

MINUTES

UDHS Home & School Association

Date | time Nov. 11, 2020 @7:06pm | *Meeting called to order by* Jamie Santora, President

In Attendance

Jamie Santora, President; Allison McConell, Vice President; Bill Caughlan, Secretary; Kelley Simone, Principal; Jill Palladino, UDHS Assistant Principal; Stephanie Sitek, Assistant Principal Senior Class; Tish Mejias, UDHS teacher; Dr. Daniel McGarry, UD School District Superintendent; Dr. Greg Manfre, Director of Secondary Education; Aaronda Beauford, UD School District Director of Communications; and 10 UDHS parents.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to waive the reading of the meeting minutes from October 2020 was made, seconded and approved.

President's Message

Jamie Santora welcomed everyone and introduced the meeting's special guest, UD School District Superintendent Dr. Daniel McGarry.

Dr. McGarry announced that he was visiting all of the Home & School Associations district wide, in order to give updates in relation to the District's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Update Highlights:

- Decision made by the School District to remain virtual were made by him and not Principal Simone.
 - The decision was made in close consultation with expert medical guidance and based on the rising COVID-19 positivity rate per one hundred thousand and the District's ability to staff the schools. Many on UD School District staff are high-risk.
 - Dr. McGarry expressed his understanding and apologized knowing how hard it is for families to manage.
 - He hopes to be able to return to in-person learning but doubts school will return to normal this year.
 - If the District does return to in-person learning the priority will be kindergarten-3rd and special needs students. The High School will be last in priority.
 - A question was asked about prom. Dr. McGarry answered that he does not see prom happening. However if we get a vaccine and start to get a low positivity rate, he will revisit the possibility of having a prom. The same goes for the graduation.
 - Dr. McGarry ended by announcing the creation of a community advisory committee. It will be holding six virtual forums in the near future. They will be hosted by the University of Pennsylvania. They will be looking for feedback concerning where the school District is falling short. He's really hoping to have a huge amount of participation.
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Budget

The budget report was waived, as Treasurer Ed Troy was unable to attend. There's been very little change to the Home and School account.

Committee Reports

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- There were no committees reports at this time.

New Business

Jamie reported

- Virtual spirit wear store, starts Monday. A link will go out. Store will stay open thru Friday after Thanksgiving. Then it's shut down. That's the only way they can handle orders for the holidays. All clothing options. It will be re-launched in January and will include grad signs, class of 2021 shirts. If you have any ideas let Home & School know. This will be emailed out to entire family.
- Lunch for teachers. Proposed that we do one where food can be ordered and delivered personally to the teachers practicing good self-distancing. . A motion was made to plan a staff appreciation lunch. Allison McConnell moved that we do so; Bill Caughlan seconded. A vote was taken and passed with no opposition.
- Fundraising. Not going to do a clothing drive, but rather hold an online raffle for a Yeti cooler.
- Fall in folks giving to Home & School. We're going to put out a call to ask people to pay dues.
- UDHS parent, Muhammad Abdul-Mubdi would like to see Home & School help make connections between other parents. He was asked to come up with ideas for our next meeting how to best do this.
- Jamie reminded all that we need people to nominate themselves to replace people retiring from H & S Board. Need a co-President too.
- Bill Caughlan reminded the group that there is no Home and School Meeting in December. The next meeting will be the second Wednesday in January (01/13/2021).

Principal's Update

Principal Simone presented her report

- Senior Center is working on graduation ideas trying to make it a memorable graduation. Still hoping they can do it live from Temple.
- The kids are really stepping up trying to stay connected and involved in making Senior year memorable.
- Common Application is going to be looking at getting transcripts, grades, etc. Kids need to get on there and sign up. Trade schools have their own common application.

Next Meeting

January 13, 2021, Via Zoom and/or You Tube

The meeting adjourned at 8pm