

MINUTES

UDHS Home & School Association

Date | time Feb. 10, 2021 @7:02pm | *Meeting called to order by* Jamie Santora, President

In Attendance

Jamie Santora, President; Bill Caughlan, Secretary; Ed Troy, Treasurer; Kelley Simone, Principal; Jill Palladino, UDHS Assistant Principal; Stephanie Sitek, Assistant Principal Senior Class; Wayne Remmey, Assistant Principal Freshman Class; Dr. Dan McGarry, UDSD Superintendent; Dr. Greg Manfre, UDSD Director of Secondary Education; Aaronda Q. Beauford, UDSD Director of Communications; Don Fields & David Neill, UD School Board representatives; Don Fields; and 13 parents.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to waive the reading of the meeting minutes from January 2021 was made, by Bill Caughlan seconded by Ed Troy, and approved.

President's Message

Jamie Santora welcomed everyone. By request, he turned meeting over to Dr. Manfre who made a special announcement. Three staff members asked him to nominate Ms. Simone for principal of the year for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He then read a letter of recommendation he wrote for her for her doctorate application. Jamie Santora shared that he was asked to be the parent to recommend her.

Principal's Update

Ms. Simone presented her report. Highlights included:

- Getting diplomas ready. She showed what the new covers look like. Ms. Sitek said they are talking with Balfour to provide caps, gowns, and yearbooks.
- 12th grade parent meeting Feb 25 at 6pm. Parents will be updated on graduation at that time.
- Ms. Simone gave the floor to Ms. Sitek and Ms. Palladino to talk about Speak Up events. They will be occurring at all secondary schools, starting March 4. 50 students came out as interested in the events. The link is live for both parents and students: some of the topics will be mental health and social media. The link for the events can be found on Schoology.
- Counselors were celebrated last week. Ms. Simone expressed thanks for all their hard work.
- Black History Month will feature different slides by a different artist every day on Schoology every day. Check it out. The UDHS Black Student Union will giving presentations every Friday for the rest of the month, and much more.
- Course selection starting for next school year. You will hear from Ms. Simone soon. Counselors will be here to help them make sure they make all requirements.
- The school is doing everything it can to make the musical happen. It will happen. She apologizes for how slow, but it is a priority. Rapid antigen testing will be used and all health guidelines will be followed.

Budget

Ed Troy stated that very little money has been coming in. Currently there is \$17,491.90 in the Home & School account. Not too much to add. \$704 in spirit wear sales. Home & School is owed \$354 from last year. A request from the school came in for the annual \$6000 scholarship check.

Jamie shared that the AfterProm account has \$6000 approximately. A donation from the Arts foundation is forthcoming.

Ed Troy made a motion to cut \$6000 check for scholarships, Bill Caughlan seconded the motion, and it passed. The check will go out next week.

Committee Reports

Nothing to Report

New Business

- The Graduation Committee meeting will be Thursday, February 11. Ideas for graduation will be discussed. One popular idea is to have students live in the PAC, parents watch through a stream. This plan might rely on rapid antigen testing for students before the ceremony. Committee will have to come to a consensus with plan and then forward to McGarry.
- Yeti cooler raffle will be next week.
- We really need to parents to volunteer to nominated for board. Three of the four members will be leaving at the end of the year. Positions for President, Treasurer, and Secretary will need to be filled. Nominations will be asked for at March's meeting.
- UDHS Home and School Board purchased a number of giant inflatables and a dunk tank. We will soon be losing the storage unit. Jamie asked Ms. Simone if the school can find space to store these items. It was announced that UDHS Home & School will make the inflatables, etc. available to other Home & School Association to rent for a nominal fee. This should provide big savings to other Home & School Associations.
- A question from parents about prom this year. Ms. Simone shared that it just cannot be held. The capacity rate at Drexel Brook is 201 right now. We have many more students than that. Multiple proms are not an option fiscally and operationally– Dr. McGarry has made the final decision on this for this year. Ms. Sitek shared that the student committee agrees that a Prom is just not feasible and will present a health risk. The students feel graduation is more important.

Next Meeting

March 10, 2021, Via Zoom and/or You Tube. A motion was made to adjourn, seconded, and approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:06pm. Ed, Bill