

Levittown Council of PTAs
General Membership Meeting

January 17, 2013

Meeting called to order 7:32. Pledge of Allegiance. Attendance was taken, a quorum was established. Moment of silence for the troops fighting for us to keep us safe.

Welcome Mr. Pappas – BOE President

Recording Secretary ~ November minutes approved as written.

Treasurers' report ~ - Report attached. The accounts were audited tonight by Marie Andreski & all was found to be in order. A correction was made to the treasurer's report from last month.

Important note about Book Fairs. Under no circumstances do you give Scholastic get a resale certificate or a tax exempt certificate. Sales tax has to be submitted to Scholastic. It can be handled one of 2 ways, either receive the full amount of profit from your book fair which means the parents/students pay the sales tax at the point of sale, or you decrease your profit by *not* charging the parent/student, therefore absorbing the sales tax and the unit pays the sales tax out of the profit realized. When submitting payment to Scholastic it should be in two (2) checks.

1. A check for the amount of books sold.
2. A check for the sales tax of the books sold. The memo section of this check MUST say Sales Tax in order for it to be properly recorded that sales tax was indeed paid by your unit.

President's Report ~ Report attached.

1st VP Report ~ 2 handouts passed around for presidents only.

Adopt-a-family – 227 individuals were helped. The feedback from the families & social workers was wonderful!

Please turn off your cell phones during the meeting.

2nd VP Report ~ Swirls & Twirls – a \$700 check was deposited, they were willing to do it again.

Q. - What is the money used for? **A.** To help with the Senior Awards.

Liz Kirk made a motion to have Swirls & Twirls as a spring fundraiser and to create a line in the budget for monies received. Laura Brown seconded it, no discussion, motion passed.

Corresponding Secretary ~ No Report.

Historian's Report ~ No report.

Superintendent Report ~ **Mrs. Rifkin sat in for Dr. Grossane.** Mrs. Rifkin spoke of security of the district. All classrooms doors are kept in the locked position, in case of emergency. Some new immediate measures are now in place. All the exterior doors are locked, including the middle & high schools. All drop offs (ie: lunches, books etc) are being handed to the monitor, not any further. Visitors are being asked for ID & are required to get a visitors pass to wear. These are the immediate steps but the district is planning much more in the future. A full presentation will be done at the BOE planning session on

1/23/13. The administration wants to give the community/students/teachers a sense of security in our schools.

Maureen Sawula was stopped at East Broadway and was asked to provide IDs for her Girl Scout troop. She told them they did not, (A)It was not issued at Salk & (B) she had the proper paperwork for the room she was using. Mrs. Rifkin stated that was school specific & she would look into it. She did mention that district ID's would be a topic covered in the presentation at the planning session.

Esta Lachow asked Mrs. Rifkin to look at the cafeteria doors also while they were reviewing the schools for security. She was told by a parent that the cafeteria doors facing the parking lot at Gardiners Avenue were unlocked & anyone could walk in.

Guest Speaker – Alan Levin from Chartwells ~ He discussed the food restrictions set upon him by the USDA. The regulations are a little relaxed as the secondary schools are allowed a white flour pizza in addition to the whole flour option. In the secondary schools, the salad bar is available every day. Elementary schools are much more limited with very little wiggle room. In the coming year, all grains must be whole grain. Mr. Levin is trying to make a menu as close as possible to last years' menu even with the restrictions in place. The student lunch count is slowly increasing. Fruits &/or vegetables are required for the lunch reimbursable meal.

Q. Is the salad bar being offered at MacArthur? What are the calories allowed at the HS level?

A. It is at the deli bar & 850 max.

Lisa Curran thanked Alan Levin for all his hard work.

Q. Are the servers district employees or Chartwells employees? If a child forgets to pick up their water when purchasing the meal, why do they get charged for that same water when trying to retrieve it?

A. Chartwells employees but district residents. It is not a requirement of the USDA to part of the reimbursable meal; it must be taken at time of purchase otherwise they have to pay for it. The water given to the secondary students is a 16 oz bottle, not the 8 oz bottle recommended.

SEPTA ~ Report attached.

Committee Reports:

Audit ~ No Report.

Arts & Ed ~Report attached

Council Budget ~ Report attached. Esta Lachow reminded Maria that the committee needs to present to Council before presenting to the BOE.

Elementary Curriculum ~ Report attached.

Health & Safety ~ Report attached. A question was raised about *all* or *one* window in each classroom has to have a screen? – It is just one window that has to have a screen. Before Dr. Sirios left there was an understanding that at least 4 windows would have screens (not including the fire window), that's not the case so we're back to square one. Updates are in the process of collecting information regarding the screens. The screens are for the bugs not meant for security.

Q. Are the walkie talkies being updated?

A. Yes, Mr. Hahn is looking into updating them.

Legislation ~ No Report.

Secondary Curriculum ~ Report attached.

Dollars for Scholars ~ Report attached.

Food Service ~ Report attached.

GC Tech ~ Report attached.

LEADD walk ~ Report attached.

Teacher's Center ~ Report attached.

Transportation ~ No Report.

Reflections – Drop off was here at LMEC last week. Consensus was to keep it here permanently. Pick is next Tuesday. Please let Debbie know if you cannot pick up & she'll make arrangements with you.

Wellness ~ Report attached. Esta Lachow mentioned that Pat Genco & Lisa Curran are meeting with Dr. Grossane in the very near future & she asks keeping the topic open. She recommends that PTA Council and all PTA units be removed as liaisons to the Wellness committee. Lisa & Esta explained that the same issues have been presented year after year with no resolutions, frustration levels are very high. Debbie Rifkin feels confident that a resolution could be found. **Q.** Who makes up this committee? **A.** Community members, each PTA unit, health teachers, physical education teachers, principals, social workers, Alan from Chartwells are all on it. This is a federally mandated committee. PTA is supposed to be part of this committee.

Honorary Life/Senior Awards – Report attached.

ByLaws ~ Report attached. Angela List made a motion to accept the proposed Bylaws changes as stated. Maureen Sawula seconded, no further discussion, motion passed.

Meet the Candidates ~ No Report.

Nominating ~ Report attached.

Q. For a nomination for the incoming slate, does that person have to have been a president of a unit?

A. Yes, the person must have been a past or current president & also a member of contributing to PTA Council this past year.

Old Business ~

New Business ~ DAHS is holding a collection "Teens for Jeans" for homeless teens; they are having their annual Sweeps fundraiser on March 8th. Admission is \$5.

Abbey Lane is holding their annual fundraiser at Verdi's Restaurant on March 16th.

Community Recognition dinner is recognizing PTA as a whole. It is being held on March 14th. It is an allowable expense by each unit. Please come!

Please note dates to remember on the back of agenda.

Meeting adjourned 9:25pm

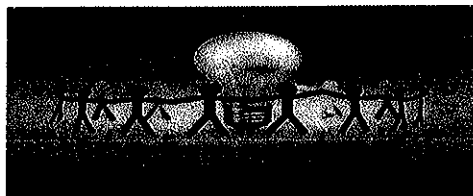
Minutes prepared by Eileen Petrullo

Levittown Council of PTAs
General Membership Meeting Agenda
January 17th, 2013

**Please be advised that these meetings are being recorded.
If you wish to address council, please step up to the microphone to assure you can be heard.*

- I. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Roll Call/Establish Quorum
- III. Approval of Minutes- Recording Secretary
- IV. Treasurers' Report- Reconciliation
- V. Executive Committee Reports
 - A. President Report
 - B. 1st VP Report
 - C. 2nd VP Report
 - D. Corresponding Secretary
 - E. Historian Report no report
- VI. Assistant Superintendent Report - Debbie Rifkin
- VII. *Guest Speaker- Alan Levin from Chartwell's*
- VIII. SEPTA Report
- IX. Standing Committee Reports
 - A. Audit
 - B. Arts in Education
 - C. Council Budget
 - D. Elementary Curriculum
 - E. Health, Safety and Environment
 - F. Legislation
 - G. Secondary Curriculum
- X. Liaison Reports
 - A. Dollars for Scholars
 - B. Food Service
 - C. GC Tech
 - D. LEADD
 - E. Teacher Center
 - F. Transportation -no report
- XI. Special Committee Reports
 - A. Reflections
 - B. Honorary Life -Senior Award Dinner Dance
 - C. Bylaws
 - D. Meet the Candidates
 - E. Nominating
- XII. Old Business- Swirls and Twirls
- XIII. New Business
- XIV. Adjournment

Switch all cellular devices to vibrate-sign off and tune in; we have a lot to talk about.



Important Dates to Remember

- 01/21/13 MLK Day School Closed
- 01/23/13 BOE Planning Session LMEC 7:30PM/ Nassau Region PTA Conference
- 01/25/13 2nd Quarter Ends
- 02/04/13 President/Superintendent Meeting LMEC 9:30AM LMEC
- 02/05/13 Secondary Curriculum 9:30AM LMEC/ Health & Safety 10:30AM Small Bd. Rm.
- 02/13/13 Food Service 9:30AM/Board of Education Reg. Meeting /PTA Recognition 7:30PM
- 02/14/13 PTA Council Meeting 7:30PM / Nominations and Elections
- 02/18-19 School Closed (re-opens 2/20/13)
- 02/25/13 SEPTA 7:30PM LMEC
- 02/27/13 Board of Education Planning Session 7:30PM LMEC
- 03/01/13 Elementary Curriculum 9:30PM LMEC

Levittown Council of PTAs
Treasurer Report

NOVEMBER 16, 2012 TO JANUARY 16, 2013

General Fund

Opening Checkbook Balance: **\$9,112.98**

Expenses:

Banking Expense

2.00

Convention

32.41

Total Expenses: **\$34.41**

Income:

Total Income: **\$0.00**

Closing Checkbook Balance: **\$9,078.57**

Senior Award Fund

Opening Checkbook Balance: **\$11,466.12**

Expenses:

Total Expenses: **\$0.00**

Income:

Total Income: **\$0.00**

Closing Checkbook Balance: **\$11,466.12**

Updated

Levittown Council of PTAs
Treasurer Report

OCTOBER 19, 2012 TO NOVEMBER 15, 2012

General Fund

Opening Checkbook Balance: **\$9,137.70**

Expenses:

Banking Expense	2.00
BOE Recognition	99.92
President/Principal Dinner	240.00

Total Expenses: **\$341.92**

Income:

Membership Dues	317.20
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Total Income: **\$317.20**

Closing Checkbook Balance: **\$9,112.98**

Scholarship Fund

Opening Checkbook Balance: **\$11,468.12**

Expenses:

Banking Expense	2.00
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Total Expenses: **\$2.00**

Income:

Total Income: **\$0.00**

Closing Checkbook Balance: **\$11,466.12**

Levittown Council of PTAs
Proposed Budget
2012 - 2013

General Fund:	Proposed	Actual	Proposed	Actual to Date
	2011/2012	2011/2012	2012/2013	2012/2013
Starting Balance	\$8,898.66	\$8,898.66	\$8,949.23	\$8,949.23
INCOME				
Membership Dues	\$1,300.00	\$1,377.60	\$1,200.00	\$1,039.60
Other	\$0.00		\$0.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$10,198.66	\$10,276.26	\$10,149.23	\$9,988.83
EXPENSES				
Administrative Functions	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$28.94
AIDS Awareness	\$6.10	\$0.00	\$6.10	
Banking Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$4.00
BOE Recognition	\$100.00	\$99.91	\$100.00	\$99.92
Carry Over	\$6,142.56	\$0.00	\$5,713.13	
Convention	\$1,000.00	\$693.45	\$1,400.00	\$497.41
Get a Voice	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	
Health & Safety	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	
Historian	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	
In House Training	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$550.00	
Installation	\$50.00	\$37.80	\$50.00	
Miscellaneous	\$200.00	\$58.00	\$200.00	
Office Supplies	\$150.00	\$67.87	\$150.00	\$9.99
Pres/Prin Dinner	\$300.00	\$240.00	\$300.00	\$240.00
Publications	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	
Workshops/Conferences	\$500.00	\$130.00	\$500.00	\$30.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$10,198.66	\$1,327.03	\$10,149.23	\$910.26
SR AWARD FUND:				
Starting Balance	\$9,224.77	\$9,224.77	\$11,961.62	\$11,961.62
INCOME				
Dinner Dance Income	\$25,000.00	\$30,770.00	\$25,000.00	\$8.50
TOTAL INCOME	\$34,224.77	\$39,994.77	\$36,961.62	\$11,970.12
EXPENSES				
Carry Over	\$8,000.00		\$8,500.00	
Banking Supplies	\$100.00	\$48.50	\$100.00	\$4.00
Dinner Dance Expenses	\$24,024.77	\$23,968.05	\$24,311.62	\$500.00
PTA Senior Awards	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	
Senior Award Supplies	\$50.00	\$16.60	\$50.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$36,174.77	\$28,033.15	\$36,961.62	\$504.00

**9/20/12-Scholarship Changed to Senior Award

Levittown Council of PTAs Presidents' Report

Good Evening! On behalf of the entire PTA Council, Happy New Year! Welcome back to council after what we hope was an enjoyable holiday break. There is always a renewed enthusiasm upon returning to school after the New Year; the thought of spring, new schedules and programs, warmer weather, especially so this year I'm sure many of you share my sentiment that I am happy to see last year gone. We have laughed a little, cried a lot and through it all we have survived with a renewed sense of family, friends and community. We have a better appreciation of what is important, what is not, a better understanding that our world is changing and with it we must change, adapt what we do and how we do it. As we look to change many of the things we do in our daily lives, the PTA, the nation and this district are also looking to keep up with those changes. If you have not noticed some of the changes already such as the visitor policies at the schools, your children probably have.

This year started with the step up in security procedures in our buildings. We had a brief yet very informative President/Superintendent meeting; Our Board of Education recognized the great work Esta Lachow and Gina Interdanato did on the Adopt- a family program, making this a memorable holiday for 277 people. The President's/ Principals dinner was a big success, where yet again the students of the Long Island High School for the Art amaze me with their talents. Their rendition of "America the Beautiful" left the audience with goose bumps. And yes, MacArthur won the napkin throw down. These few weeks of the New Year had the newspaper was filled with the accolades of many of our students. Reminding us all of the surmountable achievements that all of our children are capable of striving towards. Last night the district held their "DASA" workshop (Dignity for All Students Act presentation). The speaker spoke of what Bullying is, the ways that the district, the schools, teachers and staff are being trained to recognize it, be empathetic to the victim, give them skills to cope, how to react and give the sideliners the tools to stop bullying the minute they see it happen.. He also spoke about how parents are an important part of the team to lessen/eradicate bullying. It should not be acceptable any longer to say "it's just kids being kids", they'll grow out of it, ignore the situation or try to solve the problem for our children. The bully of 15, 20 30 years ago is not the same as today. Society has changed, things are different; we have social media, computers, and cell phones. It only takes one click to send a lifelong damaging remark about an individual to thousands of people.

I have copies of the District policy as well as the DASA itself for you to look at. You can also go to the district web site for this information as well as forms for reporting incidents to the district. You will start to hear our children come home discussing character education The "DASA " will take our Get a Voice program and enhance it, incorporating it into the daily school days of our children from K thru 12. The golden rule will be in our schools, it should already be in our homes.

Next week Nassau Region will be hosting its annual winter Conference. There are many worthwhile workshops. I hope to see all of our units participate in training.

The PTA will be recognized by the Board of Education on February 13th. Please make every effort to attend. If you cannot attend please try to have a representative there for your unit; RSVP to myself or Kathy Aldous. Community Recognition dinner will be held on Thursday, March 14, 2013 here at LMEC. The dinner is \$15 and is an allowable expense. This is a wonderful (and early) evening. Please consider attending.

This year will be filled with many changes and challenges as parents and as a PTA. You may have heard me say from time to time, "Act like a Tree and Bend". We need to keep an open mind, be flexible, hold strong to which we are while visualizing a brighter future and as always act in the better interest of all children.

I would like to remind you that our meetings are recorded. Please use the microphone when addressing council, be respectful of others when they do speak, we might not always agree, but we can be kind. Please put your phones to vibrate.

Thank you to Debbie Rifkin for attending our meeting this evening. Welcome to the Board of Education members also in attendance.

Abbey Lane- Thank you for hosting tonight's meeting. Division Ave. will be our host next month.

February 1st, the IRS tax extension deadline is approaching. I am confident that you all have filed already. If you haven't, don't forget.

I want to thank you all for "All" that you do for our children.

Please keep the line of communication open. Contact us with your questions or concerns. We are here to help in any way we can.

SAVE THE DATE

Nassau Region PTA
Arts-Education Showcase
Monday, April 8, 2013
The Cradle of Aviation Museum

Please email me at babyfrog27@aol.com your arts and education programs monthly please.

SEPTA

Please come out and join us Monday January 28th @7:30 at LMEC to welcome Andrew Adesman. Andrew is a pediatrician, author, educator, and father. The presentation for the evening is, "Ways of Dealing with ADHD." Dr. Adesman will be providing us with expert information on aspects of ADHD and ways to deal with ADHD-medication and other alternatives.

Tracy Voneschen, Levittown Director of Special Education, will be talking about new Diplomas/Certificates that the state is proposing as well as the connection of Common Core to our Special Education programs.

Write down all your questions and concerns, come to the meeting, and join us for an amazing informative evening.

Arts and Education Report

January 17, 2013

Abbey

East Broadway

On Monday January 28, 2013 East Broadway is kicking off their PARP program. The morning assembly will be presented by Darlene Graham. Ms Graham is a popular children's performer that uses music and movement to bring literature to life, she travels all over the tri-state area and has been featured on Sesame Street. This performance will be presented in two assemblies for grades 3-5 and then K-2 graders. The Art teacher's have helped us by preparing "props" with the students as per Ms Graham's request. We are also asking that the children wear hats to school that day as Ms Graham will be featuring the story "Caps for Sale", we call it "Hats off to Reading."

The celebrating continues into the evening with a performance presented by Lee Knight who also specializes in bringing literature to life. Ms. Knight will be featuring the works of Dr. Seuss. The entire school will be divided into two sessions broken down by last name, A-M 6:30-7:00/N-Z 7:15-7:45.

January 25, 2013 the 4th graders will be immersed in a full day of hands on learning about Natives Americans past and present. The hands on activities capture the children's attention and imagination, providing a learning experience they will never forget. The program is "Journey into American Indian Territory."

Gardiners

In December, Prismatic Magic visited and memorized the students with an assembly that featured appropriately -themed current pop songs choreographed with lasers. The students sang along while following the star of the show a laser penguin named Squeaky.

They will be returning this month with a second assemble to teach the students how lasers work and how they are used in world today.

On January 29, 2013 Art Power will be performing a musical production of "The Engine That Could." This is a literature and value based musical that brings the book to life on the stage for students in grades K through 2nd.

Lee Road

iGame4 visited Lee Road School Thanksgiving week. This program promotes physical fitness and a healthy lifestyle for children by integrating active video games into school curriculum. The PE teacher arranged the class schedules so that all students experienced the program twice that week.

Today Brad Zupp - owner of Simply Sensible Entertainment. He will be conducting 2 different assemblies.

1st is 'FUNance for Kids' for grades K through 3. Financial concepts such as needs vs. wants - where money comes from and goes - how and why to save money - financial goal setting - spending plans and budgeting - what debt is and how to avoid it will be presented in an age appropriate way via juggling / magic / comedy / plate spinning / storytelling / audience interaction.

2nd is 'Feats of Memory' for grades 4 and 5. Using juggling / unicycle / comedy / audience interaction - he will explain how the brain makes memories - how to make any school subject more interesting and memorable - what the forgetting curve is and why it's important to grades - the importance of homework and review - the specific keys to having an amazing memory. This should help these students with the upcoming NYS tests and help prepare them for Middle School challenges.

Northside

Summit

Salk/ MacArthur

Wisdom

Wisdom Lane is having From the Fires: Voices of the Holocaust for our eighth grade students. This is a curriculum based event as the eighth grade covers this point in history. Date is April 16 at 1:30 in auditorium; all are welcome to come see this moving performance.

Divison- no report

Correspondence Report-

None

Honorary Life-

Invitations were sent to all Chairpeople and presidents. RSVP Date is March 22. Just a point of information. The title was changed from Scholarship Dinner Dance to Senior Award Dinner Dance as we are no longer permitted to use the word scholarship, as we have previously discussed.

Secondary Curriculum Report January, 2013

Mr. Costello-Social Studies Curriculum Associate presented an overview of the Social Studies curriculum.

56% of our students are getting an 85% or higher on the Global Regents
71% of our students are getting an 85% or higher on the US History Regents

Talked about the elective options in the department

There will be some changes to the course catalog next year. You will start to see "Pre-AP" instead of "Honors" in some cases to get students in the mindset that these classes lead to the AP course.

ELA Common Core- There is an Academic Vocabulary list consisting of 358 words that has been presented to each department. The Curriculum Associates will claim the words on the list that pertain to their subject matter and they will then be responsible for making sure those words are taught as a part of the curriculum.

For instance: Metaphor would likely be covered in English
Hypothesize might be taught in Science
Approximate might be taught in Math

Subject: Budget Committee Report

From:

To:

Date: Thursday, January 17, 2013 5:52 PM

Budget Committe Report

Meet with Mark Flowers in December these are a few items we discussed.

- Libraires - How important do you think they are to bring back to elementary schools?
- Enough Clubs- How many would be interested in having a Peer Mediation Club to deal with bullying?
- Enrichment - Would you like to see this come back
- Elective's are they what parents support.

(Sent Request thru PTA Council President) Asked PTA Presidents to speak to principals to see what they feel the children may need.

Received Committee List from Pat. Sent out email to have a meetting with committee next week, waiting to see who is available.

Maria J Xenios
mjx317@aol.com

LEADD Report for January 17th, 2013
Submitted by: Lisa Vanderburg

The Annual LEADD Walk and fair will be on Sunday April 7, 2013 at LMEC. The Walk will begin at 10:30AM immediately followed by the fair which will end around 1:30 PM. This year's theme is LEADD with Dignity. Our Grand Marshals will be Alice Anderson and Jackie Levine. Entertainment will be provided by Levittown Dance and karate groups.

Dollars for Scholars Report for January 17th, 2013
Submitted by: Lisa Vanderburg

Dollars for Scholars Next meeting is January 28, 2013 in the Small board Room at LMEC at 7:00 PM. We request that all units send a representative.

Nominating Committee Report for 1/17/13

Submitted by Cindy Mulz:

The nominating committee will meet on Wednesday Jan 30, 2013 at 7PM at 89 Periwinkle Road. If you are unable to attend, please have your alternate there.

Any letters of intent of office should be sent to Cindy Mulz at 732 Francis Drive Wantagh NY 11793 or here at LMEC, addressed- PTA Council 150 Abbey Lane Levittown 11756 , Attn: Cindy Mulz ,Nominating Committee ; before Jan 30th .

Council Notes
Jan 17th

Elementary Curriculum

We've had 2 meeting since the last Council Meeting. December 7 and January 9

The District held a parent workshop on Common Core (the Power Point presentation can be found on the district website under the Instruction Dept.) Parents had many concerns.

- Common core is not being phased in for the older students
- Parents feel they can not help their kids, especially in Math-they feel stupid. (The Envision Math program has a website that goes lesson by lesson showing how the lessons are taught with problems you can do on line-every student has a user id and password to access the site-if you don't have it ask your child's teacher to send it home for you)
- Parents were concerned about the new report card for 2-5

Website to visit Kahn Academy

Elementary schools are piloting new ELA program-Journeys-the teachers are very happy with it.

Very teacher/student friendly-online resources for all teacher even those not piloting program.

District is waiting until assessments before approval of program-be sure fully aligned with assessments.

January Meeting

District is a little ahead of the curve with the new 2-5 report cards-other districts are looking into common core aligned report cards and are asking for ours as a template.

Realized grade ranges should not be in parent handbook and will be removed for the 13/14 school year. Report card committee will be coming together again in the next couple weeks to look at other ways to make report card more friendly and work on k-1.

Science standards for K-12 will be changing, the State dept of ed released a draft on 1-8-although did not specify date of implementation.

Strategic Committee will be formed to come up with a 5 year plan for the district - 3 full days in Feb-form action teams to research best practices and they will come back at the end of the year with recommendation.

Subject: Fw: Health and Safety

From:

To:

Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2013 1:07 PM

Health and Safety meeting Jan. 8, 2013 10:30 a.m. Small board room

The Save committee consists of Police department, Fire department, School principals and a PTA council member. They meet to start reviewing our safety procedures.

The district also meet with BOCES to go over our plan of safety.

Some items discussed:

Panic buttons in all schools

Computer alert system for all staff

Buzzer/camera system

High Schools:

All personal have badges with chips in them. This allows them to enter doors that are locked at all times. All cameras can now be viewed by district personal.

Middle Schools:

All personal now have the same badge lanyards that the high schools have.

District wide:

Connect ed text messages are being worked on.

Screens in windows are being looked into. All rooms should have at least one screen in place by now. All emergency escape windows can not have a screen on them for safety reasons. Please inform the health and safety chair know if there are no screens in a certain class room.

All school doors are to be locked at all times.

Anyone entering a building will be buzzed in and asked to show a picture id.

Next meeting will be held on Feb. 5, 2013 @ 10:30 a.m. in the small board room

Food Service

Meetings: November 21, December 19 and January 16

As of November 21st 99% of the food that was lost due to power outage at schools during hurricane was replaced. Claim will be filed with the insurance carrier.

Answer Vending not doing what they should be doing and have not been for some time. Parting ways with Answer Vending.

Alan will be handling vending machines, not a 3rd party vendor.

My Healthy Thing- according to them-all machines are in place. They gave us a new list of products-Mark, Bob and Kim will research nutritionals and approve. Bob will verify with MHT for tasting dates.

As of the December 19th meeting MHT was given a formal written warning. Machines need to be on timers, commission rates were not accurate, staff machines were missing still in certain buildings and one machine was against fire code.

Answer Vending-all machines have been removed-Alan from Chartwells will be installing 14 machines district wide. There were some concerns regarding what schools had snack lines and increased line wait times, the cook at Division says there has been no increase in line wait-snack line is located near salad bar/deli line.

Govt lifted the max on protein and grain requirements. Still have to follow sodium, calories, fat, fruit/veg and whole grain requirements.

Calorie levels Elem-550-650
MS – 600-700
HS 750-850

Now Elem-6, MS-7, HS 8 nuggets

Next school year 100 has to be whole grain, 14/15 reduce sodium-this will eliminate nuggets and fries as they are being produced from vendors now,

Salk-2 snack windows-drink/snack -2 beverage machines coming (water & Snapple)
Mac-Drink machines-3 Snapple-snack on line and has 1 ice cream
DHS-deli line has snack 2 bev machines coming
WLMS-now 2 ice cream mach. & 2 bev machines-snack on line with all 4 lines.

Elem-now getting bagged apple slices.

Breakfast has remained flat-breakfast regs will change next year-will be grain requirement, but no grain max and fruit required.

At our meeting yesterday (16th) Alan stated that the machines in the cafeterias now have timers on them and will be off as of 2:30.

Due to the changes in the federal requirements for protein some of the schools are serving double hamburger patties, we had bought 1.5 oz to meet the stricter requirements,

Switched the pizza crust, increased nuggets as previously reported from the last meeting, increased amount of taco meat and increased French toast and mozz. Sticks

Alan received an email one evening that the milk distributor was no longer in business, had to quickly find a replacement, but that meant that some schools had no milk for a day.

Spoke about getting together with Chartwells and individual buildings to give students a survey on the lunch program to get more students input-discussed several ways to implement this.

Angela List



Council Report – January 17, 2013

On Thursday, February 7th, GC Tech will hold its annual Skills Competition. Students from all of our programs will get the opportunity to demonstrate their skills as administrators, faculty, parents, friends and neighbors observe them hard at work. The Competition is from 6:00-8:00 pm in the gymnasium followed by an award ceremony in the auditorium to honor those students who place 1st, 2nd, & 3rd in their competition. Everyone is welcome to attend. Admission is free.

As a reminder: if your child or your neighbor's child is interested in any of the programs at GC Tech, they can call the main office at 520-8330 ext. 650 to schedule a tour or sit in during class.

The programs offered are: Culinary Arts, Police Science/EMT & First Aid/CPR, Medical Assisting, Carpentry, Architectural Drafting, Electrical Technology, Computer Animation, Automotive Technology, Graphic Communication, and Cosmetology.

Teacher Center

Enrollment for courses being offered this year is very low. Nora Denson, the director of the policy board, inquired with some surrounding districts to see if our prices were comparable. Seems enrollment is down everywhere, even in some of the districts that don't have a fee. General consensus of the board is that it's not about the money, but more about the fact that teachers just don't have the time they used to. All the changes coming from the state has left many teachers without much spare time. Committee will try offering courses at each school. This will save time, since no one will have to travel to Memorial and secondary teachers will not have to wait for elementary teachers as their day ends almost an hour apart.

Also because the committee is funded in part by the state it needs to follow guidelines, there needs to be certain representation on the committee. We are looking for someone who owns a business in Levittown to sit on the committee.

If you know of anyone, please let me know.

Submitted by,

Dawn Nocella

PTA rep for Levittown Teachers Center

Levittown Council of PTAs
General Meeting
January 17, 2013

Wellness:

Keith Snyder, Committee Chair reports that they are working on getting candy removed from MacArthur's School Store. A student that works at the school store reports that candy is still being sold in the MacArthur school store, Ms. Zeller, the teacher who runs the school store at DAHS reports that she is following the District Directive that went out in September and she is selling fruit roll ups, Pop Chips, Cliff Bars and Special K bars, etc. She hopes to have a soft serve yogurt machine in the school store next year.

Keith is trying to figure out how to get the two school stores on the same page and thinks maybe he should have a meeting with the two teachers who run the school stores so that they are on the same page.

One of the staff members brings up that while the school stores are made to sell healthy items, various clubs are selling candy as a fundraiser and that this sends a mixed message to the students. Tony Goss recommends that within the school day all items must conform to Wellness Policy and that after the school day, the Wellness Policy does not apply. Keith states he will present this proposal.

Keith stated that in previous years we received \$40,000 per month in commissions, but that this year that number is down. As I understand it, this was a \$40,000 per year minimum guarantee. He feels that maybe the Wellness Policy needs to be relaxed.

Maturation films. It has been discussed at several Wellness meetings that the Maturation films are outdated and need to be changed. Valerie Spicer has information on new maturation films. Keith will form a committee of Health Teachers to pick new films. Keith states that he has already presented this ~~been~~.

Changing the grades that Health is taught is discussed. It has been discussed at several previous meetings and previously at the March 2012 Wellness meeting the committee voted to recommend moving Health to grades 6, 8 & 9.

The Challenger Program is being piloted at Salk. This is a chance for special needs students to be involved on a sports team. Salk also has Fun Fitness Fridays.

The square dance ^{unit} ~~unit~~ is about to begin at MacArthur. Keith was told that there were student complaints at DAHS about Square dance. The students would prefer a different type of dance. The students were also concerned about square dancing during a flu epidemic. Keith wanted to know the names of the students and said he had heard nothing about this and that DAHS has a fine phys ed program. A parent from MacArthur said her 3 boys would not be happy having to square dance. The teacher from Salk said they have not taught square dance there for more than 4 years.

This will be my last report as PTA Council Wellness Liaison due to my frustrations with the committee and my frustrations with some of the disregard to the district wellness policy. I have tendered my resignation at today's Wellness meeting, informed the PTA Council President and at this time request that Council re-evaluate its position on the Wellness Committee. ~~scheduled on app 6~~ ^{informed} 27 Dr. Grossane.

Submitted by:

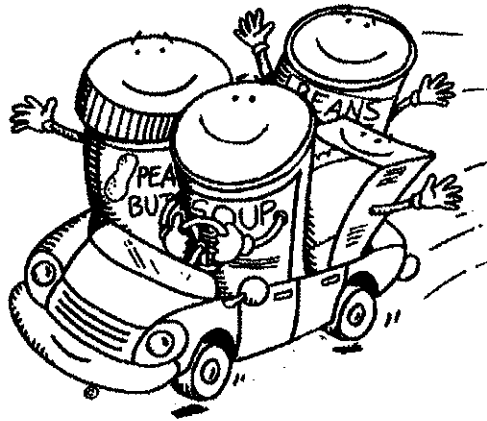
Lisa Curran

Bylaws report 1/17/13
Submitted by Patricia Genco

The proposed changes to the Levittown Council of PTAs bylaws are as follows;

- \$150 annual dues for each unit.
- The removal of the historian position.
- Month of election meeting to March. (Now we announce the slate and vote in February)

Food Drive



The Food Pantry housed at WLMS needs your help!

The volunteers at the Food Pantry have been busy filling the needs of our families and need your help. Supplies are low on pretty much all items. Some suggestions are listed below;

Tomato Sauces	Tissues	Spaghetti O's/ Ravioli's	Macaroni & Cheese
Laundry Detergent	Hot Chocolate	Hot Cereals	
Canned/boxed Potatoes	Snack Items for lunches	Juice Boxes	
Juice	Baking Goods	Paper Towels	Foil/Plastic Wrap
Paper	Napkins	Shampoo/Conditioners	Soap
		Cleaning Products	Household

Grocery Store gift cards are always welcome (used for perishables such as milk, vegetables, and meats).

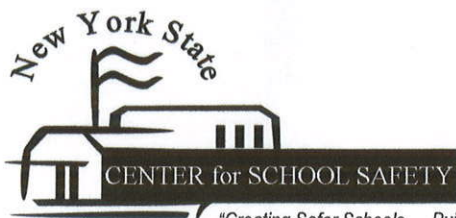
Please bring your donated items to the Wisdom Lane Middle School Main Office.

Also, there are convenient drop offs at two locations with bins marked WLMS Food Pantry.

⇒ 40 Meander Lane Levittown, NY

⇒ 276 Gardiners Ave. Levittown, NY

Any question or inquires contact Nina Glenn, Social Worker at
Wisdom Lane at 520-8370.



*"Creating Safer Schools.....Building by Building"
"Creando Escuelas Seguras.....Escuela Por Escuela"*

New York State Center for School Safety
175 Route 32 North
New Paltz, NY 12561
Phone: 845-255-8989
Fax: 845-255-3836
E-mail: scss@ulsterboces.org
<http://nyscenterforschoolsafety.org>

September 2010

FACT SHEET

The Dignity for All Students Act

Frequently Asked Questions

What is The Dignity Act?

The Dignity for All Students Act (The Dignity Act) was established with the broad legislative intent to provide a school environment free of discrimination and harassment.

What does New York State Education Department (NYSED) have to do?

- The Commissioner shall promulgate regulations to assist schools in implementing this legislation.
- The Commissioner shall create procedures under which material incidents of discrimination and harassment on school grounds or at a school function are reported to the department on an annual basis.
- The Commissioner shall provide direction which may include development of model policies related to preventing discrimination and harassment.

What does my Board of Education have to do?

- Develop policies intended to create a school environment that is free from discrimination or harassment.
- Develop guidelines for school training programs to discourage discrimination or harassment that are designed to:
 - ▶ Raise awareness and sensitivity of school employees to potential discrimination or harassment and;
 - ▶ To enable employees to prevent and respond to discrimination or harassment.
- Develop guidelines relating to the development of non-discriminatory instructional and counseling methods and require that at least one staff member be trained to handle human relations issues

Who is protected under this legislation?

Identified in the legislation are those who are subjected to intimidation or abuse based on actual or perceived

race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender or sex.

Do schools need to provide this information to the public?

A plain language copy of the board approved Code of Conduct must be made available to the public.

How does The Dignity Act define "Harassment?"

Harassment is defined as "creation of a hostile environment by conduct or by verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional or physical well-being;..."

What training will schools have to provide?

School districts will need to develop policies intended to create an environment that is free of discrimination or harassment and to establish guidelines for school training programs.

Why is The Dignity Act necessary?

The Act provides a response to the large number of harassed and stigmatized students skipping school and engaging in high risk behaviors by prohibiting discrimination in public schools and establishing the basis for protective measures such as training and model policies. The Dignity Act takes a major step in creating more nurturing environments in all our schools.

How does The Dignity Act relate to SAVE?

NYSED with the New York State Center for School Safety (NYSCSS) is developing guidance to correlate components of SAVE as they relate to The Dignity Act.

When is The Dignity Act effective?

The Dignity Act becomes effective on July 1, 2012.

COME TO OUR NEXT MEETING TUESDAY JANUARY 28th @ 7:30

LEVITTOWN
SEPTA

Special
Education
Parent
Teacher
Association

presents

Andrew Adesman, MD

Chief, Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics
Steven & Alexandra Cohen Children's Medical Center

Professor of Pediatrics at the Hofstra North
Shore-LIJ School of Medicine

Presenting

Ways of Dealing with ADHD

Andrew Adesman, MD, is a pediatrician, author, educator, and father. His interest in parenting myths led him to write *BabyFacts: the Truth about Your Child's Health from Newborn through Preschool*. This new and unique book debunks more than 165 common parenting misconceptions about children's health, growth, and development.

When Adesman is not busting parenting myths, he's chief of developmental & behavioral pediatrics at the Steven and Alexandra Cohen Children's Medical Center of New York in New Hyde Park. Adesman is board certified in pediatrics, neurodevelopmental disabilities, and developmental & behavioral pediatrics.

Overview of Workshop:

👋 Dr. Adesman will be providing us with expert information on aspects of ADHD.

👋 Ways of dealing with ADHD- with medication and other alternatives

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL US AT LEVITTOWNSEPTA@GMAIL.COM

ALSO VISIT US ON FACEBOOK AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LEVITTOWN.SEPTA

2013 Honorary Life Recipients

Abbey Lane
Vicky Bartolomeo
Division Avenue High School
Gerard Marzignano
East Broadway
Robin Cammarata
Gardiners Avenue
Nancy Att
Lee Road
Valerie Davie
MacArthur High School
Kathleen Vaughan Ware
Northside
Gerri Butler
Salem Middle School
Angela Spasato
SEPTA
Eisenberger
Summit Lane
Jean Jenetti
Wisdom Lane Middle School
Carole Going

Levittown Council of PTAs
Executive Committee

President
Patricia Genco
1st Vice President
Estel Lachow
2nd Vice President
Dawn Noce
Recording Secretary
Eileen Petrucci
Corresponding Secretary
Mary Rickard
Treasurer
Angela List
Historian
Donna Waitkus
Past President
Cynthia Muz

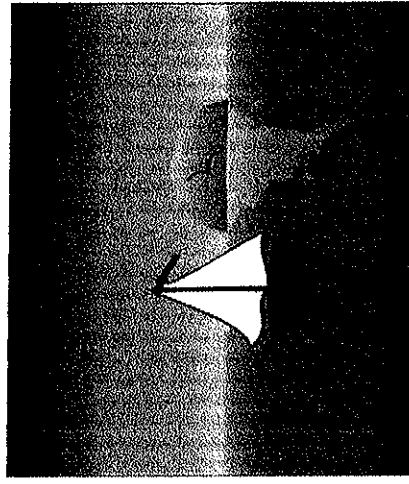
Driving Directions

Southern State Parkway Exit 28A N
Northern State Parkway Exit 36B N
L. Expressway Exit 44 N
to

Seaford Oyster Bay Expressway Northbound to Exit 4E
Follow 25 East (Jericho Tpke) for approximately 1/2
miles to Crest Hollow Country Club on the left.

Levittown Council
of PTAs
Invites you to:

Sail the Night
Away



Annual
Senior Award
Dinner Dance
April 25, 2013

RSVP by March 22, 20 3

Please return this completed form with \$60 check made payable to: **Levittown Council of PTAs Senior Award Fund** and return to Mary Rickard Honorary Life Chairman c/o PTA Council at Division Avenue High School.

Name:

Phone:

(Please give one phone # as a contact when submitting as a group)

(We would like to be seated with:

(Please check one)

Abbey	Division
East Broadway	Gardiners
Lee Road	MacArthur
Northside	Sak
SEPTA	Summit
Wisdom	Board Of
	Education
Central Office	Council

List additional names (we will honor seating requests as close as possible)

1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
 6. _____
 7. _____
 8. _____
 9. _____
 0. _____
- Tota # of guests _____
- Tota Enclosed \$ _____

If you can not attend, but would like to contribute to the scholarship fund, please send a check to your chairperson. Write donation in the memo line.

Thank You!

Levittown Council of PTAs
Senior Award Dinner Dance

Thursday April 25, 20 3

Cocktail Hour 6pm 7pm

Dinner 7pm 10pm

Crest How Country Club

8325 Jericho Turnpike

Woodbury, New York 797

*(5 6) 692 8000 *

Menu

Cocktail Hour/Open Bar

Sad

Chicken

Or

Seafood

Fresh Vegetables & Wild Rice

Dessert

Fresh Brewed Regular & Decaf Coffee

& Tea

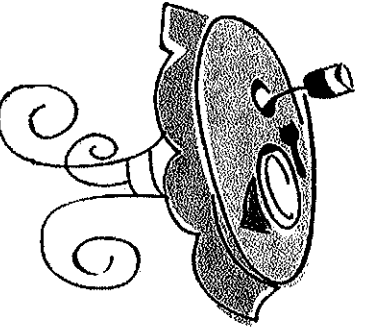
\$60.00 per person

RSVP by March 22, 20 3

NO refunds will be given after

April 9, 20 3

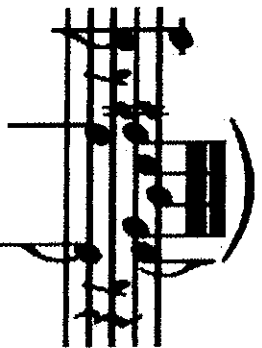
* If you have any questions, please contact your unit chairperson, please do not call the Crest How Country Club.



Levittown Council of PTAs

Senior Award

The general purpose of this award is to acknowledge the student whose contributions to the community are outstanding. Your donation for this dinner helps provide an annual monetary award for the seniors of Division Avenue and General Douglas MacArthur High Schools.



MUSIC BY:

RON JAMES ENTERTAINMENT

Honorary Life Membership

Honorary Life Membership is awarded to individuals in recognition of their distinguished service to children and youth. Recipients worthy of this honor need not be PTA members nor be known beyond their own area of service. The Distinguished Service award is given to those who have previously received the Honorary Life Award.



Levittown Memorial Education Center
Abbey Lane
Levittown, New York 11756



Success for Every Student

Debbie Rifkin
Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
516-520-8300 Ext. 677
Fax: 516-520-8408

January 7, 2013

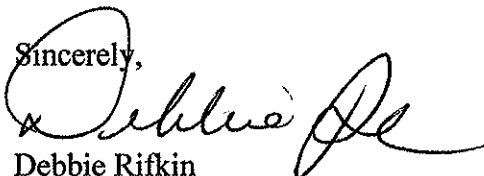
Levittown PTA Council
Attn: Patricia Genco, President
276 Gardiners Ave.
Levittown, NY 11756

Dear Ms. Genco:

On **Thursday, March 14, 2013** Levittown School District will be hosting our **17th Annual Recognition Dinner**. One person from your organization will be recognized for their support and help in our community at a dinner at 6:30 PM in The Panther Room Restaurant, at the Levittown Memorial Education Center, 150 Abbey Lane, Levittown, New York.

Last year's Recognition Dinner was a great success. We hope your organization will be interested in participating once again in this year's event. Please submit the name of the person whom you wish to receive this honor and a list of names from your organization who will be joining him/her by **Monday, February 11, 2013**. The cost of this year's dinner will be \$15.00 per person.

If you would like to participate and need further information and/or make reservations, please contact Denise Brunnhoelzl at 520-8300 Ext. 592.

Sincerely,

Debbie Rifkin

DR:db



LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Levittown Memorial Education Center
Abbey Lane
Levittown, New York 11756
Success for Every Student



James J. Grossane, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools
516-520-8300 Ext. 674
Fax: 516-520-8314
jgrossane@levittownschools.com

January 22, 2013

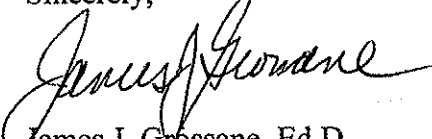
Patricia Genco
276 Gardiners Avenue
Levittown, NY 11756

Dear Mrs. Genco:

On behalf of the students and staff of the Levittown Public Schools, I would like to invite you to join us at the Board of Education Regular Meeting on Wednesday, February 13, 2013 (7:30 P.M.) at the Levittown Memorial Education Center. At that time, we would like to recognize you and the other PTA Council members and Co-Presidents for your dedicated service to the District.

I hope you will be able to attend and allow us all the privilege of expressing our appreciation for your many contributions to the children of the Levittown Schools.

Sincerely,



James J. Grossane, Ed.D.

JJG:ka

RSVP: Superintendent's Office
520-8300 ext. 674