



UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

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UAHS PTO General Membership Minutes Tuesday, February 4th at 8:30

- I. Welcome & Minutes Approval - Heather Perry
Attendees: Heather Perry, Aimee White, Beth Devine, Megan Potts, Cathy Pultz, Melissa Ford, Marti Underwood, Kris Ferraro, Kim Kinateder, Deb Larry, Liz Hughes, Tricia Fellingner, and Cynthia Ballheim
Melissa Ford motioned and Cathy Pultz seconded the motion and all were in favor.
November minutes passed.
- II. Principal Report - Andrew Theado
Double booked and did not attend PTO meeting.
- III. AP and IB Program Update- Cynthia Ballheim
Powerpoints are up on the website for IB Career-Related Programs (specifically for a career) choose 2 IB classes (career-focused) and 3 core class (service-learning, career, paper/demonstration/film to look at an ethical issue in (career) field and pose a solution - counts as Senior Capstone). UAHS had the only 2 students (in-state) a few years ago. This year introducing the Engineering Pathway (Project Lead the Way). Fastest growing IB program in the country/world and 86% go on to college - not necessarily year after graduation. UAHS is hoping that more students will engage and signup.
School Trips: Japan and Panama are being discussed for 2021.
Update: IB celebrating its 50th anniversary. Every 7 years program revamped.
- IV. Counselor's Update- Liz Hughes
Counselors went into Junior classes 2 weeks ago - sample transcript and graduation requirements/planner to prepare for scheduling next year ("have to have" versus "what is good for college"). Senior Capstone will count as a half-credit and will be a semester class with a summer session offered. It will remain pass/fail and not impact GPA and no independent option offered. We will continue for seniors closed study hall for periods 2-7 and periods 1 and 8 will remain open. Academic week is this week - visit Schoology as messages are released often and include the 4-year course planners and full packet on how to schedule on Powerschool. Sophomore and Juniors take 4 tests (score 18 out of 35) graduation seals. Freshman will only take 2 tests (graduation seals) and will not have a public speaking class requirement. Still redefining state and local graduation seals.
Senior Capstone: changes again but will be better defined.
Public Speaking Requirement: Three options to fulfill - public speaking class, online classes through colleges or newer Ideas Seminar class offering.

Honors Diplomas: 6 options and can only achieve one. 3.5 GPA, 27 on ACT, 4 credits in social studies, science, 2 global languages to achieve academic honors (automatically checked by counselors for all seniors). Art Diploma; STEM Diploma etc. You don't know if you get them until you graduate (no benefit for college application). All students receiving an Honors Diploma will be printed in graduation program.

Academic Week: students speaking to counselors, look at majors/interests. February 7, 2020 scheduling opens - do not rush this process - UAHS starts drafting schedules end of April. Message to students from counselors: want students to take their time on schedule and make sure to balance - don't feel all courses should be AP/IB but rather focus on courses you do well in and like. Once you know your interests then apply honors to those classes. Don't compete and compare rather do what is best for you.

Sample Schedules discussed with each grade: Juniors meet with counselors Feb 10; Sophomores Feb 11 and Freshman Feb 12.

Signs of Suicide Refresher: mental health is as important as physical health; outlets for students and know where they can go to seek help.

February 25, 2020: Junior ACT in-school testing will be pencil/paper. Digital learning day for all other grades.

- V. Ambassadors of Change and Student DEI- Tricia Fellingner and Liz Hughes
Tricia Fellingner (teaches German including at Hastings). Ambassadors of Change includes school supported DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) has grown from 30 students to 3 groups (Year 1,2 and 3) with around 60 students in total. Last year laid out the foundation and key components (wellness, race etc) and this year they are building on those principals. Focus is to allow students to find their voice, speak and implement and build relationships with teachers. So much time is needed with such heavy topics - focused on students' voice and decision making power. "Climate within High School" - Start with Hello! (supported by UAHS PTO). During second period, everyone got a nametag and large majority of students left them on for the entire day. Activities were held in the classroom throughout the day - for example, students had an opportunity to do relationship-building activities to meet new peers (meet the student that sits next to you every day in class). Thanks for being #ThereForMe was held in November - purpose was to post pictures of positive social media. Year 2's spoke with Jones and Hastings Principals - then Year 2's students spoke to 8th graders to spread positivity. Year 1's went to a Columbus Public elementary and spent time with a second grade class. UA students spoke about equity and did a program on reading. UA students cherished the experience and are looking to do this annually. Ambassadors Of Change group met with Andrew Theado to share biased language, their experiences within the walls of UAHS and to shed light on culture in high school. This group's goal is to become a group that students go to as a resource.
- Culture and Diversity Club meets after school. Going to hold their annual C&D Fair on March 6th and parent volunteers are needed - if interested email Tricia at tfellingner@uaschools.org. Hastings to have first-ever Culture and Diversity Fair week of February 17 - an email will go out and looking for parent volunteers as well.

- VI. PTO Business:
-Treasurer Report - Beth Devine

Up and coming PTO fundraisers: Shred-It Day (April 18) and CeleBEARty Wait Night (March 1). Our budget looks good - all areas are on budget and pulling in cash flow as expected.

-Thank you's & To Do's!

Melora Meyer and Leah Sneed are doing a fantastic job with CWN and organized/held the Cookie Exchange for Teacher Appreciation Day

Debbie German and Danielle Milliken for a great meal for teachers and staff

Cathy Pultz for bringing coffee to PTO General Membership Meetings

Aimee White for PTO minutes

Important Dates:

Friday, March 1st - PTO Annual fundraiser - CeleBEARity Wait Night

Sunday, March 1st - National Honors Society Induction

March 9th- Shared Secrets of a UA High School Parent in Little Theater

Tuesday, April 7th at 8:30am Market District Cafe- PTO Membership Meeting

Saturday, April 18th - Shred It Day

Meeting Adjourned: 9:40a.m.

Don't forget to visit our PTO website ~ uahspto.org

Thank you for spending your morning with us!