Downingtown High School West Campus
Home & School Association Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2018 - 7pm - Library

WELCOME

- Introduction of home and school officers
- Approval of May 10, 2018 minutes: 1st Juliette; 2nd Karen

CORRESPONDENCES

- Thank you card from Donna Kneisly and Anne Russell for the donation of water, plates & napkins to the Living Arts opening.

TREASURER’S REPORT

- $3,802 in bank
- Allot $1,500 for helping hands – money for families in need
- Expenses for 2018-2019
  - Back to School Breakfast - $200
  - Scholarship Fund - $500
  - Holocaust Luncheon - $122
  - HSA miscellaneous expenses - $150
- Income for 2018-2019
  - Catalyst Prep Program - $525
  - Chick Fil A - $500
  - Purse Bingo – New! Amount TBD
  - Spirit Wear - $300
  - Donations - $50
- Staff Luncheon
  - Monetary & gift card donations - $1,792
  - 2017-2018 Surplus - $260
  - 2018-2019 Surplus - $210

OLD BUSINESS:

Spirit Wear:

- Spirit wear is a fundraiser for the home and school
- Available online via website SPS Graphics – local print shop
- Purchased inventory to have on hand for upcoming school events
- Sold 20 items at Freshman picnic
- Sold 36 items at Back to School Night

School Store:

- 95% finished – glass window/lock needs to be installed
- Open daily during lunches – hoping to open most of the day
- Life Skills students to operate
- Entrepreneur students to create database and keep track of the inventory
- Home and School will have spirit wear available for sale

Holocaust:

- For 18 years, survivors from the Holocaust visit and share their experiences and stories with the 10th grade students
- English Department funds lunch which is provided by Aramark
- Home and School sends a sign up genius for water & desserts and transportation for the survivors
- Honor & privilege to have Holocaust’s guests and a tremendous opportunity to hear from them. The survivors will not be with us forever and would like to capture their experiences via video to preserve their stories.
- Hoping to have their families continue the tradition
Staff Luncheon:

- In April 2018 a delicious and wonderful luncheon provided to all staff at DHSW
- Fully funded by the parents
- Catered by Montsano Brothers
- Delicious dessert donation
- Staff very grateful for the luncheon

NEW BUSINESS:

Back to School Night

- September 5, 2018
- Parents were very responsive with cookies and water for the evening
- Sold Spirit Wear – sold 36 items

Chick Fil A Night

- Home and School fundraiser
- October 16, 2018 from 5:30-8:00P – Ashbridge Square, Downingtown
- No Flyer needed
- Receive percentage from all patrons from the evening

Post Prom

- May 31, 2018 from 12am – 5am
- Safe and fun alternative for kids for after prom celebration
- Theme – Movie Night
- Don’t have to go to prom to go to post prom
- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – takes many volunteers to pull off post prom. Many hands make light work. Spread the word.
- Prizes galore – raffles, games, activities, music, food, dancing, baskets & so much more
- October 8th at 7pm in the library – first meeting
- Community donates great prizes
- Volunteers return as they had a great time
- It’s a grand event with a $12,000-$13,000 budget

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Joint Home and School

- Representatives from all of the DASD schools who meet to discuss topics in district and have guest speakers
- Plant the Promise – Initiative to help kids stay away from drugs & alcohol with a promise. Red tulip bulbs for sale for .38cents each. The bulbs are planted in a section in each school’s land. In the spring, the red tulips will surface as a reminder to the kids who pledged the promise to stay away from alcohol and drugs.

School Board Meeting

- Department of Education check for $2.5 million
- Window replacements at West
- $700,000 addition at STEM to increase enrollment
- Construction of new school at Uwchlin Hills. When finished, old building will be torn down.
- Just under 13,000 students in the DASD
- National Merit Scholar: Ruben Matel

**Pia DiSanto is the liaison for the home and school. Pia attends all the meetings and advises parents if they had to choose one meeting to attend the curriculum meetings. This is where you will get to see their board representative views and how they vote.
Public Input:

**Purse Bingo** – a parent asked about the purse bingo from the May 10, 2018 minutes. She is interested in organizing the purse bingo. Another parent in attendance has volunteered as well. Pia will connect with them to go over the information for East’s purse bingo.

**Fundraising** - Parent asked if we raise a substantial amount of money, where would the funds go. Mr. Barker mentioned there are no shortages on where the monies can be spent. There are ongoing projects like outdoor space like the courtyard for the staff and students to utilize. Quotes run around $30,000 to finish the way it needs to be finished.

**Parent idea** – Like Avedum - incorporate positive messaging around the school. Murals or posters to give positive messages. Mr. Barker mentioned the bathrooms were beautified over the summer by the staff who donate their time to work on this. Unfortunately, within the first three weeks there was destruction to the messages. Hoping if we fix once, it will not happen again.

**Boot Camp** – Fall SAT prep. Fundraiser. September 29 & 30 in the library. $195 for the class. Sing up online, email or call. Small percentage will go to the home and school. We will do one in the spring through the Brandywine Center.

**Prom & Post Prom** – Discussion on new and alternative venues, locations, chaperones, prom policies, food, and traveling from prom to post prom. Conversation was primarily to familiarize new parents how the prom and post prom organized and ran.

*Thank you for taking the time to attend the first home and school meeting! We had many new faces with fresh ideas who want to get involved! Please reach out to your friends and bring them with you to the next meeting!*

*Next meeting is October 18, 2018*

*Guest speaker: Miller’s Teen Driving Seminar*