



## UAIS February Newsletter February 5, 2018

Dear UAIS Parents,

We have a number of announcements and important updates to share with you in our February newsletter. Without further ado, let's begin!

### Senior Supplemental Mailing for Graduation

By the end of this week, all senior parents will receive an important email containing announcements, dates and deadlines for senior end-of-the-year events, activities, honors night and commencement ceremonies. It is imperative that you read the entire document carefully, and I would suggest you print the attachment and keep it handy for future reference as we march toward graduation. One of the important dates listed in the senior supplemental mailing will be here before you know it. Please mark your calendars now for **the mandatory graduation meeting on Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> in the UAIS cafeteria. Each senior and at least one parent should arrive no later than 6:15pm to get your materials. The presentation will last from 6:30-7:30pm.** Stay tuned for the Senior Supplemental mailing.....

### Dress Code and Student IDs

A gentle reminder.....The ID policy is for ALL UAIS and Heritage students. The IDs help us identify and distinguish UAIS students from Heritage students. Additionally, we are able to quickly identify students not associated with UAIS or Heritage. All visitors must sign in at the front desk in the main office. This is important to everyone's safety. Finally, please remember that all students need to follow the dress code. Mr. Voakes and I have been addressing these issues with students on both sides of the building and thought it was time to send a gentle reminder out. Dress code problems will become a bigger concern as we experience warmer temperatures (We certainly hope warmer temperatures are on the horizon 😊). Dress code policy can be found in the student handbook located on the district website. Please review it and be sure your student adheres to the policy.

## Student Scheduling for 2017-18 School Year

Mrs. Fitzsimonds and Mr. Voakes will be visiting classrooms starting this week to discuss 2018-2019 scheduling and pass out scheduling packets to all ninth-eleventh grade students. All current sophomore parents are required to approve and sign their student's scheduling sheets. **Course selections are due no later than Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>.** This is the week after mid-winter break. Failure to turn in schedule selections on time may result in a loss of choices for elective classes, so please take the time to review these before students return from mid-winter break. A bit more on scheduling by grade:

9<sup>th</sup> Graders: As sophomores, our current freshmen must take both chemistry and biology as well as Production Teams 10, a class that prepares them for the writing of the Extended Essay. All current freshmen will take Honors English 10<sup>th</sup> and AP World History. Their remaining classes for next year will follow the appropriate math, arts, and foreign language tracks. Students may not jump from one art to another (i.e. Visual Arts to Theatre) or one foreign language to another (i.e. Spanish to French).

10<sup>th</sup> Graders: Current sophomores have a number of important decisions to make for class selections as they enter the Diploma Years Programme. I encourage you to read over the material that we send home by the end of mid-winter break and work with your child to determine the best course selection options possible. Parents, please do not wait until the night before to do this or sign off on your student's course selections without reviewing it **carefully** with your child. Since all IB courses are two-year courses, students are choosing most of their classes for the remainder of their UAIS career, so please give this the time it deserves.

11<sup>th</sup> Graders: Because IB courses are two years long, all juniors must continue taking the same courses during senior year that they currently do. The only selection they will make is for elective preferences. Students may request the same general elective choice they currently have and still earn credit on their transcripts for that selection, if applicable.

Additional forms will be available for pickup in the counseling office. Current juniors who do not turn in their selection for elective classes on time will relinquish equal priority with those who turn in selections on time. Please note that elective classes are not guaranteed. We will do our best to place students in an elective of their choice, but we will not be able to accommodate all students.

## UCS Academic Blitz

All UCS families can create a successful game plan for their children's educational future at the eleventh annual Academic Blitz on Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 9 p.m. at Henry Ford II High School, 11911 Clinton River Road in Sterling Heights. The event is open to all area families interested in specific options available for UCS students.

The evening will begin with our keynote speaker Mr. Robert Monroe, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction. Following the presentation, families will be able to choose from several breakout sessions. Breakout sessions include topics such as: the Naviance career and college readiness tool, getting ready for high school and junior high school, advanced placement programs, PowerSchool Unified Classroom, the UCS high school specialty including the new Stevenson MADE Academy.

Informational booths will also be available with representatives from a variety of district programs, post-secondary programs and agencies that support area educational opportunities will also be available. Booths will open at 6 p.m. For more information on the Academic Blitz, please visit <http://www.uticak12.org/academicblitz>.

### **UAIS Open House/Informational Night Extravaganza**

UAIS hosted its Open House/Information Night Extravaganza on Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup> from 6:30-8:30. Mr. Layson opened with a 45-minute presentation about IB and our Academy. Prospective families also had the opportunity to visit classrooms with simulated activities and lessons, attend the IB college advantage presentation in the media center hosted by Mrs. Fitzsimonds, and stop by curriculum tables where families could meet with teachers and current students to discuss specific curriculum in the subject areas we offer. Our students and staff did an amazing job showcasing the uniqueness of our program and what makes UAIS such a special place to grow and learn. Overall, the EXTRAVAGANZA was a huge success! Thanks to all who participated.

### **Superintendent's Scholarship Reminder**

UCS graduating seniors are invited to apply for the 2018 Superintendent's Scholarship awards program. Multiple scholarships will be awarded to UCS seniors. The scholarships are funded with proceeds from the Utica Community Schools Foundation for Educational Excellence's annual Evening of Excellence and other sources. Applications must be submitted electronically. Students are required to receive one recommendation from a teacher, school counselor, administrator or non-family member. The individual making the recommendation will need to submit an appraisal form and recommendation electronically. The Superintendent's Scholarship is \$1,000. There are two additional options applicants may choose to apply for: \$1,500 Brett Klenow Scholarship and \$1,000 Altair Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Scholarship. The application deadline for all the scholarship options is 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, February 7, 2018. Please encourage students to complete the online application available at: [www.UticaK12.org/SuperintendentScholarship](http://www.UticaK12.org/SuperintendentScholarship). Applications are located on the UCS home page under "Students" in the mid-menu on the center of the home page.

### **Junior Group 4 Project Reminder**

On Tuesday, February 27, 2018, all UAIS juniors will participate in the Group 4 (experimental sciences) project. This collaborative project is a requirement for all juniors to complete to remain IB Full Diploma Candidates. Group work and presentations will run all day and there will be presentations for other students and any interested parents from 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. that day. If you have not done so already, please mark this very important date in your calendars. If you have specific questions about that day, please feel free to contact your child's science teacher for more specifics. Finally, a huge thank you to the IB a Parent Boosters who have graciously offered to order dinner for all UAIS juniors participating that day!

## **Outside Lunches**

Parents, please remind your student(s) that ordering lunch from an outside restaurant/ establishment and having it delivered to school is not permitted during the school day. The office staff cannot be responsible for hunting down students for payment or to retrieve food. If food is ordered and delivered to the school, it will remain in the office until dismissal.

## **IB a Parent Boosters Corner**

Mrs. De Jesus would like to thank all the parents who came out to lifetime and chaperoned the lock-in! It couldn't have gone as smoothly as it did if it weren't for the help of our amazing IB Parents! The next meeting is on February 13<sup>th</sup> in the Media Center. She would like to encourage you ALL to attend at least one Booster meeting. The Agenda, Booster Minutes and other important information are always posted on our Facebook (UAIS IB A parent Booster (*Join us!*)). You can also contact the president at: [jill082868@yahoo.com](mailto:jill082868@yahoo.com) or [uaisboosters@gmail.com](mailto:uaisboosters@gmail.com).

That's it for this edition of the UAIS Monthly Newsletter. Senior parents, please look for my Senior Supplemental newsletter later this week. This will include a host of information about graduation and the end of the year.

Warm Regards,

Shaun Greene-Beebe  
Principal