

Mt. Lebanon City Council of PTAs

Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2023

Call meeting to order at 9:02

Minutes - May 2023 - No changes, stand as presented

Treasurer's Report

- Budget - \$9577.91 carryover from last year anticipated
- Outgoing - Only changes - One time donation of \$1750 (Georgia Pogue, Library, MLFE, Instrument Fund) because the checks were not finalized for last year.
 - Will be putting together a calendar for upcoming donations for all units.
- Increased the insurance to \$300 to reflect current costs
- Jean Thomas made the motion to approve the budget; Lorraine May seconded the motion. Unanimous vote to approve the budget.

Executive Reports

Becki Campanaro (President)

- Thank you to teachers/staff/administration for a seamless transition for the year.
- Thank you to MLPD for monitoring the GO-ZONE and areas around schools.
- Chris Stengel has set up website access for everyone who requested it. If you did not set up your account within the initial 24 hours, just proceed as though you had forgotten your password.
- Becki, Jean and Lorraine (representing Council, Secondary and Elementary respectively) met with the MLEA leadership over the summer to review topics of interest. The outcomes of this meeting will lead us into our ongoing discussions for the upcoming school year.
- Watch your emails - Council will be setting up monthly meetings for elementary and secondary presidents with the administrative team for the upcoming school year.
- Upcoming Meetings: Presidents Coffee and Council Exec Meeting - September 27

Dr. Friez (Superintendent)

- Convocation - 8/22 with full staff. Students were the primary focus of this event with student speakers talking about the impact that the schools have had on them as well as performances by the Mt. Lebanon Blue Devil Marching Band and Triple Trio. Students from WES led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Curricular Priorities
 - Focus on Continuation of Foundations (phonics) - grade 3 - supporting structured literacy and structured literacy training. ELA core program needs to be revisited. Four core texts will be considered for adoption, The two highest rated in our rubric by teachers/principals/admin/special education will move to pilot. In April a recommendation will be made and it will be built into the curriculum for next year.

- Looking at Science because standards are changing. Will be evaluating a new program for K-5
- Followed by Social Studies - will be looking at K-5 over the next few years.
- Finally, Math, which was last updated in 2016, at the K-5 levels.
- Superintendent Meet & Greet will be announced soon - opportunity to collect feedback, review goals. Using a similar format used for the superintendent search and will include both virtual and in-person events.
 - Current Schedule: 10/3 (virtual) 10/12 and 10/18 in person.
 - Working to get babysitters for the in-person events.
- Thank you to Dr. Davis and the Central Office team for the warm welcome. Dr. Friez is looking forward to a great year!

Dr. Davis (Assistant Superintendent)

- Proceeding with Middle States accreditation for the system.
 - September 25-28 will be the on-site visit.
 - Will be reaching out to families who helped develop the current strategic plan.
 - Notification will be in the spring of 2024. If we are approved, we will be the 2nd accredited public school district in PA
- Mt. Lebanon HS was listed as one of the Best HS in America (15th in PA, 3rd in region). Evaluations are based on three years of data.
- Congratulations to our AP teachers and students - their hard work is reflected in the results we saw this year!
- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports implementation - "Take Care JMS" "Leadership Empowering Belonging Ownership" (MMS) - creating a positive culture in our middle schools

Jean Thomas (First Vice President)

- PAPTA convention October 13-15

Priya Sukumaran (Second Vice President - report relayed electronically)

- Bylaws
 - Hoover Elementary has submitted an extension for their Bylaws and they will be voting on their bylaws at their September meeting
 - Foster Elementary has submitted their revised bylaws to PAPTA, received some feedback and will be editing the bylaws accordingly for resubmission.

Kelly Latona (Secretary - Bonnie Dougherty filling in)

- Please sign the sign-in sheet

Stacie Carlson (Historian)

- Lindi Pastorius stepped down as Historian for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Per our bylaws, the board can vote to fill the Historian position. The board voted electronically and we are pleased to welcome Stacie Carlson as the new PTA Council Historian. Stacie is meeting with Lindi after this meeting to begin the transition process.

Committee Reports

- Sustainability
 - The MTLSD sustainability page reflects the good things going on throughout the district in terms of environmental sustainability.
 - Hoover Elementary has a new garden and the chair would be happy to help with implementing gardens at other schools.
 - Committee goal for 2023-2024 is to find a committee chair in each school.

- Reflections (Bonnie Dougherty)
 - Look for an email this week - significant changes to the format of the program that eliminated judging at the Council level.
 - This is a positive change for our students as there are not many councils in the state of PA and it has limited the number of entries that have moved on to the regional level.

- Juvenile Protection (Meredith Spada)
 - Nothing to share at this time.

- Parent/School Education (Carol Rosetti)
 - Nothing to share at this time.

Audit Committee

- The Audit report has been delayed but will be presented at the October meeting
- Unit reports need to be done by the end of this month. Additionally, make sure you send a portion of your dues to the state to remain in good standing.

New Business -

- Standing Rules - emailed out to board, delegates and presidents
 - Updates
 - Schedule/location (next five years listed)
 - Change of Schedule to reflect change in fiscal year
 - Special Meetings - edited language for flexibility (President's Coffee and Executive Board)
 - MLEA/School Board - edited to give more guidance in terms of timing in terms of budget season
 - Binders vs. Electronic historical data
 - Nominating Committee - carried over for next five years
 - Installation Event - updated to shift training to the State. Jean will be the point person in terms of training as First VP.
 - Removed printed district calendar
 - Arts in Education - shift under Cultural Arts
 - Cultural Arts and STEM - revised the name of this committee
 - Bonnie Dougherty made the motion to approve the standing Rules; Stacy Carlson seconded the motion. Unanimous vote to approve the Standing Rules

Unit President Announcements

- Consensus is that everyone loved the “Get to Know Your Admin” social media blitz. We may want to consider doing this for Council Board and Unit Presidents!
- Howe Elementary will be holding the Sunny Funny Fair this weekend

[Community Partners Reports](#)

Next Meeting: Wed. 10/4 at Lincoln Elementary

ATTENDEES:

Becki Campanaro
Melissa Friez
Sarah Olbrich
Jean Thomas
Kristen James
Bonnie Dougherty
Callie Burstein
Marissa Hupe
Ron Davis
Amanda Jackson
Kathryn Campbell
Kris Siegert
Lorraine May
Ginny Chambers
Sara Murphy
Amy Grella
Shayna Bodi
Stacie Carlson
Breanne Makatche
Molly Simpson
Mary Birks
Connie Mathews
Stephanie Hagre
Jennifer Boal
Priya Sukumaran (virtual)
Carol Rosetti (virtual)
Meredith Spada (virtual)

Respectfully Submitted
Bonnie Dougherty
9/7/2023