

# UHS PTO MEETING

## MARCH 15, 2018 – 9:24AM

Attendance: Luci McClure, Dana Mayer, Holly Friedman, Lisa Tascione, Kim Lauder, Renee Bender, Jimmy Conley

- 1) **Welcome & PTO Presidents' Report:**
  - a. Book Sale: Great success. Thank you to all volunteers. Working on ways to draw more volunteers. Praise stated for Community Pick-Up Day and a second afternoon pick-up is under discussion.
  - b. Ed Foundation Gala: PTO basket started a bidding war ending at \$450. John Sanville asked that other baskets be created if bidders would match price. A second basket earned \$450. One semester parking pass for next year was the big draw.
  
- 2) **Review of February 2018 Meeting Minutes**: Correction stated in name for: Identity Council (not Committee). Voted and approved.
  
- 3) **Treasurer's Report**: Updated net for Book Sale to be estimated at \$44,000. Income and expenses still coming in. Voted and approved.
  
- 4) **School Counselor's Report**: Maribeth Lyles was not in attendance but sent a thank you for the funds provided for food for the professionals assisting with February's College Planning Night.
  
- 5) **Principal's Report: Jimmy Conley**
  - a) NOPE: An assembly for students on the dangers of overdosing is scheduled along with plans for an evening event for parents.
  - b) Course Selection: Closed for now. Will reopen in April for waivers and changes in level of class. Processing continual schedule change requests due to prerequisites and waivers takes considerable time. The administration is reviewing the process. The need for earlier summer distribution of final schedules was also discussed.
  - c) Vaping: Vaping and juuling is becoming larger problem. Devices were on exhibit and a video was shown regarding what it is and the dangers. Must be over 18 to purchase and can buy at places like Walmart. It is against school regulations to participate in smoking/vaping/juuling/drugs on any school district property. When using there is a slight vapor cloud but no smell. Elements to vape come in different flavors. One small packet of nicotine (liquid form) equals one pack of cigarettes (liquid is clear in color). Now THC (oil from marijuana) is being vaped (has a copper color). When inhaled quickly in such large amounts users get a light-headed, drunk feeling. Usage is spreading into athletics. Vaping alcohol is also on the rise

where one deep inhale could have the same result as 6-10 shots. Users feel there is no harm because nothing is burning. There is no long term research for what vaping/juuling does to the human body nor is there information regarding exactly what chemicals are being consumed. Vaping enters the bloodstream quickly and due to the moisture element a large amount stays in the lungs. Students found using or with paraphernalia receive a three or ten day out of school suspension depending on the offense (nicotine, THC, alcohol). The video "Vaping: More Dangerous Than You Think" (obtained from COED) was shown and will become part of the health class curriculum. Urging parents and the community to become educated and to partner with school administration to keep the students safe.

- d) March 14<sup>th</sup> Walk-Out: The 17-minute event was student motivated and supported by the administration. 350 students participated. Students could participate during third period or stay in class and the teacher would continue teaching. Students met in the courtyard. Staff manned all exit doors and State Police were present at the front of the school. There was great cooperation between student leaders, UHS administration and the District Board to make this a meaningful and safe event. April 20<sup>th</sup> (Anniversary of the Columbine Shooting) is another date that may spark conversations about another walkout.

**6) New Business:**

- a) After Prom: Meeting 3/21 @ 7pm in UHS Cafeteria. Solicitation letter campaign and Phone-A-Thon are complete and have raised \$12,000. Hershey Discount Ticket Offer due 3/23. Soliciting for "Dorm Prizes" for all Seniors. Need volunteers to decorate rooms.
- b) UHS Community Scholarship: Mailing went out this week.
- c) Focus Report: I-Gen Community Book Discussion set for 3/20 at 7pm in the UHS Library. Event is free. If you haven't read the book the UHS website has a link to chapter summaries.
- d) UHS PTO Executive Board & Committee Chair Open Positions: Need a Co-President, two Vice-Presidents, Art Gala Chairman, and Ed Foundation Representative.
- e) PTO By-Law Revisions: Bylaws undergoing revision. Changes include: Eliminating \$5 membership fee, making every parent of a student and teacher a member; teachers wouldn't be able to vote on grant requests due to conflict of interest. Also discussed was requiring teachers to volunteer for PTO events (one shift) as part of a granted enrichment request. Mr. Conley will discuss this with teachers soon so they have the opportunity to volunteer for AfterProm.

Meeting adjourned at 11:22am.