

Mt. Lebanon City Council of PTA's
Council Meeting Minutes
Virtual
October 21, 2020 – 9AM
Meeting Minutes (Draft)

- I. Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance
 - Bonnie Dougherty, Council President, called the meeting to order at 9:13am. We had some technical issues so there was a delay to start. The group said the pledge of the Allegiance. Attendance was taken by Bonnie Dougherty (screen shot).
- II. Approval of Minutes – September 23rd, 2020 meeting minutes as submitted by Priya Sukumaran was approved.
- III. Treasurer's Report (Allison Carey)
 - Received dues from Jefferson Middle so far. There is no rush but to try and send them when they can. It is important to submit some dues in order to be compliant for the Reflections program.
 - There will be a zoom workshop sometime end of the month. All Treasurers can contact Allison if they have any questions.
- IV. Executive Board Reports
 - A. **President's Report** – Bonnie Dougherty
 - Website training was sent out to all the Technology Chairs/Presidents on September 30th. If a PTA historian or President didn't get their logins, please let Bonnie know. Login and training documentation are available from Chris Stengel.
 - New Presidents: A google sign-up form was sent out for training sessions. Please sign up so a date can be set to accommodate people.
 - Bonnie met up with Dr. Steinhauer on October 7th, to see how things have been settling down with the kick off of hybrid (Middle & High School). All is going well.
 - The Secondary Presidents met up with representatives of MLEA on October 12th, to see how things were going on at a secondary level for the first week of hybrid. It was an informal meeting. The teachers were very appreciative of everyone's patience and understanding. A reminder:
 - (a) To encourage students to turn on their cameras, though it is not mandatory, it is a recommended to do so.
 - Bonnie also had a discussion with Dr. Irvin and Nolen Fetchko (Food services) and set up a sign-up form for lunchtime volunteers to help with the food distribution. It has been going on well. Volunteers need casual clearances. The Food Service Union and staff gave approval to set up the volunteer signups. Thank you to Food Service Union, staff and volunteers. We are distributing on the average 100-200 lunches at each location.
 - **Relay for Life:** We are continuing to work with Relay for Life Committee. This year will be a little different. We will be advertising this in the upcoming weeks in school newsletters, etc. We would like to encourage people to light up Lebo on the 24th. Kits will not be distributed to students at schools this year. A separate form will be distributed to teachers. Kits will be delivered to the

schools for distribution to teachers that have pre-ordered kits. So, students can pick up their kits from their teacher (who ordered for them).

- Secondary presidents met with Dr.Davis on Oct 14th,2020. And there will be a meeting scheduled with Dr.Irvin on Thursday of this week.
 - **Membership**: keep encouraging people to sign up. PTAs need a portion of their dues paid (no matter how many, even if it's 10-15 members) in order to be in good standing for the Reflections program.
 - **Election Day**: Rules – Please remember that as a PTA member you are NON PARTISAN when you are serving in a PTA role. That means no t-shirts/buttons, etc in support of a candidate. Of course you may still display signs in your yard or wear your candidate swag as an individual, but when you are in your PTA role/capacity - whether at a meeting or at a bake sale on election day, you must give the visual appearance of being neutral. If any schools are planning a bake sale that week, this also applies to politically “themed” desserts. No logos on cupcakes (Need to check if bake sales are even allowed)
 - **Nomination Committee**: The Nominating Committee for 2021-2022 School Year will be elected at our November meeting. The following schools are eligible:
 - Washington
 - Markham
 - Jefferson Middle
 - Lincoln
 - One Council Member
 - **By laws**: - The schools listed below require an update on their bylaws.
 - a) The following units are due in 2021(*please note it is possible that bylaw updates were done in spring but has not yet been voted on. Please send an email to Bonnie if it is done.
 - Council
 - Mellon
 - Washington
 - Howe
 - b) Addendum to the bylaws regarding virtual meetings – this needs to be added to the current bylaws, filed and posted/updated on the website.
 - Upcoming meetings have all been listed on the PTA Council Website.
 - Facebook page: Recently set up a Facebook page for PTA council – Mt.Lebanon City Council of PTAs. The national PTA and PAPTAs sends out a lot of information so setting up this page will help keep it in one location.
- B. **Superintendent's Report**: Dr.Steinbauer wasn't able to attend, so Dr.Davis gave the report.
- Dr.Steinbauer had introduced the new employees in the last council meeting. Today we were introduced to Tenecia Ross – new Director of Human Resources.
 - Tenecia introduced herself (and thanked us for such a warm welcome) and spoke a little about her background. She is from the DC Metro area. Her recent

employment as at PITT (Direct Employee Labor Relations). Her field of expertise is labor relations, with an emphasis on employee engagement, diversity inclusion and so forth.

- Dr. Davis shared his screen to show the district's COVID Tracker system that is on the district's website. It is a tracking tool with/for the community. It is important to note that each one case has a story, sometimes it may be connected to the school and sometimes it may not. It is just as important to pay attention to the language above the tracker that defines the guidelines for school closure, quarantine and other safety precautions.
- There is a link to the Department of Education which defines the necessary recommendations and guidelines for K-12 schools.
- The reported case numbers have caused some confusion in the community (just by looking at the 'moderate' category definition and if we fall under that). We need a recommendation to close, in order to close. This will allow for public health staff to conduct the necessary process of cleansing, sanitizing, contact tracing and so forth.
- Closure of schools are dependent on a case to case basis and in accordance with the Department of Education & Department of Health recommendations.
- COVID Tracker is on Dashboard - The school district is following the board approved health & safety protocols/plans relative to case identification and tracking. Anytime there is a case that is positive we will take the necessary steps to work with the Department of Education and Department of Health.

*(Cissy Bowman added her remarks – there is a COVID-19 communication page and all the e-letters that have been sent out to the community is archived. Please seek these resources for clarification and everyone has access to this. The Health Department template has been evolved to apply to a Mt. Lebo version to be more inclusive. She also commented on how amazing of a job Deanna Hess has been doing – she is highly qualified and doing all that she can. She is our public health go to person (and a nurse) who is our direct conduit to the Health Department. She is a critical link to our process, and we commend her for all that she does.

- C. **First Vice President (Christina Battaglia)** – nothing to report
- D. **Second Vice President (Denis Skorskiy)** – nothing to report
- E. **Secretary (Priya Sukumaran)** – nothing to report

V. Committee Reports

A. Reflections – entries were due by individual schools last week. Friday was the deadline.

VI. Old Business -nothing to report

VII. New Business -

- A. **Open Position:** Historian – candidates need to have served on a unit PTA Board. The position is still open. Please email Bonnie Dougherty or anyone else on the board, if interested in taking up this position.

- B. Mt. Lebanon Percussion is continuing their 'Cancer Fund' fundraiser. They collect donations in addition to playing. If any schools have an interest in supporting them (e.g. contributing a portion of their own fundraising sales to the Cancer Fund), please get in touch with them.

VIII. Unit President's Announcements – nothing to report.

IX. Questions for Community Representatives -for the purposes of a more brief, concise, yet informative (future) virtual meetings, a report will be submitted (instead of actual verbal report presentation). This report will detail what is currently happening in our community.

A. **Mt. Lebanon Board** (Sarah Olbrich) –

- The board met Monday night (19th) and chose a new school board member, Andrew Freeman. He is a Lebo graduate (2006) and a Hoover father. We welcome him to the board.
- Today we also are putting our bond out for refinancing. The High School bond needs to be refinanced due the amount of savings that will be beneficial to the district. It will decrease out debt payment for renovations by half a million dollars a year for several years. This decrease in debt service will be very helpful.
- The continued free and distributed school lunches have been approved for the rest of the school year.

- B. Mt. Lebanon Fire Department
C. Mt. Lebanon Municipality
D. Outreach
E. Mt. Lebanon Police Department
F. Mt. Lebanon Public Library

XI. Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 9:59am.