

Mt. Lebanon High School PTSA General Meeting
18 March 2026, D-205
MINUTES

- I. Meeting Called to Order: 10:07am, President Marisa Hupe
Motion made by Heather Geisler to accept the February Minutes as written, seconded by Elizabeth Schwertfuehrer

- II. Student Activities Report, Mrs. Tonkavich
Spirit Week concluded with Snowball, last year sold 450 tickets, this year just 300. Costly and significant decline over several years, surveyed student planners about possible changes. Clash of Classes this Friday, expected to be fun and higher participation, pie eating contest and food drive also Clash items. Kids say they want to see more of these types of smaller Clash challenges throughout the year. In April sophomore class is hosting a Spikeball Tournament. Friday 17th is 1st mini-THON. Students started a THON Club, goal is \$10K, have some community sponsors, main goal is getting students involved. In Gyms, will be competitions, 3v3, but also card making, crafts, videos shown, a variety of stations throughout the evening event, 5-9pm. Class election process is underway, have 11 running for 8 spots for next year's senior class.

- III. Teacher Representative, Mrs. McCracken
No report.

- IV. Treasurer's Report: Heather Geisler
Current balance \$11,066.36; outgoing \$300 to English Dept for Pulse & Devil's Advocate

- V. Executive Committee Reports:
President, Marisa Hupe
Class breakfast dates are all set, emailed Chairs, will need send volunteer list.
Met with Dr. Davis 2/20/26, news/notes:

New Course Approvals: AP Human Geography (10th grade) and Honors Financing and Investment (elective)

RAPS (Teen Screen) Mental Health Screening

- Partnership with Outreach Services
 - Optional mental health screening offered to families
 - District covers cost of screening
 - Approximately 125–150 families participate annually
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Staffing Updates: 7 retirees at the secondary level

Instructional Rounds: Observed 5 out of 8 class periods (80–90 classes total), End-of-day debrief with feedback provided

Curriculum Review & Board Presentations

March 9: Secondary transition to Steel Standards (K–12 framework)

April: MTSS presentation

May: K–12 Social Studies, K–8 Math, K–5 ELA

Grants (MLFE): Application process has changed, Grants must align with the foundation's core values

State Requirement: online testing to begin this year

1st VP, Kristan Weir

No change in numbers, 322 members, 244 parent/family/singles, 78 students, 224 donations.

2nd VP, Elizabeth Schwertfuehrer

mini-THON volunteer sign-up going out Sunday, then will prep Class Breakfast sign-up

3rd VP, Carol Rosetti

Stepping down from position for remaining months of term, but will miss it, thankful for opportunity

4th VP, Principal Joel Thompson

Events since we last met:

SHASDA Student Award: 2 per school given at breakfast, recognizes overcoming barriers, obstacles, big changes

- Dominique Moore
- Luis Hernandez

Rotary Students of the Month:

March- Sam Shaw

February- Madelaine Whalen

January- James Harbaugh

December- Madeline Zapko

November- Owen Byrne

October- Katherine Walters

September- Henry Adams

Our ETC presentation of Much Ado About Nothing occurred from March 11-14. It was an enjoyable performance that had the audience laughing through night. Thank you to our students and producer, Ms. Majetic for their efforts to perform the play. Also, special recognition to Mr. Kuhar and the entire tech theater team for making an outstanding set. Winter Sports Recognition Night occurred on, Thursday, March 5. Congratulations to all of our winter sports teams on excellent seasons.

Mr. Danny Bonaventura was hired as the new Athletic Director to replace Mr. John Grogan, who will retire at the end of June. Below is the information shared at the time of his hiring: Mr. Bonaventura brings extensive experience in athletic administration and student-athlete development at the collegiate level. He currently serves as Associate Athletics Director for Student-Athlete Development at Robert Morris University, where he oversees programming focused on leadership development, career readiness, and community engagement. He is also the liaison for academics and serves as the Sport Administrator for the Men's Basketball program. Previously, Mr. Bonaventura worked as Director of Mentorship at the University of Pittsburgh, where he led a mentorship program supporting more than 150 student-athletes and 200 mentors. While working as a Career Consultant at Pitt, he helped graduating student-athletes achieve a 99% career outcomes rate, connecting them with opportunities for success beyond athletics. Before joining the University of Pittsburgh, Mr. Bonaventura worked at Lamar University and Spurs Sports and Entertainment. Mr. Bonaventura holds a B.S.B.A with a focus in Sport Management from Robert Morris University, and he earned his Master of Social Work from Tulane University while serving as a Graduate Assistant in the Academic Services Center for Student-Athletes. He resides in the South Hills with his wife, Dr. Grace Drnach-Bonaventura, and their daughter, Carmela. Mr. Bonaventura has built a career focused on supporting the academic and personal growth of student-athletes. Please join us in congratulating Mr. Bonaventura and welcoming him to our Blue Devil community.

Upcoming events:

Lebo University will occur on Wednesday, March 25. There are so many excellent sessions for families to choose from to make it a meaningful evening. More information about this night of learning can be found on the district website [HERE](#).

The Cum Laude Induction ceremony will occur on March 26. Congratulations to the 87 seniors who will be inducted for their tremendous academic achievements while at our High School. These students all have a 4.9 weighted GPA or higher!

The National Honor Society induction will occur on Thursday, April 9. We look forward to inducting another class of well-deserving students. Clash of Classes will occur on Friday, March 20. We look forward to another spirited event for our student body. Students and parents are asked to refrain from early dismissals to the extent possible to have as many students part of the experience as possible. Lastly, Spring break is a little over a week away. Spring break will begin on Monday, March 30. We will resume classes on Monday, April 6. We hope that everyone has a relaxing and enjoyable break and comes back ready for the final push to June.

Secretary, Natalie Kukla, no report

Historian, Priya Sukumaran, no report

VI. Committee / Chair Reports

Class Chairs will soon start breakfast planning

Newsletter - going well

Technology - the website is up to date

Prom: chairs met, seniors voted, theme is confirmed

Reflections - all 6 entries went to State level, 3 were recognized and 1,2, or all 3 might proceed to Nationals

VII. School Resource Officer, Officer Bileck, no report

VIII. Old Business

IX. New Business, a Nominating Committee consisting of 3 volunteers, is appointed: Carol Rosetti,

Jennifer Kelly, and Angela Speiler. Natalie Kukla made a motion to approve this Nominating Committee. A slate will be presented on April 15th. Interested in serving in a position on the Board?
Email,

carolguy72@aol.com

X. Announcements: May meeting changed to 15th, and will be in the library conference room
Upcoming meetings: April 15
 May 15

Meeting adjourned 10:36am

Minutes, prepared by Natalie Kukla

Attendance: Marisa Hupe, Heather Geisler, Elizabeth Schwertfuehrer, Brittany Tonkavich, Joel Thompson, Jean Thomas, Natalie Kukla, Carol Rosetti, Jennifer Kelly