

Mt. Lebanon High School
PTSA General Meeting
February 1, 2023 1pm

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1:04pm by Jean T

II. Student Activities Report

Student Council member

No report this month

III. Teacher Representative

Lia Christulides

Mrs. Christulides will be our teacher rep for the spring while Mrs. McCracken is on sabbatical. Good news from the classroom has also been submitted with pictures to the PTSA newsletter. The following is a brief recap

- a. Mrs. Harris wants to report Science Olympiad Students did very well competing in 2 recent competitions CMU invitational and the Dick Smith invitational with many students earning medals including a gold medal in Green Generation by Akash Schmid and Victoria Finizio. Other winners noted in PTSA newsletter.
- b. Mr. Kuskil on behalf of the Ski and Board club wanted to thank the students, parents, and administration support. We had many compliments on student behavior during our Vermont ski trip
- c. Mr. Reichenfeld wants to congratulate Kylie Bryer, Felix Yang, Lucian Mikush, Amanda Green, Nathaniel Parsons, and Kevin Oxenreiter who have all qualified for PMEA Region Orchestra to be held in March at State College High School
- d. Mrs. Meyers wanted to announce to German students in gr 9-11 are invited to apply for an all-expense paid trip to Germany this summer. Please see Frau for more information
- e. Mrs. Brodbeck FBLA had 71 students qualify for the State Leadership Conference to be held in Hershey in April. Please watch for fundraising efforts.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Allison Carey

- a. Devil's Advocate sponsorship check being written today.
- b. Looking at line item named Library – is it for MLPL or HS library or combination
- c. Class gifts \$200 go to each class 9-11 for their prom fund, 12th grade \$250
- d. Reallocate \$400 from Open House since no snacks no cost
- e. LUMA pay issue- there is something from the state PTA called Member Hub that Jean has inquired about but having trouble getting responses. FYI Venmo is now supporting 5013s. Council is trying to figure out this new payment so it can be consistent for all MTL schools/PTAs.

V. Executive Committee Reports

a. President

Jean Thomas

- Secondary Principals meeting has been switched to quarterly v every 6 weeks, so we have not met since last meeting. Point made to advocate for meetings aligning with school calendar not the yearly calendar.

- Update on Superintendent search all public forums have been completed. They are now reviewing all feedback and hope to have candidate by May. Proceedings will most likely be closed moving forward to allow privacy for current applicants
- Dr Doyle resigned. Her last day will be mid March

b. 1st VP

Bonnie Dougherty

We need to look at upcoming events and getting volunteers especially upcoming events specifically for Snowball, Blood drive, and class breakfasts. Snowball needs about 4 more volunteers. As per Ms. Pack if no more volunteers sign up coat check will become self-serve with a just a monitor, next to go will be more games cornhole has already been taken away. In terms of Blood Drive, a question posed about having student volunteers. Blood donation company wanted adults not students to assist even if 18. Discussion about class breakfasts purpose and popularity. Initially it was set up as a school wide event that could touch every student and are very well attended by student body. We currently have no volunteers so do we cancel for everyone or class specific if volunteers are minimal. We do have another meeting prior to breakfasts so we can revisit as it gets closer

c. 2nd VP

Lauren Gano

- No report

d. 3rd VP

Colleen Frank

Logistics for the rest of the school year: I updated the winter sign-up genius link so it only shows the upcoming requested winter volunteer slots, including Snowball dance chaperones for this weekend and the blood drive on February 17. Bonnie has sent this link out repeatedly in PTSA e-blasts and our own PTSA newsletters and Dana Martin also graciously included the link in the school-wide newsletter that was sent last weekend. I spoke with Brittany late last week and confirmed the plan for spring volunteer recruiting - we will publish a spring sign-up genius link that contains slots for class breakfasts scheduled for the last week of March, as well as slots for May activities including the senior reception, cap and gown distribution, and prom chaperones. To keep the focus on the immediate volunteer needs, we will wait to send around that spring link for volunteering until at least the week after Snowball, and possibly after the blood drive slots have filled.

Status: As of Wednesday morning, we are still short - only 6 of the requested 12 slots have been filled for Snowball, and only 1 person has signed up to help with the blood drive later this month. Hopefully these volunteers all have submitted their clearances.

Observations: The task of finding volunteers for high school events has been particularly challenging since COVID began, and we have not seen an improvement this year. We have struggled to fill the requested slots for both high-school-organized events, like Homecoming and Snowball dances and the holiday talent show, as well as PTSA-organized events like the staff appreciation lunch and the class breakfasts last spring. This decrease in volunteering has been seen across the district; it is not an issue only at our high school. People are waiting longer to sign up to volunteer, and sometimes people are cancelling after signing up.

For Discussion: concerns about potential impact: We may need to reassess our PTSA-organized activities (such as the upcoming class breakfasts) to determine whether they can be redesigned to run with less volunteers, or whether they should be cancelled. If we cancel the sophomore breakfast because no-one volunteered to help that morning, but the junior breakfast is still held later in the week, that would create some financial inequality from a budget perspective and there will likely be hurt student feelings... should we consider those four breakfasts as a collective event, all for one and one for all, and tell everyone in advance that we have to staff all of them or none will happen? Or should we try to create a different style of event for each class to participate, instead of breakfasts? For school-organized events, we should think about how to attract volunteers and whether the ratio of staff-help to parent-help is adjusted (should more slots be filled by staff members, if possible?). For example: perhaps some curious eighth-grade parents would want to volunteer to see what a high school dance looks like, or older students could earn volunteer hours spending a study hall helping at the blood drive?

e. 4th VP

Joel Thompson

- Curriculum night was last Thursday and very well attended esp by current 8th grade families
- Course selection for next year is open until Feb 7
- Snowball is this Saturday
- Winter sports are all doing well including rifle, basketball, and wrestling. Most teams will be headed to the playoffs
- March 7 Winter Sports Recognition
- March 6 Spring sports begin

f. Secretary

Kelly Latona

We need to approve January minutes that were emailed out to everyone. Bonnie made motion to approve, Natalie seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Minutes stand as written

g. Historian

Natalie Kukla

- No report

h. Board Members At-Large
Schwertfuehrer

Stephanie Fedro-Byrom and Elizabeth

VI. Committee Reports

VII. SRO Report

Officer Henley

- a. Rumor yesterday about weapon in school was unfounded but we will have increased police presence here in building for the next few days.
- b. Scott Kunz is retiring on Monday from the MTLPD. He had been doing a lot of education in the classrooms but more recently he has been back on patrol.
- c. Questions/Comments
 - Are there Stop the Bleed products in the hall AED boxes because there are no stickers on the units? Will reach out to nursing to confirm. Currently in the nurse's bags but trying to add to the boxes.
 - Highland School District has vaping detectors in bathrooms is that something we should look into? When they first came out they were very expensive. We currently rely on random checks by administration in bathrooms to deter these activities. We also have Smart Pass system where we monitor BR passes for frequency using QR codes to scan in/out. Issues were noted with system so we have both electronic and paper system dependent on the individual teacher.
 - ALICE drill training for coaches was completed. One coach found it very enlightening and held a mock drill with their team to be aware of surroundings especially since that team practices off campus.

VIII. Old Business

a. None

IX. New Business

a. Teacher Wish List requests

- Request from nursing to supply holders for feminine products in both girls and gender neutral bathroom for total of 13. Motion

made by Bonnie to approve holders, ways to attach to wall and supplies up to \$150. Kelly seconded. All in favor, no objections.
Motion carries

b. Nominating Committee

- We need to nominate committee to find candidates for HSPTSA for next school year representing both middle schools. Motion made to appoint Colleen Frank (JMS) Allison Carey (MMS) and Lauren Ganoë (MMS) by Bonnie, seconded by Kelly. All in favor, no one opposed. Motion carries

X. Announcements

a. Upcoming meetings 1 pm D 205

- Thurs March 9 this is a change from original calendar dt a schedule conflict
- Thurs April 13
- Wed May 17

XI. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn made by Bonnie seconded by Allison. Meeting adjourned at 2:37pm

XII. Attendance

- a. In person: Elizabeth Schwertfuehrer, Kelly Latona, Allison Carey, Bonnie Dougherty, Jean Thomas, Natalie Kukla, Joel Thompson, Officer B Henley, Brittany Pack, Lia Christulides
- b. Via Phone: Lauren Ganoë