

Levittown Council of PTAs
General Membership Meeting
May 12, 2011
Minutes

Call to Order 7:40

Pledge, Attendance

Debbie Rifkin invited to join and introduced Keith Snyder. Keith presented the updated physical education grading policy.

President's report- Report Attached.

Esta presented a flyer with the new school hours for 2011/2012 school year.

A letter from Colombo Realty in Levittown stating they are willing to be guest speakers re: real estate issues.

Email from NYS PTA asking members of Congress to Co-Sponsor the family Engagement Act 2011, commonly known as No Child Left Behind and it is due for reauthorization. -please help support by asking members of Congress to support.

Reminder Council End of Year Party @ Esta's house Friday June 10th at 5:30 PM.

Esta presented a plaque from Council to Dr. Sirois as a thank you for his many years in the district.

1st VP- Please turn in your folders. Committee sheet for next year is going around

2nd VP- Report Attached

Recording Secretary - Minutes approved as presented from April 2011

Corresponding Secretary - Sympathy cards were sent to Connie Fisher and Dr. Maria Fletcher. No incoming correspondence.

Treasurer's Report- See Attached. Treasurer Report is filed for audit.

Historian- No Report.

Superintendent's Report- Debbie Rifkin Dr. Sirois spoke about the budget vote on the 17th of May. Discussion took place.

Installation of Officers by Dr. Sirois and gifts were presented to Esta.

Committee Reports

Arts in Education- No Report.

Audit- Monthly Audit was done by Maria Xenios yesterday on both Scholarship and General Accounts, all was found in order.

Council Budget- No Report.

Elementary Curriculum- Report Attached

Health, Safety, and Environment- We were very close to spending the \$200, every program we looked into ended up being free. Next meeting is May 24th at 10am in Pupil Services.

Legislation- No Report

Procedures – Changes were made and the procedures have been updated on the District website.

Secondary Curriculum – Meeting is at the end of the month.

Special Committees

Scholarship Dinner Dance- Debe Howe has been in negotiations for the service fees for the 2011 Honorary Life Dinner. Last year the fee was 10%, they asked for 20%, but Debe has negotiated to 15%. She also presented the date of April 26th. Diane McPartland made a motion to use Crest Hollow Country Club for the Dinner Dance to be held on April 26th with a \$500 deposit, once the contract is received and signed. Discussion. Ginny C 2nd the motion. All in favor.

Liaisons

District Budget – No Report

Dollars for Scholars – All unit presidents got aprox. 100 flyers to distribute regarding the June 24th bowling fundraiser. Baskets are due to Lisa Vanderburg or Maria Emeric by June 10th. Next meeting is May 23rd at 7PM in the LMEC Small Board Room.

Mailings went out, scholarship applications were read and 5 scholarships will be given to both schools for \$1000. Diane McPartland is the new President.

Enrichment – No Report

Food Service- Individual Reports are good. Working on getting vending machines in compliance with the wellness policy.

GC Tech – No Report

Sr. Citizen Prom – Prom is 6:30-9 tomorrow evening. Theme is Wild, Wild West. Volunteers have been notified. If you would like to help out, please see Maria before you leave tonight.

SEPTA- No Report

Transportation – No Report

Wellness – Next meeting is May 19th

New Business –

Council Scholarship – Report Attached

New Presidents introduced:

Sara Hoffman-Gardiners, sole President

Roma Novack with Leslie at Lee Road

Hector Santiago and Mike Patwell at Summit

Division Avenue – Esta Lachow and Lisa Curran

Note Upcoming Events on the back of the agenda.

Adjourned 9:09pm - Minutes prepared by Angela List

Presidents Report May 12, 2011

I welcome each of you to our meeting tonight, and extend our welcome to members of our Board of Education who are here tonight. I am honored to introduce to you our new Superintendent Dr. James Grossane who will officially be joining the Levittown School District on July 1st. I would also like to welcome any new faces here tonight. Please join me in offering thanks to Summit Lane for hosting tonight's 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.

The school year is almost done and we have little time to finish up the work of this year. As you have heard me say meeting after meeting...in my mind, our number one priority right now is to pass our district budget so we are ready to face July 1st and begin yet another school year. Most of us have had our unit elections and our incoming Officers also need to be ready to start work on July 1st.

They need our help. If you have an officer or committee folder for Council, add your annual report and get it to Cindy soon. Put together a list of your Officers and Council Delegates, along with their email addresses, and phone numbers and send them to Dawn for next year's Council directory. Assure that your Council dues are paid up along with a deposit towards next year. If you haven't already done so, pay the insurance bill that was sent to your unit to avoid any uninsured time periods. The current Presidents recently received a mailing with lots of information to pass along.....share it! The annual Officers' contact information form (aka Form A) needs to be completed within the next few weeks. It's very easy to do electronically...I just did it for DAHS...go to www.nyspta.org, click on the link on the right, under quick links....If I can find it and complete it, so can you. If you have Co-Presidents, I encourage you to fill out the Form C and assure that both Co-Presidents are receiving all mailings. Great news...the NYS

PTA Resource Guide (better known as Esta's favorite book) will be sent out this year as a CD. Please, use it and share the information. Just because it was "always done this way" doesn't make it right.....learn. We old timers will only be here for so long, you need to learn and then teach others to carry on the work of PTA.

Make a commitment...go to one workshop, or convention or even summer experience.....the adventure will only help make you a stronger member of the PTA.

Over the course of the last few weeks I have become aware of issues occurring in some of our units that really need to cease. For the protection of all.....there are proper protocols for handling money. Does your unit use expense, remittance and cash forms for ALL financial transactions? PTA has had units where money vanished...and your insurance will only protect you if you follow the rules.....that's why there is a resource guide ...use it.

Review your bylaws and procedures...is your unit ready for the summer? Do you have both an Audit and Budget committee in place and ready to work? Do you have the correct membership on the committee? Are you approving a summer budget so you'll be able to conduct financial business while school is out?

Anyone who has even been a girl scout knows the old line" leave the area a little better than you found it". That's what I'm asking of each of you...look what you were given in September and try to find a way to make it just a little bit better for your successor. That has been my goal too. I became Council President two years ago and inherited the legacy of so many years of hard work. My goal was to keep this unit moving forward while never losing sight of the fact that it really should always be about the children. I am thankful for the many, many caring, kind and wonderful people I have met and worked with during these past years. Although a part of me is actually a bit saddened, my family is quite excited to think I may actually cook a dinner and sit quietly and eat with them!

As always I have so much to say and so little time left to say it all. Our Council and our school district are once again moving perhaps in new direction,

perhaps not...but with new leadership. I ask that each of you embrace the future with the passion and energy I've seen from you.

Installation

The installation of Officers is a memorable event. It signifies the determination of citizens to create a bridge of understanding between home and school so that harmony may prevail and a climate created that will result in the maintenance of excellence in our schools and contribute to the welfare of all children.

I would like to thank the current Council Officers for their service to the organization and discharge them of their duties, effective June 30, 2011.

Would the incoming Officers please come forward as I announce their names:

President: Cindy Mulz

1st VP: Patricia Genco

2nd VP: Dawn Nocella

Recording Secretary: Eileen Petrullo

Corresponding Secretary: Mary Rickard

Treasurer: Angela List

Historian: Scott Haas

Past President: Esta Lachow

Honorary VP: Dr. Grossane

The Officers of this association are charged with great responsibility, but they will not work alone. Let us dedicate ourselves to the objective of PTA which have been in place for over 100 years. That objective is to advocate on behalf of the children and youth.

I now declare you duly installed officers of the Levittown Council of PTAs, a unit of the NYS and National PTAs, effective July 1st, 2011. Congratulations



LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Levittown Memorial Education Center
Abbey Lane
Levittown, New York 11756



Success for Every Student

Attention Parents! Important Information

Please be advised that there will be
new school hours for all
grade levels beginning in September 2011.

The new hours will be:

High Schools - 7:27a.m. to 2:25 p.m.

Middle Schools – 7:57 a.m. to 2:55 p.m.

Elementary Schools – 9:10 a.m. to 3:28 p.m.

Busing schedules will be adjusted accordingly.

For elementary students only:
Beginning in the fall, there will be an early-morning
program available at each elementary school.
More information about hours and tuition
for this program will be forthcoming.



2nd VP Report
Submitted By Patricia Genco May 12, 2011

"If you're outraged at conditions, then you can't possibly be free or happy until you devote all your time to changing them and do nothing but that. But you can't change anything if you want to hold onto a good job, a good way of life and avoid sacrifice."

Chavez, Cesar Director of the United Farm Workers (1927-1993)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing me to serve as your second vice president for PTA Council this year. The new school year will come with a new set of challenges, new faces will be in many key positions in our district as well as council and none of know where the future will take us but our children have always been our greatest concern. That's why we, why I advocate for them. They are our greatest resource. I know we will all work through these difficult economic times and make the future bright for the future generations of Levittown I am a proud I have been part of that and hope to continue to be part of that.

Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another.
Gilbert K. Chesterton

Levittown Council of PTAs

Treasurer Report

04/01/11 ~ 04/30/11

General Fund

Opening Balance:	\$8942.56
EXPENSES ~	
Crown Trophy ~ plaque (Ch#1057)	-40.00
Closing Balance:	\$8902.56

Scholarship Fund

Opening Balance:	\$12,841.15
INCOME ~	
$\frac{1}{2}$ you $\frac{1}{2}$ me	+602.00
EXPENSES ~	
Diane McPartland ~ supplies (Ch#1047)	-35.88
Debe Howe ~ supplies (Ch#1048)	-57.00
Northside PTA ~ ref. for over payment on child's dinner (Ch#1049)	-30.00
Closing Balance:	\$13,320.27

Elementary Curriculum
April 29, 2011

135 Projectors installed this year
32 smart boards installed this year

There is a projector in every Special Education room *s there are*
10 new in secondary
6 new in elementary

The district is now shifting its electronics to elementary school
Projectors are to be installed first

Teachers need to fill out a hardware request form
23 teachers put in requests this year

It cost \$3,000 for Smart board (includes labor, smart board and projection)

ELMO

Needs projector
Costs \$2,000
8 or 9 requests so far

FINAL REPORT FOR COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP

Kimberly Smith and Jill Rovenger meet to make sure that all application were acceptable

1 member from each school met and voted on the top 4 from each school

The names ^{will be} ~~were~~ submitted to the treasure, certificate will be printed and given to
~~Egta Lachow~~
~~Ali Harris and Debe Howe~~ to present the awards at senior awards night June 2 for
Division

Kimberly Smith will be presenting at Macarthur award night

