

Levittown Council of PTA
General Membership Meeting
November 18, 2010
Minutes

Call to Order 7:30

Pledge, Attendance

President's report- See Attached

1st VP- Cindy Mulz- all folders were given out, email changed

2nd VP- Reminders, By-Laws should be to region at least one month prior to due date. Taxes: by now most units should have already filed for an extension. Please check with your schools as well as sister schools, many of our families are in need of a turkey or ham or other meat for Thanksgiving.

Recording Secretary- Minutes approved

Corresponding Secretary- Condolence card for Joan Fusco and Letter for Dr. Sirois

Treasurer's Report- See Attached

Historian- Can someone please bring a camera to the President/ Principal Dinner?

Superintendent's Report- Regarding the issue of the child who wrote a threatening message on a park bench, the police and the district moved quickly to resolve the issue. English Regents will be given two weeks earlier, on Jan. 11. Enhanced Curriculum Plan will be reviewed with the elementary principals.

Arts in Education- See Attached

Audit- Everything is the same in both accounts

Council Budget- See Attached

Elementary Curriculum- See Attached

Health, Safety, and Environment- See Attached

Legislation- 397 Delegates attended convention, See Attached

Procedures- See Attached- MOTION: To accept procedures as presented, by Patty Genco, second, Approved

Secondary Curriculum- See Attached

Nominating Committee- Sue Pou passed around sign up sheet. Election will be in March. MOTION: To present and accept names for Nominating Committee, by Angela List, second, Approved

Reflections- All entries should be in or in soon. Judging should be done or over. Drop off is Nov. 30 and Dec. 1. All information is on Nassau PTA website.

Scholarship Dinner Dance- Still waiting for information from units.

Food Service- See Attached

SEPTA- General Meeting will be Nov. 29 at 7:30 p.m. it was moved due to conflict. There will be a Q and A session.

Transportation-Meeting canceled

Adjourned 8:15- Minutes prepared by Ali Harrs

Presidents Report November 18, 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 Gardiners for hosting tonight's meeting. Lee Road, you are scheduled for the January 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.

I'm always thrilled to share good news.....Please join me in extending our congratulations to Joanne Hadjiyane, 1st Vice President of East Broadway's PTA for winning the NYS PTA Jane Skrzypek award, regional level; for outstanding volunteerism and leadership.

On October 26th we hosted Nassau Region for the Presidents Rap! I thank those who attended and hope they found it as informational as I did. I have scanned and emailed the various handouts to the unit Presidents. Staying on the topic of workshops; I have been asked by a few members if we would schedule another workshop here in Levittown for our membership. Last year I had a Parliamentarian speak to us. I received a request to repeat that topic, but would like to see if there are any other topics that you may be interested in. I ask that you email me any ideas so our Executive Committee can discuss it and move forward with a program.

Over the course of the past few weeks, I have represented Council on the District Code of Conduct committee, the District Wide Safety Committee and the Professional Development committee. We have been addressing concerns and are working on some areas of revision. One area requiring a great deal of discussion is the district cell phone policy. Discussion on this topic occurred last night at our Board of Education meeting. One thing I can tell you....it's a very difficult topic to

address and even harder to all agree on. I will keep you posted as these committees continue to evolve.

In the upcoming weeks, many of us will be meeting to assist the Board of Education in establishing criteria for the selection process for the position of Superintendent of Schools. I encourage you to participate in the process. This is another opportunity to be heard.

This year, PTA has again been invited to participate in the district wide Adopt a Family program, that our Immediate Past Board President Gina Interdonato started last year. Although I did forward the letter to all units, I'd like to take a few moments and share some more information about this program.

It is a confidential program...The district Social Workers identify students and families of need. Each student or family is assigned a code (ie: Lee Road #1). A form is completed regarding more specific information....perhaps clothing and shoe sizes. This is the information that is shared with the "adopter". Last year we had students who asked for shoes and clothing that fit and others asked for toys. The "adopter" decides what and how much to purchase. I had 1 PTA member adopt a child last year, and as she spoke about it with her family and co-workers, she called me back numerous times, eventually adopting a family of 4, purchasing outfits, coats and toys. I know financially, times are tough for many including ourselves and some members may want to participate but feel they can only contribute a small amount.....gift cards are certainly welcome....from \$5.00 up. This year, I'm proud to say that your Council Executive Committee agreed to work together to adopt a family. I have also heard from 2 girl scout and 1 boy scout troops that want to adopt. If you're interested in participating, please contact me directly. We ask that all items be delivered to the District Clerks office, here at LMEC by December 17th. Although this isn't a "PTA" project, it deals directly with our students with the goal of making their holiday season a bit more pleasant. As I see it, this is just another example of how we advocate and care for the students that we represent.

As the holiday season quickly approaches, I reflect on this past year and realize how fortunate I am. I am surrounded by such a large group of nurturing

and caring people. Needless to say, my PTA peers are a large portion of that group. From my family to your....we wish you a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful Holiday season.

2nd VP Report for 11/17/10
Submitted by Patricia Genco

By-Laws; Please be reminded that your by- laws should be to Region one month before their expiration.

Taxes: by now most units should have already filed or filed an extension.

Pleas check with your schools as well as your sister schools may of our families are in need of a turkey or ham, or other meat for Thanksgiving

Have a Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Chanukah, Merry Christmas and a Wonderful New Year.

Levittown Council of PTAs

Treasurer Report

10/01/10 ~ 10/31/10

General Fund

Opening Balance:	\$8,711.69
Expenses~	
Pres/Principal Dinner (Ch#1042)	-\$240.00
Council Directory (Ch#1043)	-\$28.48
Presidents Rap Hosting (Ch#1044)	-\$69.95
BOE Recognition (Ch#1045)	-\$100.00
Closing Balance:	\$8,273.26

Scholarship Fund

Opening Balance: \$7212.72

No activity on this account

Closing Balance: \$7212.72

November 18, 2010

Arts in Education Committee report

I have made contact with some of the unit representatives, and have sent requests to the units I do not have information for.

So far, Summit Lane has held two programs: Petra Puppets Reading Rampage, and Darren Sardelli--Author/Poet. Salk has held a presentation for anti bullying for the sixth graders and will be continuing for the other grades. Lee Road Elementary has booked **The Franklin Institute Traveling Science Shows - Flight**. Abby has held The Journey to American Indians, "The Woodland Indian Experience" program.

So far all programs have been received well by both students and faculty.

I will host a get together, brainstorming session for all cultural arts chairs in the near future. So please if I don't have your unit's chairperson, please send it to me. Thank you.

Marlene Pavsic

2010 PTA Budget Council Committee

Eileen Petrullo - Co-Chairperson

Peter Calabrese – Co-Chairperson

First meeting for the committee will be held on Monday Nov. 22 at Memorial room 115 from 7pm to 8:30pm.

Nothing else to report.

Elem. Curr.

Check w/ Esta about East Broadway w/o Rep
currently

11/16

Springboard

Updating Curriculum
Piloting Language Arts
6th grade Start.
focusing on writing and reading

- word wall

Pre-AP Program

Learning about narratives
Standards divided into five categories

- reading

- writing

- Speaking

- Listening

- Media Literacy - interpret, analyze and evaluate the messages received daily from various types of media.

- Next year 4th + 5th will be prepped on what will be needed for 6th grade. It will be working backwards

Using Twist to analyze poetry

- Tone

- Word Choice

- Imagery

- Style

- Theme.

Springboard is a more structured way of reading and writing. More uniformed way of teaching. All teachers must follow same structure.

- Not enough novels in Springboard so it will be supplemented.

SATs - working w/ Kaplan. They are administering a practice tests. There will be a parent meeting, 10th & 11th graders. Online tutorial - free access to their website. About 250 students came for first practice test.

Levittown 2020 - Online survey on website.

Health and Safety Meeting
November, 10th

Pre Prom Workshop

Rough outline of how the workshop should run was put into place.
Rough outline of the student and parent prom contract was also put into place

Other programs discussed

Nassau County Bar Association- Social Host law program
Looking into finding a speaker for binge drinking

Traffic Control

Salk dismissal is once again getting out of control.
Police have been called but with cut backs they are unable to have someone there everyday.
Staff members are not supposed to direct traffic by law.

Outside Programs

December 2nd District Attorney Kathleen Rice (Long Island Youth Safety Coalition) will giving an
Internet Safety and Bullying (all forms of bullying)
fee for registration is \$20.00 deadline is Monday, November 22nd.

Review a new code of conduct

Cell phones, Cyber-bullying

Meeting Dates - time of meetings are all 10 am - Pupul Services office

December 8th

January 12th

February 9th

March 9th

April 13th

May 11th

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

Debbie spoke about the program: stating that the purpose of spring board is to prepare students so that in the future if they want to take college level courses or AP courses and to better prepare them for life.

We are not married to the actual workbook or the information in the book, but we are committed to the consistency, higher level thinking and rigor.

Amy O'Grady the English/Foreign Language chair from Salk came to speak about the Spring Board Program

They like the program because it is guiding kids to be critical thinkers, independent learners, to be able to collaborate with others to complete a task and to communicate effectively in speech and writing.

The program uses "Back-Mapping" which means they work backwards to accomplish the task.

Teaching usually begins with looking and teaching from the state standards, then working on the embedded assignments and then completing the daily assignments. With Back-Mapping you begin by looking at the end of the Unit to see what the goal is and the project that will have to be completed in the end-this is to introduce and explain the embedded assignment. Then you have the instruction and then complete the embedded assignment.

The task in Lesson 1 was to write a personal narrative. The lesson used the movie The Lion King to write a practice narrative.

They started by watching the movie, just to watch the movie, without taking notes or thinking about the characters or theme or setting. Then they watched the movie a second time taking notes about the characters and the sequence of events.

They then drafted a narrative to tell a friend the story.

Then added details and transitions

Then added sensory details and re-wrote the narrative with the information from above.

These lessons are nice because each class can adapt to the students. One class broke into groups when watching the movie for a second time, one group was responsible for making notes about the setting, another about the characters and the third about the sequence of events.

The workbook is available to students on line and can be viewed page by page. Each student should have gotten the access information for on line.

Some of the teachers are disappointed with the program because there is only 1 novel in the workbook. It is difficult to complete the lesson in the time specified.

4th and 5th grade curriculum will be re-written this summer.

Kaplan is providing students with free on-line tutorials for the ACT, PSAT and SAT. There are over 100 tutorials on line.

They are also providing 2 practice tests for the SAT. One was last Saturday and there will be another one in January. Each parent will be able to review their student's scores after taking the test. Division is tonight and MacArthur date has not been set.

English Regents will be given 2 weeks early – January 11th.

Reason: New test is only 3 hours opposed to 6 hours and they need time to come up with conversions and time to get final scores with the report cards.

Levittown 2020 Survey is on line until the end of November, as of last week there were 500 hits.

A question came up at the last meeting asking if American Sign Language could be offered as a foreign language. NYS does not offer a regent and many universities are not accepting sign language as a foreign language, so at this time the district will not be looking to offer it.

Next meeting is Jan. 20th.

Angela List

Reflections

11/18/10

Danielle Calderon

All entries should be in or in soon.
Judging should be done, or over. Drop
off is Nov. 30th and Dec. 1st. All info
is on Naussa PTA web site.

PTA COUNCIL MEETING
November 18, 2010
Food Service Liaison Report

The Committee met on Tuesday, November 16th. PTA unit representatives reported their findings from cafeteria visits. The unit representatives should be reporting their findings at their unit's General Meetings. In order to be able to track & address problems, Quality Control Checklists are being filled out during cafeteria visits. The checklist is received by the individual building principal, Linda Haas the Levittown School District Designee, the Levittown PTA Council Liaison.

Orange Smiles (also known as cut up oranges) will be on the menu at the elementary schools.

Submitted by:

Lisa Curran
PTA Council Liaison

Septa General Mts
November 29th @ 7³⁰ pm
moved from November 22nd
will be Q & A session.