



**Dunwoody High Principal Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Date: 1/28/25

Time: 4:00 PM – 5:45 PM

Location: DHS Conference Room

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Cassie Owens, Chair.

II. Roll Call

Present:

- Principal Tom Bass
- Teacher Representatives: Ms. Taylor, Ms. Jordan
- Parent Representatives: Cassie Owens (Chair), Jill Rosen (Co Chair)
- Student Representative: Francisco Ignacio Lopez

Absent:

- Khadijah Griffin
- Erika Kuniansky
- Megan Cann

III. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

IV. Member Updates

- Cassie Owens reminded all new members that **School Governance 101 training** is due by February 29.
- Cassie Owens expressed appreciation for Brighth's service and introduced **new student representative Francisco Ignacio Lopez**.
 - Francisco is a member of **HOPE** and is interested in joining **NHS and the Spanish Honor Society**.
 - He also serves as a **translator at student pep rallies**.
 - Francisco shared ideas for student engagement:



- Increase **Hispanic music** at school dances.
- **HOPE Soccer Tournament** planned for late April (to be discussed further with Principal Bass).
- **Latino-focused parent information sessions** in alternative locations for better accessibility (tentatively planned for early September).

V. Principal's Report – Principal Tom Bass

1. School Store

- Expected to open in the **2025-2026 school year**.
- Located in the cafeteria and managed by **DECA** and **Finance Academy**.
- **Funds will support all DHS programs**, not just DECA and Finance Academy.

2. Access Testing (ESOL Testing)

- Currently in progress; interrupted by weather closures.
- Testing includes **400 English Language Learners (ELLs)** and is time-intensive.

3. Free SAT Prep Course

- County offering a **free SAT prep course**.
- **90+ students** requested to enroll, but only **75 seats** available.
- DHS session is hosted at CHS.

4. Compass Program Training

- **All teachers will be trained on January 29**.
- Program focuses on **restorative justice and social-emotional learning**.
- **Behavioral Referral Data:**
 - **51% - Attendance issues**
 - **17% - Disrespectful behavior**
 - **4% - Vaping**
 - **4% - Fighting**
- Plan to incorporate **bi-weekly SEL modules** in homeroom.

5. Sports Updates

- **Winter sports are concluding; spring sports tryouts underway**.
- **Spring is the busiest sports season**.

6. Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)

- County encourages PLCs.
- Plan for **core class faculty to meet twice per semester** during second period.
- During meetings, **students will attend assemblies**.

7. READS Initiative

- Currently on **pause for reassessment**.
- Goal: Enhance **reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills**.
- Challenge: **No clear way to measure effectiveness**.



8. **ROAR Attendance Issues**

- **Students must remain in assigned locations** during ROAR.
- **Club meetings** will be permitted **once per month** but must be pre-scheduled.
- Club meetings will have the **same attendance rules as ROAR**.

9. **Wildcat Fund Event**

- **March 22 at The BARN**.
- Theme: "**Dunwoody Goes Hollywood**".
- Previous events raised approximately **\$15,000**.

10. **Heavy Equipment Operation Pathway**

- **Currently a small group** this year.
- Goal for next year: **Two Level 1 classes, plus Level 2 & 3 courses**.

11. **New Attendance Initiatives – Led by Assistant Principal Stephanie Hill**

- **Monthly attendance incentives** to reward students.
- **March attendance goal:** Students meeting the goal can participate in **bubble soccer** in April.
- **Rising juniors (February–May)** with **≤4 unexcused absences** will enter a **lottery for a parking spot**.

12. **Upcoming Events**

- **McDonald's Fundraiser – February 11 (5-8 PM)**
 - DHS faculty/staff will serve food, and a **percentage of proceeds** will go to DHS.
- **Latino Pathway Event – February 26 (Conference Night)**
 - Designed for **Latino families**.
 - Rising **8th graders and current students** will explore **10-minute pathway presentations**.
- **Half Cap Ceremony – April**
 - Recognizes **sophomores for completing half of high school**.
 - Each student will receive a **hat and tassel**.
 - **Unsure if parents will be invited**.

VI. Teacher Reports

- **Bathroom Issues**
 - Concern: **Students congregating and vaping in bathrooms**.
 - Inquiry: **Possibility of installing vape detectors**.
 - Principal Bass: **Investigated, but cost is prohibitive**.
- **Color Printing Access**
 - Teachers requested **permission to print in color**.

VII. New Business



1. **ICE Concerns**

- Principal Bass confirmed that a **district-wide letter** has been sent regarding ICE procedures.
- Discussion of **RED Card Initiative**, which provides **legal rights information** for individuals interacting with ICE.
- Principal Bass: **County approval required**; requests language be forwarded for review.

2. **Maintenance Issues**

- Teachers should **email specific leak concerns** to Principal Bass.

3. **MAP Testing Concerns**

- MAP testing is **county-mandated**, but **not all students are participating**.
- Parents and students **unclear on its importance** at the high school level.

4. **Prom Dress Shop Initiative**

- Suggested to **assist lower-income students with prom attire**.
- Principal Bass will **explore club involvement** to spearhead the project.

5. **Class of 2020 Reunion**

- Proposal for an event honoring the **Class of 2020**, as their graduation was impacted by COVID-19.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at **5:45 PM** by Cassie Owens.

IX. Next Meeting

- **Date:** April 15, 2025
- **Time:** 4:00 PM
- **Location:** DHS Conference Room