Dear Uwchlan Hills Families,

Three important weeks until winter break! We have a lot of fun planned for December! Our winter concert is scheduled for December 15th at 6:30 p.m. in the UH café. The children have been practicing hard for their strings, band, and chorus performances and I can’t wait to hear it! Just a reminder that all grownups attending the concert should wear a mask throughout the performance.

Many students are getting excited about our upcoming science fair. The Science fair is optional, fun, and a great way to get your child excited about science. It is scheduled for January 14th at Uwchlan Hills. It’s not too late to decide to do a project! For more information, contact Ms. Christina Bucci, one of our 5th grade teachers, for more information at cbucci@dasd.org.

Parents have received their log in information about our new software, Securly. Securly allows parents to see each and every internet site their child visits while on their school device. This is a great way to stay on top of what your child is doing with their school device whether at home or at school.

Thank you for all your continued support as we navigate through this year. The students have grown accustomed to masks and we try and insert mask breaks for them as often as possible. Though we have started eating in the café because of the colder weather, we are trying to limit the students time within the cafeteria to 15 minutes or less and we continue to encourage the students to put their masks back on after they finish eating.

Thank you,
Robert E. Giering, Jr.
Principal, Uwchlan Hills Elementary
Letter from the President...

Hello friends,

I hope everyone enjoyed Thanksgiving and had time to reflect on all you are thankful for as a family.

In November, the UH Learning Garden fence was installed. If you haven’t seen it yet, drive by the left side of the school and check it out! We have a little more work to do, but we’re ready for a full growing season in 2022!

Thank you to all the parents who donated drinks and snacks for our teachers for their parent-teacher conferences. We also thanked our teachers during American Education Week by giving them K-cups for the Keurig machine with a little note of thanks from the UHHSA. Additionally, we held a free daily raffle with prizes that teachers could win.

We had our first parent workshop in November which was a big success. The follow-up workshop will be in January. We covered communication and problem solving. A few takeaways: 1) if we want our kids to open up and talk more about what’s happening in their lives, we need to listen more. *Active listening with our full attention.* 2) Problem solving is critical. Give kids choices and let them decide. Don’t tell them how you would fix a problem. Let them figure it out and help guide them. There is more than one way to solve a problem. If the first attempts do not succeed, try something different. Kids need the experience of failing and realizing that they will still be okay afterward.

In November, our Brownies Troop 41 collected food for the Chester County Food Bank. In December, there will be a box for new or gently used shoes in the lobby to help support the high school band’s fundraiser to go to the Rose Bowl.

We are also collecting gifts for our Helping Hands Holiday Wish List. Donations will be accepted until December 10th. You can find the list here:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F084BACAD2BA13-2021

REMINDER:

If you are planning an event that will happen at the school (i.e. science fair, book fair, pizza bingo) please make sure to reserve the space. We must fill out the facility use form to reserve the space on the school calendar so that there are no overlapping events. Please email abuckalew@dasd.org and uhhsa_president@gmail.com with the date you are requesting and the space that is needed. If you don’t reserve your space, other non-school related groups may be given access.

Thank you!
In the spirit of giving, did you know that many companies match employee donations to our organization dollar for dollar?! You can do this by filling out and submitting a paper match form provided by your employer or through an electronic submission process. Increasing donations is truly that quick and easy! If you have any questions, or need our EIN, please contact me or one of our treasurers (Shawn Boyd and Adrienne McLaughlin).

This holiday season, don’t forget a portion of your purchases can go directly to Uwchlan Hills by using Amazon Smile. In the Blue & Gold you will find a flyer explaining how to set up and use it. There are many amazing organizations you can choose from! If you’re interested in using UHHSAs as your charitable organization, a small percentage comes right back to our school.

Girls on the Run will culminate on Sunday, December 5th with their 5K finale. We’ll be looking for more parent volunteers to help run the program in the spring. If you’re interested, please reach out to Jamie Bainbridge at jamiembainbridge@gmail.com. Big thanks to our coaches Nikki Crist, Meredith Keen, Shefali Goradia, and Susanna Mora and site coordinator Jamie Bainbridge for getting this past season up and running!

We’re hoping to bring back our MLK Day of Service on Monday, January 17th! We’re looking for another person to help chair the event which includes organizing the various stations in the gym where donations are collected. A sign-up genius will be sent out for station coordinators who are willing to get donations to where they are going. Please reach out if you are interested in helping.

Watch Dogs will be back in 2022 with a shortened day for dads. You’ll spend a shorter amount of time in the classroom and help with lunch and recess duty. There will be more info and a sign-up genius for days starting in January!

Other events we’re looking forward to in 2022:

- The Science Fair will be Friday, January 14th.
- MLK Day of Service: Monday, January 17th.
- The Variety Show will be virtual again. Everyone loved being able to watch and re-watch the acts. The kids even watched it in their classrooms the last week of school. Please see the flyer for important dates.
- The Multicultural Heritage Night will be scheduled in February. See the flyer for more info.
- The Mud Run will be back on Saturday, April 30th.
- Look for more info on the School Musical and Designer Bag Bingo in the spring.

Our next HSA meeting will be held in person and virtually on Wednesday, January 19th at 7 p.m.. I hope you can make it or watch via Zoom.

Have you been wanting to volunteer a little more of your time? The UHHSAs needs a Vice President. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact me.

Wishing you all a happy holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Beth Klein
UHHSAs President
uhhsa.president@gmail.com
215.498.5803
Dear Parents,

The Uwchlan Hills Home & School Association (UHHSA) is a non-profit organization serving the students, faculty, staff, and community of our elementary school. We are very fortunate to have an amazing school community and pride ourselves on the incredible support we receive each year.

**The intent of this letter is to explain the purpose of and to ask you to make a $50 per family donation to UHHSA by December 31, 2021.**

One of the functions of Home and School is to raise money for Uwchlan Hills. The money raised pays for a variety of programs and events enhancing your child’s educational experience at Uwchlan Hills. These programs include: school assemblies, field trip transportation, field-day t-shirts, and classroom supplies above and beyond what the Downingtown Area School District provides. **100% of the money raised by UHHSA goes back into the school, benefiting all the students.**

Historically, UHHSA raised money through traditional fundraising type events (bake sale, carwash, wrapping paper sales, etc.). However, our UH community decided to donate $50 directly to the UHHSA rather than purchase over hundreds of dollars in products throughout the school year. Not only does this free up student, parent, and teacher time, it also decreases the amount of mail going home with students.

Normally, our biggest fundraising event is the Fall Jamboree and all of our other events (such as Pizza Bingo, Ice Cream Socials, Movie Night, etc.) make a small profit or break even—the main purpose being to bring Uwchlan Hills families and students together for fun. We are excited that a completely outdoor Jamboree can return this year! Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 30th!

We thank you in advance for supporting the UHHSA, and we look forward to the challenge of serving our Unicorn community in new and creative ways. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any member of the board.

Beth Klein – President         Jenn Higgins – Vice President          Danielle Fallon - Advisor
Monica Ennis – Secretary      Shawn Boyd - Co-Treasurer                Adrienne McLaughlin - Co-Treasurer

**UHHSA FAMILY DONATION**

Family Name: ____________________________

Enclosed is my donation of: _____ $50 ______ or other amount ______________________

Cash or Checks: Please return this form with donation by Friday, December 31 in an envelope addressed to: UHHSA Treasurer/Family Donation. Make checks payable to UHHSA.

Matching gifts: follow instructions from your employer. The UHHSA 501(c)3 non-profit tax identification number is 23-2363383.

Online donations can be made through PayPal to uhhsatreasurer@gmail.com or at uhhsa.square.site (please note that Square collects 2.9% + 30¢ per transaction fees. There is an optional $52 donation to cover the cost of these fees when using Square.)
Yearbook News

Is your phone filled with amazing photos from the wonderful year we’ve been having so far?

Those photos want to be seen!!

Send them to the Yearbook Crew for consideration for placement in the UH Yearbook. The next few months are jam-packed with exciting events: Musical Concerts & Holiday Parties, etc. Get those cameras ready and capture some UH memories!

The Yearbook is now on sale! To order, please see the flyer in this issue of the B&G. This flyer and payment envelopes will be sent home with your child. Additional copies can be found in the office.

All photos can be emailed to Meredith Dragish at uhyearbook@gmail.com

Attention 5th graders: We are now accepting baby photos! Please remember to label all photos with your child’s name and homeroom teacher. Photos will be returned.
Hello Unicorns!

We are excited to announce that the Variety Show will be back this year! There will be no “in person rehearsals” and it will be released online.

There are three ways a student can participate:

1. In a solo or group act. K-5th grade students can sing, dance, act, cheer, play an instrument solo or play in a band. You can demonstrate gymnastics, karate, or any skill. You can perform magic tricks, comedy, or entertain in another way. You may do a solo act or a group act, but can only participate in one act. Acts can be as short as a couple jokes. Whatever the act, it should not exceed 2 minutes. A few seconds over, is no big deal.

2. In the 5th grade Finale, which will be a compilation of videos. There will be zoom meetings and you will be required to submit multiple videos. This is only for 5th Graders.

3. 5th Graders can be an Emcee (host). Please note that being an Emcee is a large time commitment and will require several zoom rehearsals and a good deal of rehearsing and videoing.

If you are interested in participating in any of these ways, please first complete the Google Form for Contact Information by January 5, 2022 at:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfPk8svRwJAXlBByN6HyluksuOP3iWUP1f6IwhBWbgNPZVefA/viewform

After you fill out the Contact Information Form you will receive a confirmation email.

Important notes:

1. All videos should be recorded horizontally...please:) This includes acts, finale, and emcee videos.

2. Videos should be emailed to mjacksonvu@gmail.com. Please indicate the name of your act and who is in the act.

3. All solo and group acts should be emailed to the above address by January 31, 2022.
4. 5th grade finale performers and emcees will receive due dates at their first zoom meetings in early January.

At this time, there is not a set date for the “Virtual” Variety Show to be streamed. This will depend greatly on the number of participants and the time it takes to collect and edit the videos. We also need to know how many acts we have in order to write a script and assign readings to the Emcees. Our goal is mid March!

**Special Note to 5th Grade Finale performers:**

As for the **Fifth Grade Finale**, the plan is to organize the creative team and have the first zoom meeting in early January. The students in the finale will receive guidance from the creative team to create continuity in their presentation. Each Fifth Grade participant will email their own videos which will be edited into the Fifth Grade Finale.

**Special Note to 5th Grade Emcees:**

Emcees will also have their first meeting in early January.

**Attention parents, guardians, and family members:**

We need help editing, compiling, and formatting this show for streaming. We need help organizing acts, emcees and the 5th Grade Finale. Please, if you are interested in helping with the “Virtual” Variety Show it would be greatly appreciated. There are many opportunities to help, so please see the Google Form:)

We are excited to put this show together and look forward to working with you and your students!

If you have any questions, please email Maria Jackson-Hnatow at mjiangsonvu@gmail.com or call 856-297-6887.

Thank you,

*Maria Jackson-Hnatow*
Volunteers Needed!!

Do you think it would be fun to learn what kind of games they love to play in Jamaica? Do you think it would be great if you and your family could learn a few words from your native language to share with others? Wouldn’t it be fun to try some true Polish Pierogies? If you answered YES, to any or all of these questions Multicultural Heritage Night is for you and your family!

What is Multicultural Heritage Night?

It’s a night where the UH families gather to share cultures and unite in the friendship of other UH Families. It is easy to participate in. This year all you need to do is email Erin Keough Ciacciak at ekeough209@gmail.com with the following information:

Your name:

Your email contact information (preferred) or phone number:

Choice of country #1:

Choice of country #2:

You must submit a least two choices of countries you would like to represent. Erin Ciacciak, as coordinator, will get back to you with the country that you will represent. From there she will explain how to go about creating your countries presentation and what other information you may need. That might sound daunting, but it really isn’t. We will provide you with the trifold and all directions. The more countries there are, the more fun we all have.

What do people do on Multicultural Heritage Night?

The doors open and UH family and staff visit. Our visitors tour each table learning about each culture, trying games, and sampling food. It really is a great time and a wonderful opportunity to get acquainted with our UH community.

Why do I participate in Multicultural Night and why did I offer to chair this event this year?

I have done Multicultural Heritage Night for 7 years now, and every year I have done a different culture. I include my boys in the design and development of each of our trifold boards, as well as the food and game we decide to offer to the UH community that year. When I attend the event, I also always learn something new.

Don’t let 2022 pass you by! Please consider representing a culture or, at a minimum, attending this fun night with your family. Hope to see you there!

More details to come. Please reach out to me with any questions at ekeough209@gmail.com.
IS BACK WITH A NEW SPIN

The Details

Starting January 10th
1 sign up per person

You will only be with your child/children and at Lunch & Recess

2 Watch Dogs spots will be available per day
Sign-Up Genius Coming Soon

Tentative Timing
1 Child- 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
2 Children- 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
3-4 Children- 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

You will be emailed your schedule prior to your day
EARN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL
NO MORE CLIPPING. ALL YOU NEED IS YOUR SMARTPHONE.

The NEW and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school’s earnings online.

HERE’S HOW IT WORKS:

BUY BOX TOPS PRODUCTS
You can find Box Tops on hundreds of products throughout the store.

SCAN YOUR RECEIPT
Use the app to snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase.

EARN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL
Box Tops earnings are identified and automatically updated at BTFE.com.

You do not need to clip or send Box Tops labels to school.

BOX TOPS CLIPS ON PACKAGES
Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store as packages transition to the new Box Tops labels. **You can still clip these and send them to school. Please make sure each clip has a valid expiration date.**

BUY BOX TOPS PRODUCTS
CUT OUT THE BOX TOP FROM EACH PACKAGE
SEND YOUR BOX TOPS TO SCHOOL

SEE PRODUCTS & LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BOX TOPS APP AT BTFE.COM

THE ALL-NEW BOX TOPS IS HERE! DOWNLOAD THE APP:
Help support Uwchlan Hills Elementary School through AmazonSmile. You shop. Amazon gives.

Amazon automatically donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to our school. It's that simple!

**start now**

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you are prompted to select a charitable organization. Select **Uwchlan Hills Home And School Association**. You can change your selection at any time.

To change your charitable organization:

1. Sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
2. From your desktop, go to **Your Account** from the navigation at the top of any page, and then select the option to **Change your Charity**. Or, from your mobile browser, select **Change your Charity** from the options at the bottom of the page.
3. Select a new charitable organization to support.

For more information about the AmazonSmile program, go to http://smile.amazon.com/about.

Go directly to this link to sign up for Amazon Smile to support our school:

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-2363383
The national labor shortage and food manufacturer deficiencies are impacting School Meal Programs everywhere. We're excited to offer free meals to all DASD students despite these current setbacks! Thank you for your patience as we navigate this new opportunity to serve amidst challenging circumstances.

FREE MEALS FOR ALL STUDENTS

For the 21-22 school year, every student in DASD is eligible for one free breakfast and one free lunch while in-person during each school day!

HOW DO I RECEIVE A FREE MEAL?

STEP 1: Make an account on PaySchools Central. Here, you can see your student’s transaction history, place an Elementary lunch order, and much more! Accounts are free to create.

STEP 2: Browse our menus on our website. We know what kids like to eat! DASD’s robust wellness policy and the USDA guidelines ensure our food is nutritious, and Aramark brings years of service expertise to ensure our delicious food is prepared and served safely.

STEP 3: Place a pre-order (Elementary Lunches Only). This required step allows parents additional insight and influence over their student’s meal selection, and allows us to keep the line moving to give students the maximum time possible to enjoy their lunch.

How do I order? Pre-order at PaySchools Central, and learn more on our website.

STEP 4: Enjoy your meal! When your student comes to the serving area for the meal period, they’ll be greeted by our friendly staff and receive a delicious, free breakfast or lunch.

For any questions about ordering, our menu, nutrition, or accommodations, please visit our website or contact us at FoodServiceInformation@dasd.org. See you this Fall!

ARAMARK/DASD SY21-22 ANNOUNCEMENT
Join our Food Service Team at Downingtown Area School District!

Hiring for:
Food Service Workers
Cook

* No nights or weekends
* Follow the school calendar
* Work while your kids are in school
* Offers made on the spot!

Apply here: https://bit.ly/3tU9P63

EOE, M/F/Disability/Veteran. Aramark will never ask an applicant to supply his or her social security number electronically or via email to apply for a job with Aramark.
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