

Mt. Lebanon High School PTSA General Meeting
19 November 2025, D-205
DRAFT MINUTES

- I. Meeting Called to Order: 10:01am, President Marisa Hupe
- II. Student Activities Report, Mrs. Tonkavich
Jr. class Food Drive collecting food or funds, contest for winning homeroom to earn points towards Clash of Classes. 9th grade did Pink Out fundraisers with the seniors. Most grades have 30-40 students in class councils. Sent students to PA SC convention. Mini Thon happening now, Legacy Games sign-ups now, MC is alum Adam Crowley for final match. Lebo's Got Talent auditions resulted in 20 acts for 12/3 show, will need volunteers for 12/2 & 12/3. Sr and Jr leaders plus added a soph and 3 frosh interns, did outreach to every frosh homeroom, will ask for parent volunteers this year
- III. Teacher Representative, Mrs. McCracken
No report.
- IV. Treasurer's Report: Heather Geisler
Current balance of \$13,385.88
Deposit of \$148 dues from faculty
Check outgoing for Insurance \$179.62
- V. Executive Committee Reports:
President, Marisa Hupe
Grant requests - we have received 3 to discuss once more information is submitted
Secondary meeting notes:

Class of 2005 Tour

The Class of 2005 visited for a reunion and toured the school. They graduated before the renovation, so they were able to see all the updates and changes.

Homecoming – October 18

Homecoming was the largest event of the year, with 1,300 students in attendance. It was a very successful evening.

Student Academic Outcomes Report

Presented to the School Board on November 17. The district's overall academic performance is very strong.

Comprehensive Plan

The district is using the Department of Education's template, which is similar to the strategic plan.

- Will be presented to the School Board in January
- Will remain open for 30 days
- Final submission is due by the end of March

Curriculum Council Updates

The council reviews proposed course changes, including new electives.

- Any course changes require School Board approval.
- Proposals must go to the council in the spring (group of 25).
- In October, the admin team reviews proposals to determine whether to move forward or table them and identify needed adjustments.
- Approved proposals go to the School Board in January for the following school year.

Act 35 – Personal Finance Requirement

Beginning with the incoming Class of 2030 and younger, a personal finance course will be required.

- The district's proposed finance course exceeds state standards.
- An **Honors Finance and Investing** elective will also be offered, adding math and computational components for students interested in finance-related careers.
- The required personal finance course will include digital safety and appropriate, ethical use of AI.

Curriculum Council Discussion: Graduate Profile & Powerful Learning

A 45-person group is discussing what a graduate should know, be able to do, and need to succeed.

The plan is to expand the discussion beginning with: PTA, Seniors, School Board, and the broader public

They will narrow the priorities to 5–7 themes, gather input from various groups (parents, staff, internal teams), and create six drafts before presenting a final version.

College in High School (CHS)

Courses taught in-house by district teachers in partnership with colleges.

- First approved course with Point Park University: **Honors Linear Math** (\$225).
- Board approval expected in November.
- Teachers must hold a master's degree in their content area.
- Additional CHS courses are currently being developed.

Calendar Survey Feedback

The district will observe Columbus Day and the Monday following Fall Break as days off.

Budget Forum

Scheduled for April 6. The budget vote will take place in May.

A tax increase is expected.

Instructional Rounds

Principals and superintendents have begun visiting all 10 schools to observe teaching and learning. At the end of each day, they meet with principals to review findings.

Next meeting with Dr. Davis is 12/5

1st VP, Kristan Weir

Membership up to 316, 76 students, 240 singles with 220 making donations totaling \$7,517.53

Reached out to faculty making grant requests and 3 of the 4 signed up

2nd VP, Elizabeth Schwertfuehrer

Volunteer slots were all filled for HoCo, Blood Drive is advertised, Lebo's Got Talent will need a few and Legacy Games will need a sign-up sent out. We get volunteers but need to send reminders and most sign-up at last minute.

3rd VP, Carol Rosetti, no report

4th VP, Principal Joel Thompson

Fall Sports recognition was November 12th. Excellent season for a number of teams and individuals, including our girls tennis doubles team, Jackie Tang and Michelle Yang, who won their second straight WPIAL doubles championship. Jackie and Michelle went on to finish third the state doubles championship.

Keystone testing is coming fast. Keystone Testing will occur December 8-15. In order to facilitate the tests, we will hold 10:00 starts for non-testers on December 8-11. Testers should report at 8:00 AM. We will hold regular school days on December 12 & 15 with all students reporting at 8:00 AM. Algebra I Dec 8&9, Biology Dec 10&11, Literature Dec 12&15

The Pennsylvania Department of Education released the Future Ready Index information, which includes testing information for the 2024-25 school year. The Keystone scores are for the Class of 2026 cohort.

Algebra I- 81.2% Prof/Adv

Biology- 82.6% Prof/Adv

Literature- 94.1% Prof/Adv

Comparator ranking (19 schools in 15 districts) Lebo ranked #5 in Algebra and Biology, #3 in Literature in the entire State of PA, Lebo ranked #14 in Algebra and Biology, and #7 in Literature

Tomorrow is Children's Grief Awareness Day by the Caring Place. Students are encouraged to wear blue in support of their classmates or themselves who are grieving a loss.

This year, we will continue with the teacher recommendation and override process that was established last year.

This will continue to allow students to have a clear view of the courses they've selected and the opportunity to override a teacher recommendation—if they choose—before the course selection window closes. This eliminates the need for students to be removed from classes they were not

recommended for and then go through the override process to return to the class later in the spring. Our goal is to make course selection as student-centered and efficient as possible, empowering students to make informed decisions about their academic journey while ensuring the process is intuitive.

One note from last year, once the override form is completed, the course will not automatically be "opened" in the registration system. The counselor will add the override request immediately following the close of the registration window and families will receive an email confirmation that their selection has been added.

The school year continues to progress forward with our winter events and activities in full swing. We look forward to the numerous arts, musical, and athletic events upcoming in December. Upcoming is the band concert (Dec 9), orchestra concert (Dec 11), and Percussion Ensemble Concert (December 12-13). Snowball is now scheduled for March 7th after two changes due to conflicting scheduled events.

Question was asked about the recently passed School Board item for College in HS course planning Honors Linear Algebra via Point Park's curriculum. Are there other courses being considered? Why this one which is taken by so few students? Response is that any College in HS course must be taught by someone with a Master's in that specific subject. So not mathematics in general, and Ms. Keyser has this credential. More courses are being considered and curriculum needs reviewed for each, but it will be an ongoing endeavor.

Question asked, if a student has issues with a course, what is the proper procedure to follow to resolve? Students speak to the teacher first, then their counselor and then the Unit Principal.

Secretary, Natalie Kukla

October Minutes: Motion made by Heather Geisler to approve, seconded Elizabeth Schwertfuehrer.

Historian, Priya Sukumaran
No report

VI. Committee / Chair Reports

Class Chairs

Newsletter

College Greeter

Reflections - Heather Geisler, 6 entries from 4 students all submitted and moved on the State

Prom - positions filled by 3 co-chairs, Priya Sukumaran, Jackie Zapko and **Caroline??** Williams

Senior Picnic - open, but much of prep is via the AO, need to confirm if this position is necessary

Technology

VII. School Resource Officer, Officer Bileck

VIII. Old Business, none

IX. New Business, none

X. Announcements

Varsity Cheer was accepted in both their competition categories this year and they go to Florida in February

Meeting adjourned 10:39am

DRAFT Minutes, prepared by Natalie Kukla

Attendance: Marisa Hupe, Elizabeth Schwertführer, Kristan Weir, Jean Thomas, Carol Rosetti, Brittany Tonkavich, Joel Thompson, Heather Geisler, Natalie Kukla