding on the Chrome books. Anyone can try it if they log in with their Google account at hourofcode.com. STEM learning is not going away and is a necessary part of world problem solving. It is our hope that one of our own students will be one of those problem solvers. THANK YOU TO OUR MANY VOLUNTEERS

Garrettford's First Grade Has A Stem Lesson



Students in Ms. Stritzinger's class had a fun time building snowmen before break! What??? That's right snowmen without snow! This STEM lesson was presented by Mrs. Carafides and Mrs. Farley. The students enjoyed learning and challenging themselves.

Fourth Grade New Years Resolutions



New Year Resolutions were made by Ms. Millett's fourth grade class. They made personal goals and school goals for 2020. Everyone vowed to try to keep their resolutions. We will check back to see how they are doing.

Physical Ed News



Mr. Papatsiaras opened the Rock Wall for physical education classes in December. The Rock Wall is always a Primos favorite activity.

Primos' First Grade News



The first graders in Room 111 had an exciting Fun Day on Friday before Winter Break. They started the day with making batter for Pizzelles with everyone having an opportunity to add and mix all the ingredients. While working independently at their desks, each student got to make 2 cookies on the pizzelle iron. The best part of the day was eating the warm pizzelles while listening to relaxing holiday music. We had many visitors that day due to our sharing of the pizzelles. It was a great way to start our Winter Break!

HIGHLAND PARK NEWS

Fifth Grade News



Highland Park 5th graders had a busy month of December! Students spent time participating in an exciting STEM activity. They designed and built ginger bread houses, combining STEM with the delicious winter treat! Students were able to show their creativity, and overcome obstacles (such as falling walls) to rework new designs and persevere!

Second Grade News



2nd grade students learned some new yoga poses as a part of their brain break. Classrooms throughout the building utilize brain breaks to allow students to be up and moving and giving their hard working brains a much needed rest!

Highland Park's Second Grade Visit Dunwoody



The second grade ELLs visited Dunwoody Retirement Home on December 18th. The residents at Dunwoody shared a special room that is in the building. The Train Room was a big hit with our students.

They were able to observe the trains from outside the room on a special platform and then they were allowed inside for a closer look. The details of the people, buildings and trains were amazing. Quite a trip and treat for the students!

WESTBROOK PARK NEWS

Westbrook Park Second Grade News



Second graders are learning how to regroup when subtracting. They are working with partners using manipulatives and whiteboards.

Westbrook Park Third Grade News



Third graders listen and describe sounds that are produced by tuning forks and pass through different materials such as aluminum foil, meter stick and rope.

Westbrook Park's Autistic Support

Congratulations Clark Poole



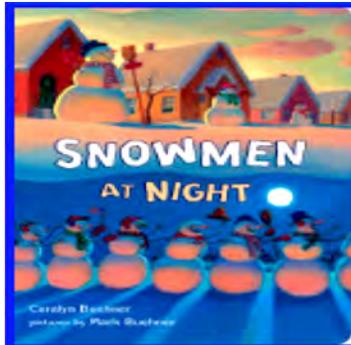
Mr. Comfort and students swimming at the High School



Clark Poole won Holcombe's Drug and Alcohol Awareness Calendar Contest

HILLCREST NEWS

Second Grade Snowmen at Night



Students in second grade had the chance to use their imagination to tell a tale about a snowman they created. First, the students listened to the story called Snowmen At Night by Caralyn Buehner. They discovered the slip-sliding adventures the snowmen had at night in the story. Then the students brainstormed ideas with each other and created their own adventure for their snowman. Students shared their adventure with their classmates. The stories and pictures are displayed in the hall for all to enjoy.

Hillcrest Winter Dance Party!



The fifth grade earned a full school dance party along with the rest of the school. The dance party was the school incentive for PBIS. In order to earn the dance party, they had to fill a container with "I am a Remarkable Royal" tickets that they earned while following Hillcrest's expectations and going above and beyond for others in the school. The kids had a blast and look forward to the next school incentive provided by the PBIS team.

SENKOW NEWS

Senkow Elementary Student Council



Student council was sworn in and received certificates. Student Council will represent the students of Senkow. Their primary goal will be to be positive role models for the students at Senkow. They will work with teachers and staff to create an environment of respect and community. Student council has already helped with the food drive and the candy cane sale. This month they will also be presented with safety badges.

Senkow Elementary's First Schoolwide Spelling Bee



Congratulations to all of our students who made it to the schoolwide spelling bee. Each classroom held a spelling bee. The winner from each class participated in the schoolwide spelling bee. The winners will represent Senkow in the Delaware County Spelling Bee on February 1st.

BYWOOD NEWS

Bywood's Students of the Month



This month, for our Student of the Month assembly, our monthly pillar was Responsibility. Students showed just how responsible they could be during the minute-to-win-it marshmallow challenge! The challenge was to catch as many marshmallows from their partner in a cup! Great job!



Bywood's Pajama Day



Our third grade teachers, Ms. Woods, Mrs. Francis, Mrs. George, Mrs. Lawrence, Ms. Sobrino, and Mr. Millison got festive during our Winter Wonderland Week!

PBIS

The month of January was all about renewing our goals, and starting the New Year right! January is a good time to reset, and renew ourselves by focusing on academic and behavior goals. Students are saving their Bywood bucks to cash in at school store. A great way to earn bucks is by following our school-wide rules of being Safe, Respectful, and Responsible!

CHARLES KELLY NEWS

Student of the Month Focus on Caring

Principal's Award Winner —Isabella Hassett



At our fourth Student of the Month Assembly, we honored students who are caring. A person who is caring demonstrates compassion, kindness, love, consideration and is charitable. Congratulations to all the winners and their families.



Isabella Hassett is the winner of the Principal's Award. Dr. McCarthy chooses a Fifth-Grade student who not only follows the 3 B's but is responsible, fair, kind, trustworthy and a good citizen. Congratulations to Isabella and her family!

Upper Darby Royalty Blya Krouba Visits Charles Kelly



Blya Krouba talked to our students at the last Student of the Month assembly about how hard she worked to get where she is today. She was the very first Student Council President here at Charles Kelly when it first opened in 2000. She was also the President to the Upper Darby High School Student Council too when she was a senior. She is currently a student at University of Pittsburgh and in her third year in pre-Med. Thank you Blya for taking the time to visit.

STONEHURST HILLS NEWS

Stonehurst Hills Spelling Bee

Stonehurst Third Grade News



Second Graders listened carefully as finalists from the six second grade classes competed to be the Second Grade Spelling Bee winner!



Third grade just finished up an ELA unit where they learned about the U.S Constitution and famous historical figures. When they were finished the unit, they chose a person to research and created a trading card to share with classmates.

Stonehurst Fifth Grade News

Stonehurst First Grade Trip



The Fifth Grade visited the Art Museum and took a tour of the world through Art. We also ran the Rocky steps on the 40th Anniversary of the release of the movie.



1st Grade took a field trip to the Franklin Institute. Thanks to generous donors, we were granted free access to the "Worst Case Scenario" exhibit in addition to old favorites like the train, the brain, the heart, and more!

NEWS FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Beverly Hills National Junior Honor Society

BHMS News



Beverly Hills Middle School recently inducted 8th grade students into the National Junior Honor Society. These students are among the elite at BHMS. They have demonstrated all four pillars necessary for induction into the program. The four pillars are Scholarship, Service, Leadership and Integrity. Parents, administrators and community members were all invited to attend this annual event. Students arrived in an honorary procession accompanied by flag bearers. Speakers included Dr. Urson (Principal), Mr. Robinson (Assistant Principal), and Mrs. McDowell (Guidance Counselor). Students also spoke regarding their accomplishments and the pillars for induction. We are very proud of our 2018-2019 National Junior Honor Society inductees.

Beverly Hills Winter Rewards Day



On Friday, December 20th, Beverly Hills students enjoyed Winter Rewards Day! This is a special event for all of the students. Each grade level rotated throughout the school to the gym, auditorium and cafeteria. This rewards day featured Bingo, Minute to Win It games, and Bosch Ball. Students from all grade levels got to experience these fun days if they were

“on status.” This rewards day is one of our initiatives with the implementation of PBIS.

DHMS News

DHMS News



December 13, 2019 the DHMS Girls Ensemble took their singing on the road, visiting homes and singing for members of the community that were sick, lonely or having a difficult holiday. The girls also stopped to visit Mrs. Long, a parent of a former DH student who suffers with cancer. It was great to bring smiles to her and her family via our visit.

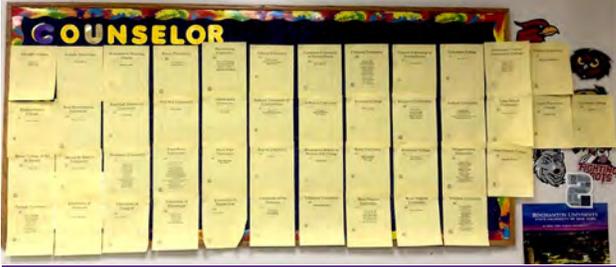
DHMS Sixth Grade Science



Before winter break, Mrs. Heinerichs' 6th grade science classes completed a unit on Forces, Energy, and Motion. They studied Newton's Laws and discovered how those laws related to rollercoasters. Then, they built their own marble rollercoasters out of foam piping. There were many successful coasters that included triple loops and double hills and twists and turns. The kids had a fun time testing out their coasters and watching their classmates' as well.

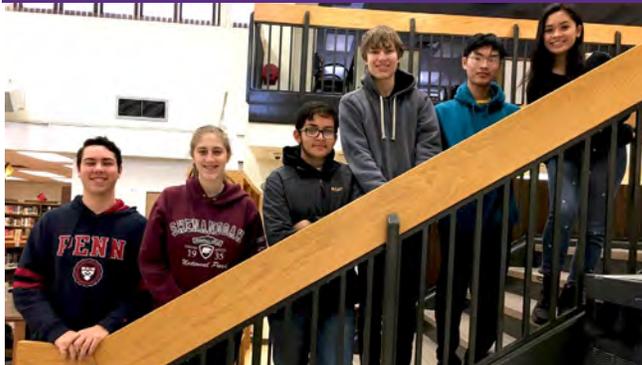
UPPER DARBY HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

UDHS Early Acceptance for College Bound Seniors



Lists flutter on the bulletin board outside the Senior Center where college acceptance letters for the class of 2020 are pouring in from around the country and across the globe. Some highlights include: Jasmine Pierre, Swarthmore College; Nina Hoback, University of Alabama; and Sarah Demott, University of Glasgow, Scotland.

UDHS Cyber Security Team Makes Semifinals



The UD Cyber Security Team earned second place in their division and fifth place statewide out of sixty-one schools. The team finds and fixes vulnerabilities in virtual machines with varying operating systems, preparing them for a potential future in the field. The team will compete in the regionals on Jan 24th.

UDHS ATHLETIC NEWS

Basketball Team Sports New Faces



The Upper Darby boys basketball team is sporting many new faces this year, with only three returning players. They have had a successful start to the season so far, with a record of 4 - 3. Coach Miller feels there is a lot of potential with this squad, led by seniors Jack Cavanaugh, Mo Kante, and Iyan Joshuasville. All are encouraged to come out and cheer the team.



UD Cheeleaders Division Champs!



UDHS Cheerleaders were named Garden State Medium Varsity Division Champs!



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



The Department of Public Safety would like to remind everyone with the winter weather upon us to use extra caution while driving or walking in and around the school's parking lots. With snowy weather right around the corner it's a good time to be more alert. If you see something unsafe, please notify a Public Safety Officer or Administrator immediately.

Mr. Thomas Nee, Supervisor of Street Safety is always looking to hire Crossing Guards. If you or someone you know is interested, please feel free to apply on the school district's website: upperdarbysd.org or contact Mr. Nee directly at: 610-259-2675.

The Department of Public Safety would like to wish everyone a safe, and healthy Happy New Year and as always, a safe school is all our responsibility.

News from our Technology Department



The Technical Services Department has had a busy start to the New Year. As part of the district's commitment to providing a safe environment for all of its students and employees, the Technical Services Department and district security have concentrated on installing additional network-based security cameras throughout the district and the necessary infrastructure to support the additional equipment. The benefits from utilizing the additional cameras has been instantaneous because of their real-time monitor and data analysis features. The Technical Services Department is eager to continually provide enhanced safety practices for all members of the school district through the use of technology!

Save the Dates: *Special Education Information Nights*

When:

Monday February 3rd 6pm-7pm-Continuum of Services/Extended School Year (ESY)
Monday April 27th 6pm-7pm-Social and Emotional Learning/Positive Behavioral Supports

Where:

Upper Darby High School Board Room
Who:
Upper Darby School District parents/guardians and staff interested in growing their knowledge base in the area of special education topics.

CENTRAL REGISTRATION/ATTENDANCE SERVICES



Kindergarten Registration for the 2019-20 School Year began in January 2019. Please visit the district website for the information on the registration process, a link to our online registration system and the number for our Central Registration office. While initial registration must be done online, a visit to the Central Registration office is required to verify required paperwork and finalize the process. Thank you for your cooperation. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our Department with any questions.

UDHS ANNUAL TRIP: DICKENS AT HEDGEROW



As she has done every year for the past decade, Mrs. Kelsey Bierling accompanied her British Lit Class and NEHS members to the Hedgerow Theater's annual production of Dickens' A Christmas Carol. Bierling, who has seen every performance of A Christmas Carol for the past twenty eight years, said this year's performance had the best portrayal of Scrooge she'd ever seen. "The director based his adaptation from Dickens's own one man show and the actor who played Scrooge was thus able to translate the emotionally charged moments from the page to the stage."

UDHS CALCULATED WIN FOR ROYAL MATH TEAM



The UD Royal Math Team won their final match with a score of 11-5 against the Academic Magnet High School Raptors of North Charleston, SC. The team, consisting of approximately forty young mathematicians in grades nine through twelve, compete weekly, solving advanced problems using sequences and series, functions and polynomials, trigonometry, probability and number theory.



Ending the season with a winning record, the team has been steadily improving and looks forward to the Spring Math Madness.

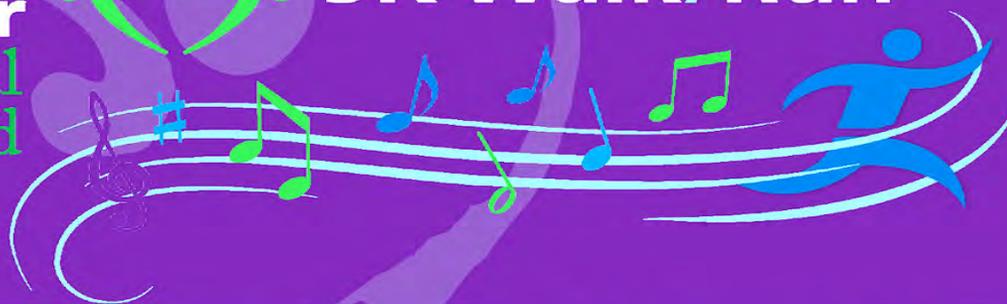


UDHS ANNENBERG MEDICAL CLUB ATTENDS SURGERY



UDHS students had the privilege of observing laparoscopic cholecystectomy (gallbladder removal) at Lankenau Hospital as part of the kickoff for the Annenberg Science Symposium. Main Line Health's Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Barry Mann, gave the students an anatomy lesson to better understand the surgery they were about to see. Dr. Jonathan Gefen, Associate Program Director for the General Surgery Residency Program, guided the students through the surgery as he performed it, allowing them to ask questions throughout the procedure.

The Brad Schoener Memorial Fund : ♪ : 5K Walk/Run



SATURDAY, MAY 16!



5K RUN • 1 MILE SPIRIT WALK

ARLINGTON CEMETERY

2900 State Road • Drexel Hill, PA

The Brad Schoener Memorial Fund

The mission of the Brad Schoener Memorial Fund is to support the musical abilities and aspirations of instrumental music students in the Upper Darby School District through the funding of instruments, instruction, and experiences for interested and talented students who might not otherwise have the opportunities due to personal circumstances.

Brad had hoped to accomplish three goals with this fund:

- Provide lessons for talented students who may not be able to afford them.
- Provide instruments for all elementary students who have the desire to learn.
- Establish a summer music camp for elementary students – now the MusicMan Academy!

VISIT www.udfoundation.org for more information!



Dr. Daniel McGarry

I do not know about all of you, but I am much more fond of the weather we have had this year in comparison to previous winters when school closures and delays were necessary. Thank you to the Kindergarten Center and Principal Dina Williams for sharing their work and for leading us in the pledge this evening.

I also wanted to again acknowledge Joe McGilvery for all that he has done for our organization. As you have heard from the writeup on Joe, he is an avid sports fan, and namely a Phillies fan. Last winter during a school closing, Craig Rogers, Joe McGilvery, Dr. Manfre and I were at work checking on facilities as we normally do in order to assess school conditions for the next day. It was late in the afternoon and we met to debrief. Prior to going home for the evening, the discussion of the Phillies came up. For some reason, the state of the Phillies led to a debate over all time great pro ball players at specific positions. We took the debate to another level and found an app that calculated salaries in current conditions and value as well as statistical information on the teams we drafted. We went position by position, and disagreed on several players. Needless to say, Joe McGilvery fielded the best team. The recommendation to the Board for this year's Unsung Hero award did not involve much debate. It was a unanimous recommendation by the administration for consideration by the Board. In preparation for my comments this evening knowing about this prestigious honor, I reflected on that late winter afternoon school closing debate. I thought about the discussion of what makes up a good team, the role of each player on a team, and the skills associated with specific positions and spot in a lineup. Joe McGilvery is without a doubt a key member of the Upper Darby School District Team. As you heard our Board President, Mr. Edward Brown, celebrate Joe McGilvery, I thought of his position on our team. Joe is our utility player. He is a guy who can fill in and play many, many positions. Joe, thank you for all that you do each and every day. As we begin the new calendar year, we have already started to plan for our 2020-2021 budget. Prior to winter break, the Board of School Directors voted on an accelerated opt-out resolution not exceed our Act One Adjusted Index of 3.8%. While we continue to advocate for a more fair and equitable funding of our public schools, we must also remain mindful of the burden increased taxes have on this community. Our Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Craig Rogers, and I have already been meeting to go over the preliminary information for the upcoming budget process. Craig will also be holding department meetings in order to refine specific requests as we develop a balanced budget. We will present information to the Board and the public during upcoming Finance and Operation Committee meetings and budget meetings. This Thursday, we will be holding our first Comprehensive Planning Meeting with the individuals appointed by the Board of School Directors, staff selected by the Upper Darby Education Association (UDEA), and administrators selected by the Upper Darby Association of School Administrators (UDASA). The final Comprehensive Plan is required to be provided to the public for review for 28 days prior to its adoption by the Board.

This month during our committee meetings we will be providing an update on our continued efforts to rebrand the District and preliminary information on the Sleep Deprivation in Adolescents: The Case for Delaying Secondary School Start Times report and recommended next steps for our District and community to consider. We have posted the sleep study on our website for your review. I have also reached out to and met with the new Mayor of Upper Darby Township. I have shared the concept of a community advisory committee with Mayor Keffer and will continue discussions on how we can work together. During the meeting, we agreed to look at current opportunities as well as future opportunities to develop a process to improve communication. I look forward to working with the township to celebrate this wonderful community.

We have continued to move forward with our Administrative recommendations on our multi-year, multi-phase facilities improvement plans. We held the state required Act 34 hearing for the renovation and expansion of Aronimink Elementary School on January 7th. Following a 30 day comment period from the public on the Aronimink Project, the Board of School Directors will consider moving forward project in February. I appreciate the engagement, questions, comments, support, and concerns from the community. I want to say thank you to our Solicitor, Kyle Berman, our CFO, Craig Rogers, and our Director of Elementary Education, Frank Salerno, for their preparation and professionalism. We are continuing our efforts to build a new elementary school in the 69th street areas, and we are also moving forward on the proposed new middle school in Clifton Heights. We will be back in front of the Clifton Heights Borough Planning Commission in February. As we prepare our budget, the Commonwealth is also preparing their budget. Some members of the public have raised questions regarding the Commonwealth's school construction and facilities reimbursement program, PlanCon. There is currently a moratorium on PlanCon, but we have been in contact with PDE over our plans. If PlanCon is funded and we are able to get our three projects into the "queue," this community could see millions of dollars in reimbursement. The continued delays and back and forth over the much-needed facilities projects and improvements could keep us from realizing any reimbursement and are increasing our legal fees and project costs. We will continue to follow the state budget, be prepared to submit the necessary documentation, and push forward on each project in order to meet the timeline window if it opens.

We are continuing to excel in athletics and academics. Congratulations to our boys and girls swim and dive teams for their success. I look forward to recognizing the team as the season progresses. Congratulations to current 9th grade student Charlotte Wismer on her accomplishment as an illustrator for the book: *Miss Kitty and the Kracker Knocker* This Saturday, weather permitting, the Gala will take place. In conversations with Ms. Barbra Benglian, the theme this year is a ROYAL GALA. Each year the Gala performances truly highlight our tagline of Opportunity, Unity, and Excellence. Tickets are still available so please show your support.

Later this month, we will be bringing forward our proposed new calendar for the 2020-2021 school year. I have asked Ms. Christine Kelley to share a draft of the calendar with UDEA leadership and the Instruction and Curriculum team. The calendar will require Board approval and administration has recommended new teacher training from August 18th-20th, all staff return August 25-28th, and students begin on August 31st. We have also recommended ½ days for elementary and middle school students for the first week of school. Board President, Edward Brown, this concludes my report for this evening.



If you have not already, please be sure follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) and check out the district website at upperdarbysd.org. See [OUR JOB OPPORTUNITIES](#).

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