

# UPPER DARBY HOME AND SCHOOL

September 25, 2019 *Meeting called to order by* Jamie Santora

## Approval of Minutes

A motion to waive the reading of the meeting minutes from May and June 2019. Made, seconded, and passed.

## President's Report – Co-President, Jamie Santora

Jamie welcomed all to the new school year. This year we really need to focus on fundraising. We have a lot of money to make up for last spring's AfterProm. We did reduce the cost by approximately \$6,000, but we borrowed a bit from Home & School fund, it needs to go back. We also need to raise money for this year's AfterProm.

Co-President Esther Bubb also welcomed everyone and said she looked forward to the new meeting.

Jamie informed everyone at the meeting that the Home & School Board voted to include a new position to the Board, that of Co-President. This is to help new presidents make an easier transition into the leadership of the organization. The Board will make a preliminary change to the Home & School Association Bylaws to reflect this change. The Board will bring Bylaw changes to Home & School members for a reading and vote on the change.

## Treasurer's Report – Ed Troy

Ed Troy could not attend the meeting. There was no official report. When Ed returns, he will prepare one to be posted on the Home & School website. It was stated that money from the Fall Flea Market was coming in, as were dues payments.

## Principal's Report– Kelley Simone

Ms. Simone first gave a list of upcoming events which can be seen on the UDHS website calendar. Some events she mentioned were:

- UDHS Open House on 9/26
- Pep Rally, 9/28
- AP Night, 9/30
- PSAT for 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades on 10/16. There will be a late start for 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades
- National English Honor Society Induction on 10/16
- 11<sup>th</sup> grade ring ceremony on 10/17

Ms. Simone mentioned that there had been a request to change the date of the Harvest dance. This is not possible as once the calendar is set in the spring it is pretty much set. The Harvest Dance for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade will be 10/19. Ms. Simone further stated that to get items on the calendar, dates need to be submitted in springtime for the following school year.

Ms. Simone then announced that she would be periodically introducing other members of her team at various Home & School meetings. She then introduced the following faculty members:

- Jill Palladino – former Senior VP, she is now head of Climate and Culture at UDHS. She will also be involved with the Special Education students, and continue involvement with Royal Revolution

- Joanna Demarco – Head of Operations for UDHS. This includes testing, substitute teacher assignments, the schedule, AP night, and the like. Ms. Demarco then spoke on AP night. This is designed to attract more students to Advanced Placement classes.

Ms. Simone then opened the floor for questions and discussion. Topics discussed were:

- Money promised from Studio Movie Grill for the AfterProm. Ms. Simone said they are speaking with them about payment
- It was stated that the ribbon cutting for the new field (which by the way looks great) seemed to be more of an event for members of the School Board and Administrators, not for the kids. It was requested that they not make the same mistake for the gym floor ribbon cutting
- It was brought up that Upper Classmen were not supporting JV sports. It is required that JV members support Varsity sports. It was felt by one parent that this should be reciprocal
- Ms. Simone mentioned that new procedures for attending sports games are forthcoming. Students will need their IDs to get in from now on. This is result of an incident that occurred at a football game earlier in the year
- One parent brought up the lighting at the Tower Theater during graduation last year. It was asked if that can be improved. Ms. Simone mentioned that a graduation committee was going to be formed this fall. Committee members will be made up of faculty, parents, and one Home & School Association member. Look for an announcement about this
- Another parent expressed frustration at how long it took for transcripts to be uploaded. This was due to having trouble including the new UDSD logo on the transcripts. Ms. Simone said they were just uploaded on the day of the meeting and apologized for the delay, but said that most colleges were not looking for transcripts until later in the fall
- Computer distribution in classrooms was discussed
- A complaint that the college prep course at the school did not seem to be doing much of anything. Ms. Simone said she'd look into it
- It was brought up that sensitivity training regarding trans students' needs to be given to school chaperones.

## Committee Reports

### Flea Market – Lois Johnston

Lois reported that so far, we had 82 vendors, some of which have taken more than one space. There are another possible 10 vendors she is waiting to hear from. Lois stated that she'd collected \$1515 and was expecting more to pay in the coming days. The Flea Market is being advertised in papers and online. It looks like the weather will be cooperating. We should have a good turnout.

### Concessions – Kathleen Johnson

Kathleen reported that she will need help on Friday or Saturday getting supplies out of the shed. The Sign-Up Genius was discussed. Bill Caughlan stated that he was having a hard time getting it out as Google had changed the rules for mass mailings. Bill said he was going to send the Sign-Up through the SUG website.

### School Beautification – Allison McConnell

Allison stated that this Committee Chair is now open. Kathleen Johnson then volunteered to chair the committee. There will be two events, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, and the annual spring clean-up. Ms. Simone promised to help find projects for volunteers to do.

### After prom – Jamie Santora

AfterProm discussion was tabled until the AfterProm meeting immediately following the Home & School meeting.

## Old Business

Online spirit wear store update: Jamie said that Home & School presidents from around the district just met to discuss sharing a single online vendor. Erin Troy is looking for just such a vendor. Stay tuned.

## New Business

No new business was discussed.

## Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 7:00 pm

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:15 pm

The AfterProm Committee meeting began immediately after.