

General Membership Meeting

Meeting Called to order 7:30 Quorum

Executive Committee Reports:

President's report- Esta Lachow- See Attached

1st VP-Cindy Mulz-There are still a few folders that need to be distributed.

2nd VP- Pat Genco- Directories have been finished please check for errors

Recording Secretary-Ali Harrs- Corrections made- minutes approved with corrections

Treasurer's Report-Dawn Nocella-See Attached- Motion by Patricia Genco: To create a new expense line "Board Recognition" and move \$100 from the convention line into that line-second, Discussion, motion approved.

Superintendent's report- No Report, open forum for questions. Question posed in regards to the responsibility of parents of children who are continually bullies, what responsibility do those parents have and can action be taken against them? Discussion. Dr. Sirois will be discussing further with attorneys.

Committee Reports

Standing:

Arts in Education-Sent sign in sheet around

Audit- Everything is good in general fund and scholarship fund

Council Budget-Please get representatives from each of your units

Health, Safety & Environment-see attached

Legislation- Please present resolutions at your next meeting and collect checklists. Bring to Angela List before convention.

Procedures- Updated from last month and added to website.

Secondary Curriculum- Parent Portal- see attached- more connect ed messages to go out next meeting Nov. 18

Special:

Honorary Life-Please contact Esta Lachow regarding a Council nominee

Reflections- See attached

Scholarship Dinner Dance-Information was sent to representatives from each unit, contact Debe Howe or Diane McPartland with any questions.

Liaisons-

Dollars for Scholars- Trying to reschedule golf outing in the Spring

Enrichment- See Attached

Food Service- See Attached

GC Tech/ Senior Citizen Prom- See Attached

SEPTA- Next meeting October 25 at 7:30 VESID will be presenting.

Teachers Center- See Attached

Transportation-See Attached

RTI- See Attached

New Business

Adopt a Family- See Attached

Meeting adjourned

Presidents Report October 21, 2010

I welcome each of you to our meeting tonight and extend our welcome to members of our Board of Education who are here tonight. Please join me in offering thanks to East Broadway for hosting tonight's meeting. Gardiners, you are scheduled for the November meeting.

Just a few reminders: If you wish to speak, you must speak into one of the microphones or you will not be recognized. Please be respectful to comments expressed by your peers. There is a handout available on parliamentary procedures if you are interested.

In our effort to further reduce the amount of paper we use and discard, the Council Directory minus the personnel information of each unit is available on the website. Information about the units' officers and delegates will be distributed tonight to Councils Executive Board, its special committee chairs and council liaisons.

I am quite proud to announce that if you go to the Nassau Region PTA website and follow its links to member units...all Levittown Units are now updated and listed there. You are doing a fantastic job with keeping them current and I encourage you to continue to expand this available resource. Put notices, events and yes even your newsletter on to be viewed.

Speaking of Newsletters, some of you may remember that last Spring Wisdom Lane's newsletter under the leadership of President Angela List, won recognition from Nassau Region. Angela was recently notified that the newsletter now won recognition from NYS PTA and will be presented with their award at convention in November. Please join me in expressing our sincere congratulations to Angela and Wisdom Lane.

Staying on the topic of recognitions; October 27th various organizations within the district offer their thanks to the members of the Board of Education for the work that they do for our district. In the past, PTA Council has provided a

small token of appreciation to each Board member. This year, I hope to change that practice. I made a recommendation to our Executive Committee who is now forwarding this recommendation to our general membership. My suggestion was that we amend our budget and create an expense line titled "Board Recognition", transferring \$100 from the convention line to this new line. Each Board member will receive a certificate from Council thanking them for their work. Council will be using the \$100 (along with many of my supermarket coupons) to purchase items that will be donated to the Wisdom Lane Food Pantry. As we have talked about before, this pantry is feeding more and more of our neighborhood families and is in need of continual replenishment. It is my hope that you will find this acceptable, vote in favor of the motion and make it an ongoing line in the Council Budget. And while I'm on the subject of the Food Pantry, remember I will have a bag out at every council meeting if you would like to deposit an item for the pantry.

Here are two financial reminders for the units: your first membership payment is due to NYS by November 1st. You also should start working on your IRS forms for filing...most units are due to file later this month. Now some good financial news: I received a confirmation letter from the IRS all penalties against Council for the 2 years in question have been removed. It just goes to show.. "perseverance Pays Off!"

Presidents; I hope you'll join me in welcoming members from Nassau Region PTA on Tuesday, October 26th for the Presidents Rap. It's right here at LMEC in the panther room....please join me. You can't beat the commute!!!

Over the course of the past few weeks, I have represented Council on the district Code of Conduct committee and Professional Development committee. We have been addressing concerns for both committees and are working on some areas of revision. One area requiring a great deal of discussion is the district cell phone policy. I will keep you posted as these committees continue to evolve.

As my favorite holiday quickly approaches.....I wish you and your children a fun-filled but safe Halloween.

October 18, 2010

Transportation Meeting

Michelle Gartelman Levittown Council of PTA Transportation Liason

Topics of Discussion:

There is flooding in parking facility at the transportation department. Also, overgrown trees and bushes are posing a safety concern for drivers returning to the facility after dark. Requesting Michael Haan to evaluate the problem.

Cracks have begun to appear in the new Transportation building. Requesting Michael Haan to evaluate the problem.

Parking at the entrance of the parking lot at East Broadway causing buses to have trouble turning onto Hunt Road problem was addressed at PTA meeting and a horse will be put in the area closest to the driveway.

Gridlock is a concern at the corner of Wantagh Avenue and Jerusalem Rd., possibly due to the timing of the two lights.

Discipline procedure discussed for students riding buses.

2ND VP Report for Levittown Council of PTAs
September 30, 2010
Submitted by Patricia M. Genco

Hi all. I apologize not being with you this evening. Thank you for all of your well wishes .I am mending slowly but feeling better each day. Esta is passing around the directory. Please make any changes that need to be made. They will be distributed at the next meeting. I have nothing to report regarding ByLaws we are good at this point.

The Wisdom Lane Pantry is in desperate need of your help. Please consider sending the flyer around your school. We may not be able to do much but we can make sure our neighbors eat.

10/21/10

for Ali :

Motion to the Budget

Is to create a new expense line
"Board Recognition" and move \$100
from the convention line into
that line.

= motion made by: Patricia Genco
second by: Angela Lust.
all voting members in favor.
motion was passed

~~Hi Marlene & Cindy~~

I am not sure if I will make the meeting tonight.

Here is my report for Health & Safety:

We started to plan and discuss dates for the Pre-prom workshop which will be mandatory for the parents to attend this year.

Topics to be discussed at the workshop will include: Social Host Laws, Post Prom trips and a presentation by a representative from the DA's office.

On October 26th at 7:00pm, Wisdom Lane will host a Cyber bullying & Teen Depression presentation.

The next meeting is 11/10 at 10:00am in the office of Pupil Services.

Please be aware there should be one representative per Unit, although anyone can attend any district meeting.

Ron Kister came in to speak about Parent Portal:

Progress Reports for the Secondary schools are up today, there is a print button and they print out pretty well. A connect ed message will be going out this evening as a reminder.

Once a student graduates 12th grade they will no longer be able to access their records. Typically when a student graduates a transcript will be sent out. Secondary students will only see current year progress reports can not see past progress reports, they will be this year going forward.

A question came up at the last meeting as to whether or not the report card in Power School can be downloaded to a flash drive.

It can not directly from the webpage. You can save the web page as an .html file and then save that file to the flash drive. Or if you have Adobe, you can print the webpage to a .PDF, then save the .PDF file to a flash drive.

A parent asked if we will be putting up test grades – not now, but likely sometime in the future, because that takes planning and teacher negotiations.

Also asked if we will progress to allow students to log in and get missed assignment and homework, again, hopefully we will get to that point sometime.

Many less people opted out than expected, only 38 out of almost 8000.

Ron stressed that it is “Parent” Portal – please do not give your children you login and password. It is meant for parents only, the system can not handle the students being on the site all at once and if one person is logged in, it will not allow a second person to log in with the same information.

May see a few more connect ed messages go out than previous, to help give information that used to be sent home in report card mailings.

Science State Assessment scores have never been sent home. Beginning this year at parent/teacher conferences, we are giving the current 5th grade students the results of the test they took at the end of last year. The 8th graders who take the test in June 2011 will receive their results as soon as they become available (probably Sept. 2011).

We were shown the data presentation on the scores of the NYS Math and ELA that was shown at the last months Council Meeting and BOE Meeting.

Next meeting is Nov. 18th.

Angela List

Reflection's Report.

All information should have been sent out to the students already.

Your deadline should be set to accept all entries.

Nov. 30th and Dec. 1st are the entry drop-off dates @ Brookside School in North Merrick.

All information and forms can be found on Naussau County PTA web site.

Submitted by: Danielle Calderon

Enrichment Report

October 2010

--As discussed last week, approximately 160 students originally applied for Enrichment this year.

In regard to breakdown: Of the 50 students that qualified and were accepted, the majority of the students were entering 3rd grade (approx. 31 students)

--Mr. O'Donnell noted that Mrs. Burns and Mrs. Grubb have been a part of the Enrichment Program for many years. They are dedicated, experienced teachers and are doing a wonderful job in the classrooms, while splitting their time between the elementary and middle schools. The program has been well-received.

--In all, 236 enrichment students are being serviced

Submitted by Maria Severance, PTA Council Delegate

Enrichment Committee Chairperson

Levittown Council of PTAs
Food Service Liaison Report
October 21, 2010

The Food Service Committee had its first meeting on October 20, 2010. Dr. Sirois chaired the meeting and introduced Linda Haas, the Assistant Business Manager who is the District appointed representative and who will be chairing the Food Service Committee. Linda addressed the issues I had brought up to the Board of Ed regarding Chartwells, including the \$500. scholarship that had been promised to the district by the vending company, but never received. Chartwells was also told to serve French fries with Chicken nuggets on Thursdays, since students had complained about this. Linda also addressed staffing issues with Chartwells that Esta Lachow had brought to her attention. Committee members will probably start going into the cafeterias late next week.

Submitted by:



Lisa Curran

Levittown PTACouncil

Food Service Liaison

Council Meeting Report – September 30, 2010

Gerald Claps Career & Technical Center a/k/a (GC Tech)

GC Tech is located at LMEC. We offer a 2-year vocational program for 11th & 12th graders for students of Division & MacArthur High School as well as 20 plus out of district schools. Students of Levittown schools will have first preference for enrollment.

Our school offers career & technical programs which include *Culinary Arts, Police Science/EMT (Emergency Medical Technician), Medical Assisting, Architectural Drafting, Carpentry, Electrical Technology, Cosmetology, Graphic Communications, Automotive, and 3D Computer Animation*. All of our programs offer post secondary articulation agreements which are approved by the State Education Department. Our students earn college credits for the course they have successfully completed while at GC Tech which are accepted by technical colleges and post secondary schools. All of our programs include Technical Math and Technical English as “push in” subjects. Both Math and English are all program related. We also have a Special Ed teacher “push in” to work with students’ in need or whole groups.

EX: Math: calculations, proportions, percentage, measurements, conversions, fractions

English: resumes, business letters, portfolios, research, computer activities, program demonstrations

Special Ed: organizing, planning, good study habits, program vocabulary, etc.

We have several Clubs for students: National Technical Honor Society, Key Club, and SkillsUSA. Every year students have the opportunity to compete in our GC Tech Skills Competition to demonstrate and showcase their skills which is held in February in the Gymnasium at LMEC. Everyone is welcome on that evening to observe our students hard at work in competition. Students also compete in SkillsUSA at the Regional Level (held at Farmingdale University) with students from Long Island Career & Tech schools, New York State Competition (held in Syracuse New York) with students from all over New York State and the National Competition (held in Kansas City, Missouri) with students from every state of the nation as well as Guam and Puerto Rico.

Over the past few years we have won over 50 Regional Awards, 16 State Awards and one Silver Medal from the National Conference. We are very proud of all of our student’s accomplishments.

Parents and students who are interested in the programs offered at GC Tech may contact Audre Iglehart, Director of GC Tech, to arrange for a tour or visitation during a class session.

Audre can be reached at 520-8330 ext. 660 or 651

You can also visit us on the School District Website.

Thank you.

Senior Citizen Prom

Senior Citizen Prom is scheduled for Friday, May 13th at Levittown Memorial.

6:00 – 9:30 PM

Theme this year is “Western”

More info to follow in a few months.

2014

Monday, October 25
@ 7:30

VESID

is doing a presentation

Teacher Center Meeting
Thursday, October 14, 2010

The Levittown Teacher Center is located here at LMEC. It is a place where teachers can take professional development courses, use equipment and use and borrow a variety of technology.

The Teacher Center is no longer funded federally or by the State and as a result fees will now be charged for courses, \$55. for Levittown employees and \$80 for non-employees.

In an effort to keep costs down, course offerings will be reduced from 48 to 30. There will be no new technology purchases made and the Special Projects Program has been eliminated.

The Policy Board is in need of a Business and Industry Representative. If you own a business in the community or know someone who might be interested, please have them contact the Center Director, Nara Denson at 520-8300 ext. 671.

Susan Giuliano
Teacher Center Rep
Levittown Council of PTAs

October 18, 2010

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Michelle Gartelman Levittown Council of PTA Transportation Liason

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RTI

Subject:

From: Susan Pou <lousuepou@msn.com>

Date: Wed, 20 Oct 2010 10:31:16 -0400

To: Esta Lachow <e13ral@optonline.net>

Esta,

Tomorrow is my birthday and my family will be having cake to celebrate. Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend the Council meeting for this month. Below is a brief RTI report.

The first RTI meeting was held on 10/12. All of the building Principals agree that RTI is working well as they and their staff continue to enforce its concepts into daily routine. The committee will begin to look at the math portion of RTI by January to further research its implimentaion and stratagies as was done with reading when the committee first began. No date has yet been set for our next meeting.

Susan Pou
37 Hollow Lane
Levittown, NY,11756
631 834 0034 cell
516 731 3979 phone/fax

From the desk of Gina Interdonato
7 Daisy Lane Levittown
579-2921 or 314-9244
NurseG54@optonline.net

Dear Esta and PTA Presidents:

With the holiday season upon us I have initiated the Adopt – A – Family program for the children of Levittown School District. We ask that you get all units involved in this rewarding endeavor. Last year we were able to “adopt” all students in need of gifts, clothes and food during the holiday season. Anyone wishing to adopt a student or family can give their names and email addresses or phone numbers to the PTA Presidents before November 19th. The week of November 22nd they will receive the information on the student or family that they have been assigned to. They have until December 16th to complete their shopping. All gifts must be delivered to the district clerk’s office at Levittown Memorial no later than December 17th.

On Monday December 20th at 6:30pm we will be organizing and wrapping any gifts that have not been wrapped in the large board room. They will be distributed to the needy families December 21st-23rd. Anyone who would like to get involved and cannot adopt a student can purchase gift cards for any amount from any of the local grocery stores, Target, Kohls, Ulta, or any other store they frequent. No amount is too small.

I appreciate the assistance of all PTA units in advance and wish you all the best for the holiday season.

Sincerely,

Gina Interdonato