



UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOLS

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UAHS PTO General Membership Meeting Tuesday, October 22nd at 8:30

I. Welcome & Minutes Approval - Heather Perry

-Cathy Pultz motioned and Beth Devine second motion and all were in favor of passing September minutes.

Attendee: Heather Perry, Megan Potts, Aimee White, Cathy Pultz, Melissa Ford, Pamela Dion, Lori Trent, Beth Devine, Ana Ly, Denis Rush, Sue Pohl Kim Kinatader, Alison Scott, Sonya North, Officer Jon Rice, Andrew Theado and Matt Biedenbach.

II. Principal Report - Andrew Theado

-Drug and Alcohol free activity: Friday Night after football game the new scoreboard showed a movie "The Rain" - pizza (40), cookies and drink donated - over 200 kids attended. Thanks to The Stand Project.

-School lunch - junior and senior classes have open lunch. Freshman and sophomore have their own lunch periods. Students are with their friends and there were fewer schedule changes at the beginning of the year. Principal Theado feels it's going exceptionally well - opened LC to students and they allowed eat their lunch in LC. Ton of space for kids to find an area - cafeterias are still hardly being used. When the weather is nice students will go outside. Student Innovation team is working on ideas for next year's lunch periods (include junior class). When the new building opens - power hour of lunch for the entire building and will potentially allow for office hours during lunch period. Nutritional services are considering to offer food on all 3 floors.

-Parking Spaces at new building: we will have the same number of spaces - emphasis on carpooling (which worked well this year). Policy on senior year flex option (1st or 8th period) will remain open for new building.

-Clubs: review of student life, extra and co-curriculars, athletics and student run clubs. Year One review: includes supporting students, staff and coaches "well being." Year Two review: look at the financials for all types of groups - costs associated (including all sports and boosters). School Sponsored Clubs: athletics, band, orchestra, first robotics, In-the-know, computer science, math club, bear den - coach/staff member is being paid to advise the club. Student Run Clubs are not school sponsored: nacho club, rock climbing, political, religious and the list goes on. Students run club and can use UAHS/school facility to host meetings. They need to find a teacher to supervise - teachers job is to ensure kids are safe but they do not monitor material/club activities.

-Study Hall: is it quiet or silent? All depends on aid and Andrew said it's running at or below average. Lot of room to make improvements. LC first floor is quiet and second floor is collaborative. Cafeteria (sophomore/freshman) and Auditorium lobby (junior/senior) who do not

have LC privilege, are silent. New policy allows kids to go into the hallway for collaborative/talking study hall. Always open to feedback and change occurs and can occur often. There is supervision between hallway and cafeteria study halls.

III. Matt Biendenbach - UAHS Counselor Report

-August through Nov. 1 is the busiest time of year for the counseling department. During this time focus is on schedule changes, freshman adjusting (present to english classes) and senior/college applications. After Nov. 1 there is more structure/guidance during english classes (transcript, gpa, etc) - for all grades.

-Reported there is collaboration between the counselors and SRO. Unique to have officer presence in building and is extremely beneficial having this relationship for staff and students.

IV. School Resource Officer - Jon Rice

-Has been in UAHS for six years and just signed on for another four years. Police officer for 25 years (SWAT, Detective), 12 years in Upper Arlington. Two officers in the high school at all times - one stationed at senior doors at all times. Five SRO's in district as a whole. Officer Rice relates well to our kids and has a relationship with a lot of them. Responsible for 1900 kids - but he knows the kids with struggles (depression, anxiety, poor home life).

-What is my job at the high school? Guard and protect every child is primary job. Secondary job is car accidents/fender bender, counselor to the kids, liaison between high school and UAPD (continuity and increases safety for all), active shooter drills, helps with capstones (all have gotten A grades), speaks to classes on many topics throughout the year (explains law, drugs and alcohol) - science class discuss laser and radar (doplar system), mental health piece for health class, held a session for UA Idea Day (forensics), parking (evaluation/process) and issues school citations (not through UAPD - study hall detention etc), investigate crimes at the high school (ie. found stolen \$9k fencing equipment), diversion program (work with family/kid so it doesn't impact record), monitors social media (looks for gun, drug and party locations) and attends all dances. Outside of school Youth Engagement Chair for The Stand Project and during the summer - UAPD patrol car duty. Email any questions or concerns, jrice@uaschools.org.

-Personal experience with her 14 yo daughter - cheerleader, lax player, good grades, violin player. Anxiety/depression set in and has been a long battle ever since. Wants to take personal experience to help others. Many kids and parents have relied on his services/experience.

V. The Stand Project- Sonya North, Executive Director

-The Stand Project works with all of the district SRO's - great gift for our community to have SRO support in our schools and community. It has provided many families/students resources - that the schools, The Stand Project and UAPD work closely together to find help. OHYES! free survey for Ohio (7th through 12th grade) are 2016 results. Video shared on brain development at certain ages using drugs and alcohol - <https://youtu.be/0Sj78uJUOPk>

-Addiction: prolong and decrease amount and frequency. Vaping is highly addictive because it has an immediate affect.

-The Big Table discussion: Hot topic is not a lot of things for kids to do and do not feel welcome at establishments around town (ie. restaurants, Giant Eagle) - only thing to do is hang out in someone's basement. The Stand Project is looking for healthy alternatives (Feedback from parents) especially no options for kids after UA dances. Dealing with parents and wide

range of intolerance/tolerance for alcohol parties, expense of it, unchaperoned parties, parents drinking, off-site party location rentals etc. The Stand Project is looking for help to get this off the ground - looking at UA dances - Sign-up sheet provided to PTO to form a committee.

-Listen Local Live! November 9th 7-11pm at Mirolo Barn free - \$15 at the door healthy alternative for UAHS students (food provided).

-Street Smart held on November 12th at UAHS

- Underage Drinking Townhall coming up

VI. PTO Business:

-Treasurer Report - Beth Devine

-Not a lot of activity. Membership is nearing goal of raising \$10k. One Mini Grant approved for a German musician who came across seas to discuss to high school and middle school students. Collaboration with UAEF.

-Membership - Cathy Pultz

-Still accepting memberships and please consider signing up

-Thank you's & To Do's!

-DEI:

-Hosting a non-partisan School Board Candidates night providing an opportunity for candidates to answer questions from parents on DEI and well being of kids. Held Wednesday, October 23 at 7pm at Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Important Dates:

Tuesday, 11/26, 2/4 and 4/7 - PTO Membership Meetings, 8:30 AM at Market District

Sunday, March 1st - PTO Annual fundraiser - CeleBEARty Wait Night

Sunday, March 1st- National Honors Society Induction

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

Thank you for spending your morning with us!