Levittown Council of PTAs **General Membership Meeting Minutes** March 22, 2010

President Esta Lachow called Meeting to order at 7:38. Secretary Susan Giuliano present.

Minutes of the February 25, 2010 meeting approved as corrected.

President - Esta Lachow – Thank you to Wisdom Lane for hospitality. Gave reminders and announcements: meetings are being recorded, please come to podium or use microphone when addressing the group. Keep in mind that others have the right to speak also, and may be called on to do so before you get a second opportunity. Dr. Sirois could not be here tonight, Tonie McDonald, Acting Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance will be reporting for him. Welcome to Mr. Pappas and Mr. Regan from the Board of Education. Esta reviewed specifics regarding who is allowed and not allowed to vote per Council Bylaws. Bylaws are available on District website for review. Esta encourages all to become familiar with Council and individual unit bylaws and procedures. Just because things have been "that way" doesn't mean it is the right, or wrong way to do it. Encourage all units to put bylaws and procedures online. Announcements/Reminders: April 12 – Arts in Ed Showcase, Check share binder for more info. BOE meeting rescheduled to 3/24. Report on file.

Executive Committee Reports

Corresponding Secretary: sympathy card sent

Treasurer's Report: General Fund: Opening (02/25/10-03/22/10)\$9,073.92, Closing (02/25/10-03/22/10)\$8,760.50. Scholarship: Opening (02/25/10-03/22/10)\$6,259.37, Closing (02/25/10-03/22/10)\$11,968.71. Chartwell's donated snacks - check returned. No changes to the Treasurer's Report it is filed for audit. Report on file. Historian: need pictures from Honorary Life

Superintendent's Report: Presented after Committee Reports (see below)

Standing Committees:

Arts in Education - Pat Genco - BOCES reimbursement checks should have been received. Abbey Lane will be hosting Zumba this week. Butterfly Boogie and Touch Tank. If anyone else is hosting a workshop, please share. Report on file.

Health, Safety, Environment - Pre-Prom Workshop will leave "as is" for this year. Letters sent out re: snow removal on Wantagh Ave. Next meeting 4/6 at 10:00am, Pupil Services.

Audit – Lisa Vanderburg – Books ending 2/25/10 audited – books found to be in order. Two receipts, 1029 and 1021 (Scholarship Dinner) were missing.

Legislation – Legislative Brunch was March 13. Only 6-7 legislators attended. Very gloomy outlook, BOCES Superintendent was the guest speaker.

Curriculum – Next meeting March 23 at 9:30am

Special Committees

Nominating – Slate for 2010 -2011 School year presented again: Pres – E. Lachow; 1st VP – C. Mulz; 2nd VP – P. Genco; Rec. Sec. – A. Harrs: Treasurer – D. Nocella: Corr. Sec. – A. List: Historian – S. Haas, No nominations from the floor. Recording Secretary, S. Giuliano, casts all in favor vote.

Scholarship Dinner/Dance - Debe Howe - Crest Hollow CC would like to increase cost 10% per person for next year. Comments/discussion. We have a large number of guests - venues are limited. Discussion, other venues will be looked into.

Council Scholarship Committee – scholarships are in the schools. Due date is 4/6. List is going around –please list rep from your building, include email.

Liaisons

Bond Watcher/Capital Improvements – Jill Rovenger – question regarding AC at Division Ave HS. T. McDonald: A/C at Division Ave. not functional at this time. Report on file.

Dollars for Scholars – 2010 Golf Outing will be on October 12; elementary schools – please: the \$ cut-out fundraiser mailing went out - money coming in very slowly; scholarship forms are in the building - 8 per high school - deadline is 4/16.

GC Tech – Interested students/families should see Guidance Counselor at home school if they are interested. They can also call to make an appointment for a tour. Available programs listed. Results of regional competitions shared - 11 winners. Will be attending State Competition in April. Report on file.

Senior Citizen Prom – 18th Annual Prom, 5/14 6:00-9:30pm, LMEC, Mardi Gras theme. Volunteers needed. Sign-up sheet being circulated. Report on file.

Transportation – Construction for Wander Lane turning light will begin 3/29. Be advised that cement takes 28 days to cure. Work is not at halt, just waiting. Handbook is being updated for September. Next meeting 4/6 10:00am at Hunt Rd. facility. Report on file.

LEADD – Close to 1,000 people attended. Thank you to everyone for a successful event.

SEPTA – Family Fun Night is 3/23 at 7:30pm. March is Occupational Therapy Awareness month.

Teacher Center – money has been received from the state. Teacher's Special Project funding has been increased to \$300. max for this year only as the money was received so late from the state. Part time employee left, waiting for Board approval on new hire.

<u>Superintendent's Report</u>: T. McDonald, Acting Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance. Board has not adopted a budget yet. Board has accepted some recommendations and not others. Discussion of possible cuts: assistant director of Pupil Services, clerical in vocational ed, middle school enrichment (elementary would stay the same). Depending on budget adopted tax levy could be 3.95% - 4.5%. Board is waiting for more information – not a full picture at this time. Reserves are part of revenue – can only be used for very specific reason. Fund balance – up to 4% of money left at the end of the year can be kept – remainder must be given back to taxpayers. Swim team, 7/8 combo team and 9 period day intact. Parent comment/discussion re: Transportation – "if transportation is cut completely \$5 million could be saved". In order to do away with transportation, a petition then referendum would be needed. Transportation cannot be a contingency item. If budget does not pass, rules for mileage stay the same. Minimum state mandates for transportation: 2 miles for elementary, 3 miles for secondary. If transportation referendum is passed and the budget fails, money must be taken out of other areas to cover the cost. Threat of contingency very real – looking at approximately \$12 million to be taken out of the budget. The results would be devastating.

New Business

None

Dates to Remember:

3/23	9:30 am	Elementary Curriculum Meeting
3/23	7:30 pm	SEPTA Meeting
3/24	7:30 pm	Board of Education Meeting
3/25	9:30am	Food Service Meeting
3/25	10 am	Secondary Curriculum Meeting
3/25	6:30 pm	GC Tech-Community Recognition Dinner
3/25	8pm	Board of Education Budget Planning Session
4/5	9:30am	Presidents/Superintendent's Meeting (Note: date change)
4/7	7:30pm	Board of Education Regular Meeting
4/12	9am-2pm	Nassau Region PTA Arts in Education Showcase
4/12	10am	Transportation Meeting
4/14	7:30pm	Board of Education Meeting
4/15	7:30pm	COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm

Susan Giuliano, Secretary

Approved April 15, 2010