

LBIPTA February Meeting

February 19 2026 4pm LBI Elementary School, Surf City NJ 08008

In Attendance:

Judy Meehan, Sara Stocklas, Rachel McDill, Lori Daly, Adrienne Cerefice, Shelley Smith, Chelsea Kulp, Amy Aurelio, Danni Hagler, Kimberley Sclarow, Jourdan Travers

Call to order - 408pm Marci Bleam - President

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome and Introductions

Treasurer's Report:

LBI PTA Treasurer's Report – 2/19/26

Games of Chance Account Bank Balance - \$19,886.56

Current working Games of Chance Account Balance - \$19,886.56

General Operating Account Bank Balance - \$32,712.09

Outstanding Expense

Jill Pelto (Cultural Arts) **\$200.00**

Reimbursement-Holiday Grams **\$133.06**

Reimbursement-6th Grade Yearbooks **\$493.50**

Reimbursement – School snacks **\$56.75**

Current working general operating account balance - \$31,828.78

*Slappy grams net profit - **\$194.94**

Rachel L. McDill

Treasurer, LBI PTA

Upcoming events include restaurant fundraisers and a dance with a chill area for overstimulated kids. The auction will be held at the Terrace on April 25, with a \$55 ticket price including food and one drink ticket. Field Day is scheduled for May 29, with a rain date of June 5. The meeting also discussed the logistics of the chill area and the need for parent monitoring.

Action Items

- [] Email Mr. Birney to ask whether the stage can be used as the chill space for the dance and request any suggestions for location/configuration
- [] Reach out to Nadine to ask if she will spearhead soliciting local business donations for door prizes/auction items and confirm whether she will coordinate requests
- [] Reach out to Panzones to request pizza for Field Day (two slices per child) and confirm logistics for May 29 (rain date June 5)
- [] Contact room parents to notify them about Teacher Appreciation Week, provide teacher favorites, and invite them to coordinate any classroom-level gifts or gestures
- [] Calculate event economics for the Terrace social (ticket price vs. costs) and provide numbers showing how much PTA would net per ticket for a proposed \$55 ticket
- [] Assemble gift baskets (e.g., wine and glasses) to use as door prize/auction items for the Terrace event and coordinate with wine suppliers

DANCE

- Speaker 1 and Speaker 4 discuss the logistics of the chill area for the dance, including potential locations and parent monitoring.

Chill Area Logistics and Parent Monitoring

- Speaker 1 suggests using the hallway near the supply closet for the chill area, with parent monitoring in half-hour shifts.
- Discussion about the feasibility of blocking off certain areas with dividers or screens to create a safe space for kids.
- Speaker 5 and Speaker 1 discuss the possibility of using the stage for the chill area and the need for parent supervision.
- Speaker 4 and Speaker 1 brainstorm on alternative locations and methods to ensure the chill area is secure and monitored.

Teacher Appreciation Week and Social Committee Plans

- Speaker 1 updates on Teacher Appreciation Week, including luncheons, massages, and gifts organized by Sheila and Jill.
- Discussion about reaching out to room moms to inform parents about Teacher Appreciation Week and encourage participation.
- Speaker 1 and Speaker 9 discuss the possibility of hosting an auction at the Terrace, with options for April 25 or May 2.
- Speaker 1 suggests including one drink ticket and a door prize ticket in the ticket price, with a potential ticket price of \$55.

Fundraising Event Planning and Logistics

- Speaker 1 and Speaker 9 discuss the details of the auction, including food, drink options, and ticket pricing.
- Speaker 4 suggests a grazing table or buffet-style food to keep costs down.
- Discussion about the possibility of an open bar sponsor to reduce costs and increase participation.
- Speaker 1 and Speaker 3 clarify the need for a license for the 50/50 and door prize, confirming it is not required for in-house events.

Enrichment and Field Day Updates

- Speaker 1 provides an update on the Field Day theme "Let the Games Begin" and the T-shirt design.
- Plans for pizza from Panzones for all kids, with different eating times for different grade levels.
- Discussion about having a school-wide recess after the Field Day to allow different grade levels to interact.
- Speaker 1 confirms the date as May 29 with a rain date of June 5, and the timeframe as 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM.

Snap Bracelet Fundraiser Recap

- Speaker 4 provides a recap of the snap bracelet fundraiser, mentioning that it took about three hours to assemble 200 bracelets.
- Discussion about the potential for future fundraisers with different themes throughout the year.
- Speaker 4 estimates that the snap bracelet fundraiser could make up to \$1000 with minimal labor.

The meeting discussed various fundraising and enrichment activities for the school. They considered holiday-themed fundraisers like Halloween and Valentine's Day, with a proposal to alternate between different themes. A spring mini-session photo fundraiser was proposed, offering \$125 sessions with \$30 per session going to the organization. The group also discussed the logistics of an enrichment program, including scheduling, permission slips, and membership requirements. They noted the need for a \$500 budget for enrichment activities and the possibility of creating Kindness Club T-shirts. A meeting was scheduled to help with enrichment program coordination.

Action Items

- ☐ Finalize enrichment sign-up form and permission-slip content, include no guarantee / first come, first serve notice and membership requirement, and send the form home Monday with an email that contains all activity descriptions
- ☐ Meet with Mr. Cotov to review and confirm all enrichment dates and room assignments to resolve scheduling conflicts
- ☐ Organize a sorting session to process returned enrichment forms (check payments, membership status, and assign spots) on Tuesday at 3:10pm in Miss Daly's room
- ☐ Add the PTA membership link and a clear statement that membership is required for enrichment sign-up to the enrichment email and form
- ☐ Reach out to Megan Blackman (Yellow Daisy Photography) to ask about doing discounted spring mini-session fundraisers, confirm sharing policy and details, and check with Ann Coen before proceeding
- ☐ Follow up with the circus contact about running a family circus event at the school and confirm whether the vendor can provide required details and availability
- ☐ Collect and prepare spirit-wear color samples to leave in the teachers' room for two days and coordinate which volunteers will lend shirts for display

Outline

Holiday Fundraisers and Alternatives

- Speaker 1 suggests coordinating holiday fundraisers, mentioning Halloween, Christmas, and Valentine's Day.
- Speaker 4 notes that pretzel fundraisers were nixed due to grant restrictions on food-related fundraisers.
- Speaker 4 mentions an email from Megan Blackman about a spring mini session photo fundraiser, offering a discounted rate and a portion of the proceeds to the organization.

- Speaker 4 mentions the upcoming spirit wear sale from February 23 to March 6, with magnets priced at \$5 each.
- Speaker 4 suggests using shirts with different color options to help teachers and parents see the available colors.
- Speaker 4 notes the next PTA meeting is on March 19 and discusses the need for new officers, including a president and VP.

Officer Roles and Responsibilities

- Speaker 4 explains the terms for officer positions, noting that the president position is unexpired.
- Speaker 4 mentions Sarah's willingness to help, especially with Chelsea taking on the president role.
- Speaker 6 discusses the possibility of creating an official Chief of Staff position, but notes state restrictions.
- Speaker 4 outlines the timeline for officer elections, with letters of interest due by March 30 and a final decision at the April meeting.

Membership and Fundraising Challenges

- Speaker 7 expresses frustration over teachers not joining the PTA and suggests reaching out to non-members.
- Speaker 4 suggests attaching a list of current members to the PTA website and sending personal invitations.
- Speaker 8 discusses the challenges of selling Thunder and Surf passes, noting that the new owners are unresponsive.
- Speaker 8 mentions the financial success of past pass sales, making thousands of dollars for the PTA.

Enrichment Program Coordination

- Speaker 1 outlines the enrichment program schedule, with forms going home on Monday and results announced on Friday.
- Speaker 1 mentions working with Kristin to coordinate dates and forms, and the need for quick turnaround.
- Speaker 1 discusses the logistics of handling permission slips and payments, and the potential chaos of managing multiple sessions.

- Speaker 1 suggests a meeting to help with the enrichment program coordination, with volunteers checking and sorting forms.

Funding and Logistics for Enrichment Programs

- Speaker 1 mentions a \$500 budget for enrichment programs, including funding for T-shirts for the Kindness Club.
- Speaker 1 discusses the need for a spreadsheet to track participants and ensure fairness in enrollment.
- Speaker 1 suggests a meeting to help with the enrichment program coordination, with volunteers checking and sorting forms.
- Speaker 1 notes the importance of having a clear schedule and ensuring all sessions have enough participants.

Support and Volunteer Coordination

- Speaker 4 offers to help with the enrichment program coordination, suggesting a meeting to sort forms and ensure fairness.
- Speaker 1 agrees to a meeting on Tuesday at 3 PM to help with the enrichment program coordination.
- Speaker 1 mentions the need for volunteers to help with the enrichment program, especially with sorting forms.
- Speaker 1 emphasizes the importance of having a clear schedule and ensuring all sessions have enough participants.

School Newspaper Planning Meeting

Overview

The meeting discussed starting a school newspaper or newsletter, involving teachers and students, and possibly incorporating photography and journalism. A small-scale pilot could begin in March or April, with surveys to gauge student interest. The idea of a gardening club for K-3 students was proposed, with a seedling starter workshop scheduled for April 13th. The meeting concluded with a fundraiser success of \$455 and a donation of T-shirts to the drama club.

Action Items

- [] Organize and run a Seedling Starters workshop for K–2 on April 13 (3:00–4:00), prepare materials (seedlings, egg-carton planters, painting activity) and ensure session structure for up to ~10 students

- [] Recruit and confirm two parent volunteers to assist during the Seedling Starters workshop (on-site supervision, help transitions and dismissal)
- [] Plan and launch a small-scale school newsletter pilot as an enrichment (develop structure, survey student interest, recruit up to ~10 students, run a 4-week April pilot and produce a one- or two-page issue), and line up any guest speakers (e.g., local journalists) as needed
- Speaker 4 introduces the idea of a school newspaper or newsletter, starting with a one-page version.
- Speaker 4 suggests involving teachers and students in creating the newsletter, including photography and journalism.
- Speaker 5 proposes spotlighting teachers and having students interview them.
- Speaker 4 and Speaker 5 discuss the potential for the newsletter to grow and involve more students.

Planning and Implementation of the Newsletter

- Speaker 4 suggests surveying students to gauge interest and starting small in March or April.
- Speaker 2 mentions potential involvement from Ingrid and Julie, who writes for the paper.
- Speaker 6 suggests looking at past projects for inspiration.
- Speaker 5 and Speaker 7 discuss incorporating drawing elements into the newsletter.

Enrichment Program and Student Engagement

- Speaker 4 proposes starting the newsletter as an enrichment program with limited spots.
- Speaker 8 suggests involving older students in writing about sports or community events.
- Speaker 7 and Speaker 5 discuss the possibility of a student committee to pick winners.
- Speaker 2 and Speaker 8 discuss the potential for family members to help with the newsletter.

Gardening Club and Grant Opportunities

- Speaker 2 mentions the hydroponic garden club for fifth graders and the potential for a gardening club.
- Speaker 2 discusses the need for a green team and grants to support the gardening club.
- Speaker 5 offers to help with the gardening club if needed.

- Speaker 2 and Speaker 5 discuss the logistics of a seedling starter workshop for kindergarten to third grade.

Finalizing the Workshop Details

- Speaker 5 confirms their availability for the seedling starter workshop on April 13th.
- Speaker 2 and Speaker 5 discuss the need for two parents to help with the workshop.
- Speaker 7 suggests a time frame of 3 to 4 PM for the workshop.
- Speaker 2 and Speaker 5 finalize the details for the seedling starter workshop for kindergarten to third grade.

Meeting Conclusion and Achievements

- Speaker 7 wraps up the meeting, noting the accomplishments, including the seedling starter workshop and the newsletter idea.
- Speaker 7 mentions the fundraiser that made \$455 and the donation of T-shirts to the drama club.
- The meeting concludes with a sense of accomplishment and plans for future activities.

Meeting ended 528pm

Adrienne Cerefice, Recording Secretary

Upcoming Meetings:

March 19 2026

April 16 2026

May 14 2026