

MEETING MINUTES 8/25/2011

Welcome and Introductions

Reality Store presented by Ann Haas, program being used by Wayne County (6th grade) and Franklin County School (9th and 10th grades). Goals of program: teach basic life skills. No cost to schools and little teacher involvement. Implemented by business and community members. We will try to go and observe at Franklin County. Ann will get us the dates for that.

Junior/Senior College Mentor Program: Gina Felton presented her ideas for implementing program. Parent mentors to help students and parents going through the college or trade school application process. Possibly starting with advisors and identifying those students who have any interest in applying for further education opportunities after high school. She asked for volunteers to help with this: Krista Carr volunteered to help her. They will present their ideas at the next meeting in Oct.

Krista brought up the suggestion of seeing grades posted on the School Web Page. It was mentioned that Dr. Rozelle has plans in the works to do this and it will hopefully be implemented by the 1st 9 weeks grading period.

Parent Advocate for Every Advisor: We will try a pilot program this year with the 8 freshman advisors. We will need 8 parents who no longer have students in the high school, but who have been through the senior exit program. We have 4 parents at this time. Working on getting the rest so we can get this going. Asked for everyone the try to think of good parents to approach about doing this and let Mary Ann know!

We will be discussing what role advisors should take in the 15 to 16 students that they have. What is the parents view on this: Most parents feel that they should be monitoring grades and keeping up with important areas of the students' lives, not just the senior exit part. We will look at this more when we review the senior exit.

Parent Volunteers in the School: We would like to recruit 20 volunteers to donate 6 hours a month (2 – 3 hour shifts – 8:30 to 11:30 or 12:30 to 3:30) to help out in the high school. They could do a variety of things including: library help, busy work for teachers, making copies, lunch room or study hall help. Grandparents make great volunteers and we already have 2 signed up. We also have 2 parents: Peggy Proeschel and Kelly Snyder. Everyone try to recruit for this program. Each volunteer would have to have a criminal background check.

Need Volunteers to restart Academic Boosters! Put the word out!

UCHS

PARENT ADVOCATES

School Pride: Kelly Finch presented plans to improve school appearance, inside and out. We want our students to take pride in their school and we want any visitors coming into our school to see an inviting atmosphere filled with school pride and spirit.

We have been given permission to paint and decorate the bathrooms, we will be decorating the teachers' lounge seasonally, and will also work with the art class to make entryway doors more appealing.

Mary Ann talked with Carl Sharp (alumni association) about class composites that used to line the hallways. He said the alumni association would love to see the composites back up on the walls. We will work to get this accomplished!

Parent Group Float for Homecoming! Rene Felton said her husband has a goose neck trailer we can use. Several parents volunteered to work and ride on float during parade. Will have table set up at homecoming to introduce parent group to community.

Halloween Candy – Mary Ann suggested dressing up like pirates and passing out candy to students during last 20 minutes of school on Halloween. She will get permission from Connie to do this.

Johnny Welborn presented information on possible changes to be made in Valedictorian/Salutatorian placements. Handouts from Connie given to parents. It has been suggested that we leave Valedictorian/Salutatorian awards but add Magna Cum Laude, Summa Cum Laude, and Cum Laude instead of top 10 placements only being honored. Pros and cons discussed. This was an informational topic only, so that parents could have the information they needed to decide for themselves how they felt about this. The school is forming a committee to investigate this topic further.

Mary Ann presented information on the senior exit. Karla Barnhizer will be presenting a detailed account at the Oct. meeting on how the Senior exit is supposed to work. We will then do surveys of past parents and students who have been through the senior exit process and teacher surveys to see what is good and what needs to be changed. Advisors roles will be discussed here. This info will be evaluated by committees from the parent group and our recommendations will be given to Karla and the school for next year!

Katie Finch/Senior at UCHS presented her new school project "The New "R" Word", Encouraging everyone to refrain with "respect" from using the derogatory label "retard" in any situation. We applauded her effort and parents to encourage their young adults to help her out in this project. She is going to do one activity a month in the high school. Rene Felton suggested that she also take this to the middle school.