

Levittown Council of PTAs
General Membership Meeting
January 5, 2012
Minutes

Call to Order 7:37

At the start of the meeting, we did not have a quorum. No voting will commence.

Ron Kister, Director of Department of Computer and Media Services, made a presentation on the changes to the district website and the Power School grade book. The district website will be streamlined to cut down on how many “clicks” is needed to get to particular information. Currently, there is a lot of the same information in multiple places.

The Power School grade book will be available at the end of January on the Parent Portal for secondary students only at this time. Elementary parents will only have a quick lookup page. The Power School grade book is the teachers’ grade book. Parents will have a pretty good idea of what your child’s grade will be at the end of a marking period but it won’t be final until all components are input by the teacher (ie: homework, class participation,). You will get a Connect-Ed message when all the grades are final for the quarter, as we currently do now.

Debbie Rifkin, Asst. Superintendent of Instruction, made a presentation on class ranking. The Administration proposed the elimination of class ranking starting with the class of 2013. They surveyed 39 districts and out of that total 30 have eliminated class ranking. It can have a negative effect on a student’s application since some of the more competitive schools do not look at the overall student but only class rank. In one of our high schools this school year, a 95.6% is not in the top 10% of the class. It says a lot for our students, but it eliminates students that are below that. If a school requires a class rank, then the guidance dept. will provide it for that school. This was presented to the Board of Education last month and they will be voting on it at this month’s meeting. **Update – The BOE has approved eliminating class rank effective for next years’ 2012-2013 class.**

President’s report- Report attached.

1st VP – No report.

2nd VP – No report.

Recording Secretary - Minutes approved from the November 2011 meeting.

Corresponding Secretary – Sympathy cards were sent to Joann Auer & Lynn Petrofsky. *A get well card was sent to Jill Stevens.

Treasurer’s Report- See report attached.

November & December monthly audit was conducted tonight by Pat Genco & all was in found in order.

Historian - No Report.

Esta spoke of the “Adopt-a-family” program. They helped over 181 individuals. They received heartfelt thank you from the social workers & members of a family that helped this year.

Superintendent’s Report - Debbie Rifkin filled in for Dr. Grossane. With regard to the NWEA this year, the 4, 5 & 6th grade parents have gotten notices in the mail regarding the assessments being given between January 17th and the 27th. It will be given several times a year. The assessments can give a wealth of information on where students need help & where they excel. There is no ceiling to the tests, which means there isn’t a cap to the highest mark a child can get, so the district can track the progress for our brightest students & also the students that need help academically. It is being piloted this year in grades 4, 5 & 6. The first assessment will not be as meaningful because it will be used as a benchmark but the second assessment will be more meaningful since you see the progress your child has made between January & the second assessment. The assessments are given in Math & Reading. It is an untimed test, so if a student needs more time to finish, they will be given it another time.

Committee Reports

Arts in Education- Lee Road is kicking off PARP with an author/illustrator *East Broadway is having a Native American presentation tomorrow & to kick off PARP they are having Holly Rock in to give a show.
All presidents please email their A& E chair information.

Audit - No Report.

Council Budget - Needs unit representation.

Elementary Curriculum - No Report.

Health, Safety, and Environment - No Report.

Legislation - No Report.

Procedures - No report.

Secondary Curriculum - See report attached.

GC Tech - No report.

Special Committees

Nominating – Workshop available for nominating at winter conference. Esta will advise everyone when the meeting will take place.

Reflections – Winners will be getting an invitation for a reception in April.

Scholarship Dinner Dance – See report attached.

Liaisons

Capital Project/Bond Watcher: No Report

Dollars for Scholars - The next Zumba fundraiser will March 16, 2012 from 7-9 pm. It is only \$10 for admission. The units are asked to send in a basket. The mailings that go home to the businesses & residents will be going out in February. The scholarship application will at the high schools shortly. Everyone's welcome at the meetings.

LEADD – Sunday, March 25th. The walk starts @ 10:30 am, the fair is immediately following. The Grand Marshall this year is our district social worker Susan Farkas. The theme this year is "Lights, Cameras, LEADD". The fair will include the school booths as well as healthy food & drink options provided by the wellness committee and a healthy choice game show presented by Holly Rock.

Food Service - No Report.

SEPTA- Meeting is on January 30th.

Teachers Center - No report.

Transportation – No Report.

Wellness – No report.

GC Tech – on Thursday, January 26th, will have an open house from 6:30-8:30 pm open to everyone to see & speak with the teachers for our individual programs. You will be presented the curriculum and see what each has to offer the students. All questions will be answered.

The annual GC Tech skills competition is on Thursday February 9th from 6-8pm. Students compete against their peers within the same program & judged on varies criteria. They are scored & judged by the outside industry.

Senior Citizen Prom – volunteers needed, it will be held on May 11. This year's theme is a 50s Sock Hop.

New Business

NEFCU will be doing a presentation.

Note Upcoming Events on the back of the agenda.

Adjourned 8:30pm -

Minutes prepared by Eileen Petrullo

President's Report January 5, 2012

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year. Let's hope it is a safe and healthy one for all of us. Thanks to Robin, Suzanne and East Broadway for hosting tonight's meeting. Our next meeting, which has been changed to Monday, February 13th, will be hosted by Gardiner's Avenue.

Again please be reminded that tonight's meeting is being taped and if you wish to speak please speak into one of the microphones. Thanks.

It seems like we haven't been together in quite some time and it is now time to get back to doing what we do best working cooperatively with our schools to do what is best for our children.

All presidents should have received a flier about Nassau Region's Winter Conference on January 24, 2012, at Mineola High School. This is a great opportunity for your unit and your membership to become more familiar with PTA procedures, committees and responsibilities just to name a few. 10 different workshops will be offered. All members are welcome to attend you may want to suggest this at you next meeting.

The Nominations and elections workshop provides information and knowledge on how to run a successful nominating committee. Remember the decisions of this committee will affect the future of you unit.

Training is an important part of PTA. The winter conference may provide you with the necessary information you need to improve you unit. Nassau Region representatives will be there to answer questions you may have as well.

The boutique will be available be the conference beginning at 6:45 (registration)

I would like to thank all of the units who took part in our Adopt a Family Program. You each helped play a role in improving a neighboring family's holiday. Esta will provide more details about the program for us later. And I thank you for coordinating this worthwhile event for us.

I thank you all for your commitment and dedication to our children. I know it is not easy to recruit new members and volunteers for all of your committees. Keep trying and know you are all doing a terrific job. The council executive committee is here to help in any way we can just give us a call.

And again I wish you all a very happy and healthy new year.

Levittown Council of PTAs
Treasurer Report

NOVEMBER 18, 2011 to January 5, 2012

General Fund

Opening Checkbook Balance: **\$9,562.57**

Expenses:

Total Expenses: **\$0.00**

Income:

Council Dues	Lee Road	88.00
	Summit Lane	78.00

Total Income: **\$166.00**

Closing Checkbook Balance: **\$9,728.57**

Scholarship Fund

Opening Checkbook Balance: **\$9,224.77**

Expenses:

Total Expenses: **\$0.00**

Income:

Total Income: **\$0.00**

Closing Checkbook Balance: **\$9,224.77**

Corresponding Secretary Report

PTA Council-January 2012

Sympathy Cards Sent to:

Joanne Auer

Lynn Petrofsky

Get Well Cards Sent to:

Jill Stevens

Honorary Lit -

Invitations are complete. They were handed out to Pres or Chairs if they were here this evening.

email copy will also be sent out.

Need:

Bio & Photo. Division
Cardinals
SEPTA

Bio - Wisdom

Photo - ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Secondary -

Met on Nov 30th - Spoke about Phys Ed Electives. questions were brought up @ October mtg, Keith Snyder. Dir. of Phys. Ed & Athletics.

Question came up about Dance offered in HS. - Students Change & work up a sweat - physical activity, etc.

It doesn't meet all requirements for Phys Ed - team sport, etc - it is considered one of the "Arts standards".

District is

Looking @ ~~Bar~~phys Ed. curriculum, possibly
in considering a survey to students & looking @
curriculum between 2 HS.

Smart Board Presentation.

Explained grade book.

NWEA - Math & English

grades 4-6 starting January

Jan 18 - Next Mtg.