

# UPPER DARBY HOME AND SCHOOL

February 12, 2020 *Meeting called to order by* Jamie Santora

## Approval of Minutes

A motion to waive the reading of the meeting minutes from January 2020, seconded and approved. They are posted on the web site.

## President's Report – Jamie Santora

Jamie Santora Really need to work on getting more people out the meetings. We don't even have a quorum present to vote for a change to the bylaws. Bill Caughlan will send link to mail list Ms. Simone.

## Treasurer's Report – Ed Troy via email

Mr. Troy reported that the final balance in the account was \$25,991.90 . Mr. Troy stated in answer to a question from a previous meeting that the Home & School's annual expenses total about \$11,000. We average between \$8,000 and \$10,000 from the flea markets and dues paid to the association. That leaves us a little bit short. If you would like a full rundown of our expenses, feel free to email Mr. Troy. Please send emails to the Home & School Association email account.

## Principal's Report– Kelley Simone

Ms. Simone reported

- that the School Improvement Plan was now up on the website. A few highlights include:
  - Accomplishments include the average growth index for Literature exceeded the standard for PA Academic Growth; 5-year graduation rate is higher than the state average; and the building score, according to the 2018-19 School Performance Profile increased 5%.
  - School Concerns include overall achievement scores in Algebra and Biology are below average; four-year graduation rate is below the state average; and only five of the school's AP scores exceeded the PA average.
- Class selection is going on now with kids in Middle School as well as the High School for the 2020/21 academic year. Kids can do online or on paper. Class announcements will be forthcoming. Parents will only have until May 1<sup>st</sup> to make changes to their child's courses.
- A Speak Up event – “A unique opportunity for youth, parenting adults, and educators to engage in open and honest conversations on tough topics,” is schedule for Thursday February 20 at 7pm at the PAC
- Student Administration Day is also on February 20, 2020
- The school just had a Counselor Appreciation Day, the Winter Formal, and Freshman Dance.

Questions from Parents:

- When do Keystones results come out? Ms. Simone said later this spring,
- Where are we on finding a new site for graduation ceremonies in 2021? Ms. Simone said that the committee is still working on it. They thought they had a good site a University of Pennsylvania, but their venue did not have air conditioning. They are looking at Temple right now

## Committee Reports

### Flea Market – Lois Johnston

Mrs. Johnston reported that the sign is ready and will be hung out in front of the school on Saturday. Emails were sent to vendors, but some are having difficulty opening them. Lois requested that she be allowed to buy stamps to send sign-up documents via the US postal service. A motion to buy stamps for the flea market mailing was made by Jamie Santora and seconded by Allison McConnell.

### Concessions – Kathleen Johnson

Nothing to report.

### School Beautification – Allison McConnell

Martin Luther King Day of Service went very well. Good speakers, but not a lot of kids, about 35-40 showed up. But that small group got a lot done.

### After prom – Jamie Santora

Stephen Ford informed the group that MTV would like to set up a non-partisan voter registration booth at the AfterProm for a sizeable donation. Ms. Simone was asked if she thought there might be any objections to this. She did not think so. A motion was made by Allison McConnell to invite MTV to set up their booth. It was seconded by Katie Ford.

Jamie Santora brought up that an auction house in New Jersey was putting up a lot of large party items such as bouncy houses, ping pong tables, a dunking tank, etc. Jamie thought that if the Home & School purchased these, we could use them for AfterProm and rent these items out as a means of generating income for the AfterProm. Jamie asked if he could use H & S funds to bid on some of these items at auction. Questions were raised about insurance cost for owning and renting out this equipment. Jamie said policy costs were minimal, around \$300 a year. It was asked if these items were being sold as-is; Jamie said they were, and that there was a chance that more money may need to be spent to repair items. Jamie said that he was going to attend a preview of the items up for auction, he would check out the quality of the items then. A motion was made by Allison McConnell to allow Jamie to bid no more than \$6,000 of H & S funds on these items. It was seconded by Katie Ford and passed unanimously.

## Old Business

Vote to change Bylaws: Jamie Santora stated that since there was not a quorum in attendance, the Bylaws stated that in the event there was no quorum to vote on a change to the Bylaws, a motion could be made to suspend those rules, and that motion would need to be seconded and twice. A motion was made to suspend the rules on voting on Bylaws by Stephen Ford, it was seconded once by Michelle Fitzpatrick and again by Kelly Simone. The motion to change the Bylaws was passed unanimously.

Spirit Wear Online Store: It has been taken down. It has been a complete failure, mostly the fault of the vendor. Jamie Santora has a few leads on some new vendors. He will report out at the next meeting.

## New Business

It was asked if the AfterProm is going to have another clothing drive. Considering the low turnout on the last one maybe not. Many at the meeting expressed that they were beginning to accumulate bags of old clothes, etc. and that it may be a good idea to have one. Stay tuned.

It was asked if we were going to do graduation signs as a fund raiser. The answer was yes. Stay tuned for more information on ordering these signs.

A question was asked about UD School District switching to a late start. Ms. Simone said the District is looking into it, but it is by far a “slam dunk.” Many kids and parents seem to be opposed. Studies are being made.

## Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 7:00 pm

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:00 pm

## AfterProm Meeting

The following was discussed at the AfterProm meeting:

- Stephen Ford said he will contact MTV and try and set up the table. It may get us \$5000
- Jamie Santora will be going to auction to get bouncy house stuff.
- Talk of a radio station coming to DJ for us. Katie Ford is going to look into this.
- Various schools are borrowing stuff from us. St. Dot's, St. Bernadette's, Holy Child, and Haverford. All but Haverford are going to be sending AP a donation for use of our stuff.
- Some parents have been stepping up to help build.
- Jamie's business is getting award from Delco Chamber of Commerce. He will ask if any members may want to donate.
- Dan McGarry has offered to try and help. He is going to try and come up with a district wide fundraiser. Stay tuned.
- Talked about dunk tank day to raise money.
- Peco energy has grant program Jamie will do it. 1000 to 1500
- We need someone who can do grant writing. Ideas for who they might get to do that.
- Next Shed night February 26.
- Ideas for decorations were discussed.
- Kate Long emailed that she's doing well on getting food for the AP.