

**UAHS PTO General Membership Meeting**  
**Tuesday, November 28th, 2017**  
**Carsonie's**

**In attendance:** Wendy Panen, Cathey Pultz, Kristin Greenberg, Emily Gerber, Jenny DeCapua, Laura Hellstedt, Denise Rush, Patricia Jay, Kris Ferraro, Sue Pohl, David Cromleigh, Tina Beevy, Molly Brennan, Stacey Zelina, Amanda Postalki, Connie Adams, Angie Elvers, Kim Kinateder, Eleorna Klisovic, Xiaokui Mo, Jennifer Rigney-Camll, Kellie Ali, Keisi Didos

**I. Welcome & Introductions** **Cathy Pultz**

Introductions were made around the room.

**II. Superintendent** **Kathy Jenney**

Ms. Jenney thanked everyone for voting for the passage of the levy. She encouraged all to attend the community events that will be held to assess community needs.

**III. Principal** **Andrew Theado**

Mr. Theado thanked everyone for their support of the new high school and the passing of the levy. He encouraged everyone to become involved with the design. He spent time with the staff around Design Thinking in September.

There were interview sessions with parents and students held on October 11th to see what wants and needs they want from the new building regarding look and feel. These opinions were passed along to architects to consider during the design phase.

Some of the elements that were mentioned for the new building were:

- natural light
- flexible spaces (such as for teamwork and labs)
- flexibility to meet one-on-one with teachers, staff and others
- displaying learning - recognizing and celebrating it

Currently, the only thing that has happened in the design of the new building is the square footage/size of the building. This is due to our current land restrictions.

Our Steering Committee will meet during the day to dig into the data. All stakeholders will be involved including students, staff and parents.

The construction timeline for the new building will hinge upon the designs Parkins & Will Architects will identify. The building's needs will be assessed first prior to design. Ground will be broken in 2019.

In 2018, a new stadium will start to be built. This will absolutely affect parking. We do not know how much parking may be lost or exactly where spaces will be lost. Not every senior will get a parking spot next year.

A question was asked about busing and whether this would help alleviate parking issues. Cathy Pultz answered that busing will cost too much (purchasing the buses, fuel costs, insurance, added employee costs). The school district will try to collaborate with the city about street parking? The goal is to get kids to school safely.

The new field/stadium will be moved to the south side and to the middle of the property. A portion of the new building will be four stories. The northern half of Tremont is property of UA schools. A turf field will be built for varsity football and baseball/softball on the Tremont property. The current building will stay functional until the last possible moment.

#### **IV. Counselor**

**Liz Hughes**

##### **a. Overview of Class Scheduling**

###### **General updates:**

The first round of Signs of Suicide with sophomores is currently happening. The three teams of counselors and Syntero counselors are leading the program.

The acronym A.C.T (acknowledge, care and act) is taught. This program is a two day nationwide program.

The freshmen will be visited during classes quarterly. In September, the freshmen learned what a transcript is and discussed the importance of grades. Semester grades are what shows on each student's transcript. The importance of getting involved in school activities was also emphasized. Stress and resources to curb it were discussed. Students were encouraged to attend office hours and utilize the Learning Center.

The freshmen also attended Focus on the Future at Columbus State. Students picked three different careers to explore. This was held on November 14th. Family Connection was introduced to the students as a one-stop college resource site.

###### **Scheduling:**

Scheduling will open online from January 26 until February 5th. Academic Week is January 22-26. Video and information will be sent to students. Students are encouraged to talk to teachers about class offerings.

The importance of fit and balance is key. Scheduling the right mix of classes so as to not get overwhelmed is important to overall success.

Counselors will meet with students and parents, if needed, to discuss course planning and graduation credits.

The middle school parent meeting will be held on January 23rd.

The master schedule is built on student requests so it will be hard to get schedule changes later in August as teachers and class size will already be set.

### **New scheduling/class items:**

- American Sign Language
- Robotics
- Print (3D)
- Ideas Seminar
- Advanced Broadcasting will now be honors - three prerequisites are needed to take this class
- Civil Engineering
- Public Speaking credit can be met by taking Workshop Theater or the Ideas Seminar (Language Arts elective)
  - this will be run by Laura Moore
  - Ideas Seminar will design think the grading system of this class  
this group will make proposals to R&D
- Science - regular and honors Physical Science for freshmen
- Visual Arts - AP Art History will still be in place
- Fitness Training
- Life Guarding - will have physical requirements (treading water, etc)

Currently, no pathways scheduling exists which would enable students to follow a certain set of coursework - i.e., engineering, healthcare, business, etc.

A question was posed if counselors automatically check graduation credits per student to see if anything is missing? The counselors meet with juniors and provide a checklist of what is needed to graduate. When schedules are done, counselors crosscheck with requirements.

Capstone is still evolving and changing. We do not foresee changes for next year, but changes will happen in the future. Through Design Thinking, it was discovered that we want our kids to have certain skills such as communication, critical thinking, etc. We cannot overhaul Capstone until we know what we want for our kids and how to get them to where they need to be. We will keep evolving Capstone.

Teachers want to offer the ability to work on real-life things in class. They want to get back to the original purpose of Capstone. This year the research paper portion was taken out of Capstone. Students are still doing the research paper in Language Arts.

But, it is separate from Capstone. Three timeframes/deadlines will still be offered for Capstone

## **V. Cynthia Ballheim**

### **a. AP/IB Programs**

#### **New to IB:**

- Sports Exercise and Health Class are paired with Business Class this year
- Global Classroom
- World Religions is brand new this year and was proposed by students

IB registration is now closed for May testing.

IB is a trademarked name. Students can take IB classes without getting an IB Diploma. IB Diplomas require a total of six IB courses.

AP registration starts in January during normal scheduling timeframes.

### **b. National Honor Society**

- The application process is coming up for juniors and seniors

#### **Partnership with EF Tours:**

- New trip commemorating the 75th anniversary of D-Day will take place in early June
- A new trip to the United Nations in New York will be offered. There is no date yet.

## **VII. PTO Business**

- a. Website: [uahspto.org](http://uahspto.org) - check it out!
- b. October Minutes Approval
  - Motion - Jenny DeCapua
  - 2nd Motion - Laura Hellstedt
  - All approved
- c. Budget - Jenny DeCapua
  - a. Jenny thanked everyone for helping fund Idea Day, Robotics and IB needs (voice recorders)
- d. Mini-Grants
  - money went towards Robotics, Community School and voice recorders for IB

A question was posed asking what the differences were between Community School and the rest of school. Stacy Hall provided an answer having a child who is enrolled in this program.

Community School works in three blocks of core classes. There is a lab learning environment, more R&D and a different and collaborate approach to learning.

**Future PTO Meetings and Other Important Dates:**

December 18th - Staff Appreciation - link provided on website to sign up to help

February 1st - 8:30 am at Carsonie's - General Membership Meeting

March 4th - CeleBEARity Wait Night

April 6th - 8:30 am Carsonie's - General Membership Meeting