



Kathy Blair &lt;kblair@upperdarbysd.org&gt;

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**UDHS Scholarship Program...Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 3, 2023...**

1 message

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**Peterkin, Joshua** <jpeterkin@upperdarbysd.org>  
To: kblair@upperdarbysd.org

Wed, Dec 14, 2022 at 11:35 AM

Good evening Class of 2023 Students and Families,

I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the holiday season. It is really hard to believe that we only have a little more than a semester to go until our seniors graduate...time goes by so quickly! To that end, seniors should be working with their teachers to make sure that they finish the first semester strong...for some every credit is needed towards graduation.

If we thought the fall semester was busy with events, the spring semester is even more full with an array of events and activities so buckle up!

We will hit the ground running in 2023 with a student assembly for seniors on January 3rd. The focus of the assembly will be on the UDHS Scholarship Program, but we also plan to cover ALL of the items that seniors need to finalize between January and June (i.e. Act 158, Work-Based Learning, Diploma Verification, Post-Secondary Plan Survey and more).

While we will be recording the session to share with families the next day (the Scholarship program is time sensitive with all applications needing to be submitted by Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 3PM...no exceptions!), we will also be hosting an evening session covering the same topic. We are still finalizing the time and location for the evening session but plan for 6pm most likely in the boardroom at the high school.

**(All of these emails are being saved on the UDSD website under the Class of 2023 Information page which is available [HERE](#). It contains much of the important information that I try to get out to families through these emails.)**

In other news...

1. **Cap & Gown Orders:** When I last checked, there were around 100 completed orders (out of a graduating class of over 1000 seniors). I am aware that some families plan to use a sibling's cap and gown from the last few years or perhaps do not plan to walk in graduation at all (which I hope is few and far between...we want to celebrate all of our seniors at Temple on June 12th!).

Please remember that now through March 1, 2023, the cap and gown package costs \$42, but after March 1, 2023, the price goes to \$52 for the package! You can access the site to purchase the cap & gown packages [HERE](#). I created a short video on the ordering process and would encourage students and families to view that video [HERE](#).

***\*If you started the process to buy a package but did not finish the ordering process, you should make sure to re-enter ALL information (Name, Student ID, Email, etc.) which will trigger a prompt at the top of the screen. The prompt states, "An order has already been started using this Student ID" and provides a link that can be used to go in and complete the original order.***

2. **Early Grad:** These requests need to be *made by next Friday, December 23rd!*

To clarify what an "Early Grad" student means and doesn't mean, please check out the Google form [HERE](#). If you/your student is interested in applying, please complete the District AR via the Google form. The counselors will need to review each request that is made to make sure that all graduation requirements are met (**which includes completing Act 158...Students needing to complete the 15 videos should check their school email accounts!**)

3. **Name Pronunciation for Graduation:** This is another item that has not been completed by too many of our seniors. While not required, it will help to ensure that we do our absolute best to properly pronounce everyone's name at graduation. It only takes a minute or two to complete the Google Form available [HERE](#). As part of the form, students are asked to spell their name phonetically as well as to upload a recording of them saying their name. This will help our counselors be able to practice saying names so that they get them right on the big day!

*\*Please note that the form can ONLY be accessed by students using their UD account. It is NOT available for those outside of UDSD.*

4. **College Applications:**

*\*Watch your application deadlines and remember that your yellow checklist needs to be submitted to your counselor at least three weeks before the deadline. **If the deadlines are January 15th, then everything needs to be to your counselor by next week.** Counselors will submit all documents for January 1st BEFORE they leave for winter break on December 23rd! Be sure to plan ahead.*

Simple Steps to follow:

1. Be sure to get your [release of records](#) completed and emailed to your counselor by your parent (unless you are 18 and then you can email it to them)
2. Put College/Technical School selections into Naviance
3. Complete Brag Sheet in Naviance

4. Complete Yellow Checklist and hand deliver to counselor (Virtual students complete checklist [HERE](#))

\*As a reminder the Senior Counseling Corner linked [HERE](#) is choke full of resources and information for students in need of assistance!

5. **Financial Aid Support:** If you missed the first evening for financial aid support (i.e. completing FAFSA/PHEAA applications) on November 30th, the second session is scheduled for Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 6pm in the library.

If you have not completed these financial aid applications and plan to attend either a 2 or 4 year college or trade school starting next year, you should attend one of these meetings to get assistance.

You will need to obtain a STUDENT FSA ID and PARENT FSA ID to complete the applications. To save time at the workshop, please try to get these ahead of time. View the video [HERE](#) for a step by step guide.

Students AND parents must both attend the workshop together!

#### 6. **Miscellaneous:**

- Please remember that if your student is absent a note must be brought in or emailed within three days of the student returning to school. The email where absence notes can be sent is [12udhs-attendance@upperdarbysd.org](mailto:12udhs-attendance@upperdarbysd.org)
- Likewise, students that need an early dismissal should either bring in a note or have their parent email the attendance email for the early dismissal. Step 2 is that the student should come to the senior center as soon as they arrive and work with Ms. Hoskins to verify the early dismissal and then get a pass to come back to the center at their dismissal time to officially sign out. Not following these steps has led to students being written up for cutting class. Please follow the steps on the front end so that we avoid extra work for everyone (parents included) on the back end.

Thank you

Joshua Peterkin

Assistant Principal

UDHS Class of 2023