

Levittown Council of PTAs
General Membership Meeting

January 16, 2014

Call to Order 7:36PM

Pledge and moment of Silence to support our troops who are fighting for our freedom.

Attendance

Recording Secretary – Minutes presented October 24, 2013 and November 21, 2014. Minutes will be filed as written.

President's report- Report Attached. Mr. Pastore is here for Dr. Grossane tonight. Patty read Dr. Grossane's letter of resignation. Stated that Wed the 22nd is the next BOE Meeting.

Discussion took place and Laura Brown mentioned that people were coming to her asking if there was a way we could give a vote of confidence to speak at the next BOE Meeting – to speak about the displeasure. Esta Lachow stated that it is a personnel issue and that in her opinion speaking as PTA opens ones self up to big problems. Patty encouraged Units to encourage their members to write letters.

Mr. Pastore stated that the way Patty approached the situation by reading the letter from Dr. Grossane was the best way to handle it. He stated it is new to him and best thing to do is just what we did.

1st VP- No Report.

2nd VP- No Report.

Corresponding Secretary – Sympathy card sent to Margaret Costa on passing of her Mother-in-Law.

Treasurer's Report- See Attached. Treasurer Report is filed for audit. As of the time the Treasurer gave her report the books had not been audited, but Donna Waitkus agreed to audit the books at the end of the meeting.

Mary stated that we had spoke about putting the extra money that was put aside (\$4500) in Sr Award fund into a CD. Mary spoke to TD Bank, their interest rate is .35% Astoria Federal and their interest rate is .10%, Bethpage Credit Union, their interest rate is .55% and NEFCU and their rate is .59%. Stephanie Gannon made a motion to put the money from Sr Award into NEFCU. Laura Brown seconded the motion, Motion passed-all in favor.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Pastore.

Update on DHS cafeteria – did work over break to install expansion joint covers. We did the work ourselves because of issues with the contractor. District is looking to have consultant come in to review cafeteria and look at plans before we move all the stuff around. Issue with railings being sharp on one side – contacted the manufacturer and see to have a resolution.

Working on budget- working with all departments and will have first presentation on Feb 11th.

Adopt a Family – Esta Lachow stated the program was phenomenal. Thanks to everyone – Admin., Staff, Buildings, PTA, Girl Scouts, and Community Members. 209 individuals this year, last year was 224 due to Sandy and the year before was 181. Gave gift cards to all school sand last week was able to give \$1000 more in gift cards to all schools.

SEPTA – Honorary Life winner this year is Darlene Rhatigan. Elija School IEP Prep Program. Next meeting is 2/10 at 7:30 in the large board room.

Committee Reports

Arts in Education- Report Attached

Audit- No Report

Council Budget – Report Attached

Elementary Curriculum- Report Attached.

Health, Safety, and Environment- Cancelled. Thursday @11 – the 23rd. Now have items that we can speak about that were brought up at the budget meeting. MacArthur auditorium has black by duct work, seats. Sink-stinky and unsafe. Recess equipment – how old before retire. Going to gym then outside.

Legislation- Leg/Ed Conference 3/1 and 3/2 \$285 for single, \$250 for double. You can register on line today. Legislation Roundtable at Hofstra is 3/8-registration not yet available. Esta Lachow made a motion to give Debe Howe a vote of confidence on behalf of the Unit to represent us and vote as needed. Laura Brown second. All in favor, motion passed. Esta Lachow amended to include at Leg/Ed Conference up in Albany. Laura Brown second. All in favor, motion passed

Procedures – No Report

Secondary Curriculum – Report Attached.

Special Committees

Budget – No Report

By Laws – No Report

Honorary Life – No Report

PTA Sr Award - No Report

Meet the Candidates – on 5/1 at 7:30. At the end of this month should be picking up packages.

Nominating – If you are on Council or would like to be on Council you should have your letter n before February meeting date.

Reflections – Report Attached

Dinner Dance- Report Attached

Liaisons

Dollars for Scholars – New name is Levittown Schools Community Scholarships, Inc. – looking for more participation from schools. Looking for membership from units. Applications should be going out to the schools in the next 2 weeks. Zumba fundraiser will be held this year, date will be announced shortly. Cut outs will take place in April. Zumba fundraiser-each unit will be asked to donate a basket. For years each unit donated a basket to the organization. It is an allowable expense because it is 501c3 and has same visions and mission statement as us. Can be taken from President Fees or Admin Line. Does not have to be a lot, suggest \$20-30.

Food Service – Report Attached

GC Tech –Report Attached

LEADD – No Report

Teachers Center – No Report.

Wellness – No Report.

Old Business – None

New Business – Flyers Attached. Division Ave Sweeps is March 7th. Laura Brown would like to get info on how the Can Jam tournament at Salk/MacArthur PTSA got organized. Someone mentioned Marlene put it together. Laura would also like to see more sharing of events-big & small. Abbey Lane-Annual fundraiser at Verdis is Feb 28th \$50. Salk Play June 30/31.

Motion made by Stephanie Gannon to amend previous motion regarding CD to state amount of money is \$4500 for NEFCU. Margarite seconds the motion. No discussion, all in favor. Motion passed.

Note Upcoming Events on the back of the agenda.

Adjourned - Minutes prepared by Angela List

Levittown Council of PTAs Treasurer Report

November 21, 2013-January 16, 2014

General Fund

Opening Checkbook Balance: **\$9,039.97**

Expenses:	
Administrative	105.61
Convention	70.02
Office Supplies	26.06
Check Imaging Fee	2.00

Total Expenses: **\$203.69**

Income:

Total Income: **\$0.00**

Closing Checkbook Balance: **\$8,836.28**

Senior Award Fund

Opening Checkbook Balance: **\$12,226.33**

Expenses:

Total Expenses: **\$0.00**

Income:

Total Income: **\$0.00**

Closing Checkbook Balance: **\$12,226.33**

Levittown Council of PTAs Budget 2013-2014

General Fund:	Proposed	Actual	Proposed	Actual to Date
	2012/2013	2012/2013	2013/2014	2013/2014
Starting Balance	\$8,949.23	\$8,949.23	\$8,482.13	\$8,482.13
INCOME				
Membership Dues	\$1,200.00	\$1,039.60	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Other	\$0.00		\$0.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$10,149.23	\$9,988.83	\$9,982.13	\$9,982.13
EXPENSES				
Administrative Functions	\$250.00	\$28.94	\$250.00	\$143.87
AIDS Awareness	\$6.10	\$0.00	\$6.10	
Banking Supplies	\$30.00	\$16.00	\$30.00	\$8.00
BOE Recognition	\$100.00	\$99.92	\$100.00	\$99.94
Carry Over	\$5,713.13	\$0.00	\$5,346.03	
Convention	\$1,400.00	\$497.41	\$1,400.00	\$535.02
Get a Voice	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	
Health & Safety	\$500.00	\$25.39	\$500.00	
Historian/Correspondence	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$16.95
Hospitality	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	
In House Training	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$550.00	
Installation	\$50.00	\$48.52	\$50.00	
LEADD			\$200.00	
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$58.78	\$0.00	
Office Supplies	\$250.00	\$293.74	\$250.00	\$44.07
Pres/Prin Dinner	\$300.00	\$240.00	\$300.00	\$268.00
Publications	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	
Workshops/Conferences	\$500.00	\$198.00	\$500.00	\$30.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$10,149.23	\$1,506.70	\$9,982.13	\$1,145.85
Available Balance				\$8,836.28
SR AWARD FUND:				
Starting Balance	\$11,961.62	\$11,961.62	\$12,730.33	\$12,730.33
INCOME				
Dinner Dance Income	\$25,000.00	\$27,084.50	\$25,000.00	
Other Fundraising	\$0.00	\$700.00	\$0.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$36,961.62	\$39,746.12	\$37,730.33	\$12,730.33
EXPENSES				
Carry Over	\$8,500.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
CD	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	
Banking Supplies	\$100.00	\$10.00	\$175.00	\$4.00
Dinner Dance Expenses	\$24,311.62	\$22,974.43	\$24,980.33	\$500.00
PTA Senior Awards	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	
Senior Award Supplies	\$50.00	\$31.36	\$75.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$36,961.62	\$27,015.79	\$37,730.33	\$504.00
Available Balance				\$12,226.33

Levittown Council of PTAs President's Report

Happy New Year! Welcome to this evening's Levittown Council of PTAs general meeting.

Mr. Pastore, welcome. Thank you for attending tonight's meeting. Welcome to the Board of Education members also in attendance this evening.

Thank you to Dawn Teimer and her team at Summit Lane for hosting our meeting this evening. Wisdom Lane will be our host next month.

Please be reminded that our meetings are taped. If you would like to address council use one of the microphones provided.

It seems like a lifetime ago that we met last. There has been so much that has gone on. From November until today we've been busy with meetings, interviews, sporting events, plays, parties, adopt-a-family and two weeks' vacation. Now it's time to jump right back into what we do here in Levittown better than anywhere - Working together with our district and our schools to do what is best for the children, our children. This is so important now more than ever.

At last night's Board of Education meeting, Dr. Grossane, announced his resignation.

We have faced many difficult challenges; we have worked together and overcome many obstacles. I am confident that as long as we continue to work together for the wellbeing of the children we will continue to be successful as a PTA and a community.

Some Reminders and Information:

- ❖ The next BOE meeting is Wednesday, January 22, 2014. This is a planning session. There is no public be heard.
- ❖ Nassau Region PTA Presidents Rap, Nominations and IRS workshops will be held Thursday, January 23rd.
- ❖ "An evening with Ken Slentz, NYSED Deputy Commissioner will be held on Wednesday, January 29, 2014 at WLMS at 7PM. All Levittown PTA members and Levittown School District Residents are invited to attend. Please submit questions to levittowncouncilptas@gmail.com

- ❖ NYS Legislation/Education Conference is March 1-2, 2014 in Albany.
Registration is due by February 14, 2014. (This is a chance for your unit to have your voice heard)
- ❖ The next President/Superintendent meeting is February 3rd, 2014
- ❖ Our next Council meeting is February 13, 2014

Thank you all for "All you do for the children of Levittown".
Please keep the lines of communication open.

Respectfully submitted:
Patricia Genco 1/16/14

Corresponding Secretary Report JAN.
Sympathy Card sent to Margaret Costa for the passing
of her Mother in Law.

Submitted by
Donna Watkins

Arts and Education Report

January 16, 2014

Abbey

Abbey Lane had a science/ space laser light show from Prismatic Magic. It was great! The kids loved it, it was split k-2, and 3-5. They geared it to the different ages. I would recommend it.

East Broadway

On December 20, 2013 East Broadway had Hollyrock: Game Show for all grades. This is an interactive game show. The students enjoy this program because they are learning in a fun, entertaining way while learning facts.

East Broadway PARP theme this year is "Readers Grab the Gold." It is encouraging the children to reach their own personal goals and has many tie-ins with the Olympic Games. Along with an adult for 15 minutes a day for the 3 weeks, there are small optional activities such as reading about the Olympics in the paper and finding Sochi on the map. We will hold our annual community reader breakfast in February.

January 31, 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.

At the end of January kindergarten first and second grade will watch Lee Knight Books Alive perform various songs related to Science Books.

Lee Road

'Artistry of Mosaic Murals' - The Lee Road PTA wanted the students of the 2013 - 2014 school year to leave behind a lasting legacy and gift to their elementary school. Esther Tollen, an accomplished artist, was in 'residency' November 12th - 14th. She worked with all of the students during their art classes and provided each of them with the opportunity to place small mosaic tiles into a mural. The design features our school's mascot, a green and gold roadrunner, in the middle of a scenic background. It has been professionally hung above one of the benches in our school's 'Cozy Corners' section. It promises to be a visible symbol of our school spirit for years to come!

Northside

On January 8, 2014 Eric's Adventures came to entertain the first graders. Eric has a series of animals that the students enjoyed and had a wonderful experience.

Salk/ MacArthur

PTSA had a Kam Jam fundraiser last night at Salk Middle School. The middle school and the high school come together for this event. Teams were created (students, parents, and teachers) and they competed in a fun family setting. Spectators were invited to watch and root for their friends, family, and teachers. Prizes were awarded to the top 3 teams. A fun time was had by all.

Wisdom

Wisdom Lane in March will be presenting to Parents a workshop from Not My Kid. Program is given by our Social Worker using materials sent by organization. Part of the \$500.00 fee is 36 First Check Home Drug testing kits to be distributed to Parents attending. We have also reached out to the manufacturer of the kits, First Check, who enabled us to order another 36 kits for \$275.40. The kit is for marijuana testing, but the company does make others kits that test further for different narcotics. (firstcheck@invmed.com)

Divison- no report

I want to thank all the units for sending me their information this month about their arts and Ed programs. Please continue to do so by emailing me at babyfrog27@aol.com. Send me what is coming up next month or if you have your schedule for the rest of the year.

SAVE THE DATE

Nassau Region PTA
Arts-Education Showcase
Monday, April 17, 2014
The Cradle of Aviation Museum

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

SEPTA

This year's Honorary Life winner for SEPTA is Darlene Rhatigan Assistant Superintendent for Administration.

At our Monday January 13, 2014 meeting Eileen Hoberg along with Mike Nelson spoke about Nassau County PAL Special Needs Unit. This unit provides sports, recreation, and socialization for children from ages 5 to 21 with various needs that may not be able to participate in other programs. The children are able to develop physical, mental, and social skills as well as a chance to build confidence and self esteem. Some of the programs offered now are basketball, bowling, sports fitness, karate, dance, horseback riding, track, flag football, and lacrosse.

I would like to share some correspondence that I received. On February 12, 2014 there will be an IEP Prep 2014 from 7 to 8:30 at The ELija School in Levittown.

Also the Broadway play Wicked will be having an Autism-Friendly performance on Sunday March 2, 2014 @ 1pm. Tickets are on sale now at www.tdf.org/wicked.

The next SEPTA meeting is Monday February 10, 2014 at 7:30 here at LMEC in the large board room. Please join us for an evening of fun and learning.

Jan. 15, 2014 Council

Council Budget:

The committee has met several times since December. We have collected the questions and requests from the various principals and after submitting them to the appreciate district personal, had two meetings to review the items. In December we met with the three Asst. Superintendents to discuss staffing questions and requests. In January we met with them again along with directors of building and grounds and computer/technology. Many of the issues raised were already in the process of being addressed, such as the massive potholes at Wisdom, the playgrounds for several of our schools, a piano for Abbey Lane. The request by Salk/MacArthur for a refurbishment of the auditorium is a Capital Project and not easily addressed as the scope of this is extensive.

At this particular time we will be following up closely on the request for a dive/asst. coach for the Girls District wide swim team, Marching Band uniforms for MacArthur, an additional staff member for the technology department and looking into getting more information on Peaceful Playgrounds Program, district grant writer and the suggestion from both Middle School Principals for a Summer School Program.

I am very pleased with the cooperation of all district personal and the committee members. This committee is one of my favorites due to the wonderful roundtable discussions with district staff. I highly recommend that this continue in the future as it really gets in my opinion a lot of valuable information to both district and committee members. At this time I would like to say we will be ready to submit report to council at February 13ths meeting and we are on the BOE schedule to present to them March 5th.

Secondary Curriculum:

Met 11/25 - We spoke about remediation services in extended period English at the Middle School. Those that would normally need AIS.

Program: CARS & STARS – comprehensive assessments of reading strategies & strategies to achieve reading success. Covers 12 standards based reading comprehensive strategies.

Gives data teachers need to give differentiated instruction.

Cars offers pre & post assessments, as well as bench marks thru the year. The self assessments in the book the students are encouraged to do. Once CARS is completed they move onto STARS. Each lesson begins with questions to prompt the student to realize what they already know. It includes fiction and non-fiction.

Math – CAMS & STAMS - comprehensive assessments of math strategies & strategies to achieve math success. Allows more opportunity for teachers to realize where the individual student is struggling and the specific content.

We met again December 19th.

Frank Creter – Curriculum Associate Art/Technology/FACS came and spoke about Project Lead the Way. Teachers will be going to Rochester for training at both MS & HS levels.

All students that are scheduled for technology in 7th & 8th will be exposed.

Independent 9-week courses. Middle School: Aerospace Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Design & Modeling, Robotics.

High School: Explore Engineering Design Process, Intro to Engineering, Principles of Engineering, Digital Electronics, Aerospace Engineering, Biotech Engineering, Civil Engineering & Architecture.

The state made some changes to the 6-8 Math & ELA Assesments. They decreased the # of questions for most grades & days, but they also decreased the time given by 10 minutes.

Next Meeting: Jan 28th.

Elementary Curriculum

Met 11/19 – We spoke about the new report cards. Last year a new report card was developed for 2-5, this year they included K & 1. The handbook is on line under The Dept. of Instruction. Please remember that any questions concerning your child's report card should be addressed with the teacher first. If you are not satisfied then you should speak to the building principal.

Last years schools had an ELA Academy – 8 weeks prior and 2x a week. Each school chose specific time and days that fit their school population. Would like to ask BOE for \$ for Math Academy.

Journeys- ELA Program-all parents should have received their letter to log onto website.

iPhone/iPad app is available that links to the Journeys website.

Scholastic now has e-books available online.

Grade 5 has a new maturation video.

Met again on 12/17 – New Maturation video was presented, the committee viewed both the boy and girl video. Members of the committee had no complaints about the videos.

The state made some changes to the 3-5 Math & ELA Assesments. They decreased the # of questions for most grades & days, but they also decreased the time given by 10 minutes.

Next Meeting: Jan 21st.

Dinner Dance

Honorary Life Report 1-17-14

All unit chairs should have received their invitations by email.

Deadline for \$\$ is March 21st to each school. We need your seating arrangements and money by March 28th. Please have your chairperson contact either me or Angela to make arrangements to get the money to us. It must be received in person. DO NOT interoffice money to us.

Please remind your chairs that Council is not responsible for any money that is lost and council will not be reimbursing for any lost money before it gets to us.

Please be aware that after April 1st there will be NO refunds for ANY reason.
Don't forget to order your pins.

I still need bios and/or photos from :

DAHS-photo and bio
Mac-photo and bio
Northside-photo
Salk-photo and bio
Wisdom-bio

If you have any questions, please let us know!

Jan. 16, 2014

Reflections

Pick up for entries is
Jan. 27 @ LMEC 6-8³⁰ PM.

Pat Genco

Food Service Report for January 16, 2014
Submitted by: Patricia Genco

The new Superintendent of Finance, Mr. Pastore, introduced himself to the committee.

The DAHS Cafeteria was discussed. During the winter break, a "punch list" of items that need to be addressed will be done at the Division cafeteria. Many of the items such as the floor and fire doors have already been addressed. Repair work is continuing. Questions were asked as to who is responsible for repairs to the Division Ave cafeteria? Mr. Pastore explained that we are not responsible for many of the repairs that were noted in their report, the contractor will be making those repairs over the holiday break. The committee voiced their concerns regarding the current contractor doesn't take any pride in his work, and would like to replace them with another company before beginning the MacArthur cafeteria

The architects will be looking over the plans carefully for the MacArthur cafeteria. Hoping that they can avoid the problems that Division has had with construction and layout. Concerns were raised as to if the cooks at MacArthur cafeteria will have input in the plans, overall construction and layout of the new cafeteria since this does not seem to have taken place at DAHS. The committee was assured that the MacArthur cooks have already met with the architect. Mr. Pastore asked if the Food Service Committee was involved of the decision for the Division cafeteria, the answer was no. Mr. Pastore states the district is looking into hiring an outside firm to oversee the plans and project. He will keep us up to date with the progress of the MacArthur cafeteria. Questions were asked regarding "Clerk of works" and principals input in the daily construction work and planning and availability to oversee the project.

In January Alan from Chartwells will start to introduce new snacks that meet the new USDA guidelines. There will be drastic changes in the 2014-15 school year. We discussed whether this will affect classroom parties, and what can be sold in the machines, in the cafeteria and afterschool activities.

On January 10th a report of no hero or sandwich rolls available at DAHS. This was the result of a communication error among the staff and only affected the last lunch period. The staff will communicate their needs in a better manner to avoid future shortages.

The Food Service Committee is still looking for representatives for the following schools: DAHS, East Broadway, Salk and MacArthur. The BOE is considering allowing students back on the committee. If you are interested in serving as a representative on Food Service for any of these schools contact me.

GC Tech:

The holiday cookie orders placed through Culinary Department went well. The trays looked great and almost all the schools used the service. They will prepare trays for PTA events/meeting in the future, but they will need two weeks notice at all times. A new order form is to be used from now on. Prices are \$8.00 a pound with trays being prepared as 1 ½ pounds and 3 pounds.

Tonight is the Open House for the programs. It is a great time to check out the different classrooms and instructors. Last week was the student competition, I have heard it went well and was well attended. The staff from GC Tech have come to speak at Division Ave HS PTSA, Salk/MacArthur PTSA and Wisdom Lane PTA meetings this month. They were well received at all the meetings. All nine programs have agreements with several colleges for credit, including SUNY Farmingdale, Alfred, Delhi and Briarcliff. Going to AP classes is NOT the only way to have a college take a good look at you. In 2013, 87% of the graduating students went on to a two-four year college or technical school. The other 13% secured full time employment in their chosen career or entered the military. Our Culinary Students go on to Connecticut Culinary Institute, Culinary Institute of America, Johnson & Wales, our graphic arts/computer animation go to Pratt Institute, Art Institute of NY and Fashion Institute of Technology. My son who is currently in the Police Science program got his acceptance from SUNY Farmingdale within one week of applying based on his two years of study with this program.

**FOR LEVITTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT RESIDENTS AND
PTA MEMBERS ONLY**

Levittown Council of PTAs

Presents:

**An Evening with
Ken Slentz**

NYS Deputy Commissioner of Education



Date: Wednesday , January 29th, 2014

Time: 7:00PM

**Location: Wisdom Lane Middle School
Auditorium
120 Center Lane Levittown, N.Y.**

Ken Slentz will discuss
Common Core Learning Standards
and current issues in Education.

Following the presentation there will be a
Q &A session.

**TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE.**

To ensure you have the opportunity to have your
voice heard, please submit questions in advance to
levittowncouncilptas14@gmail.com.
Please Include your name ,address and phone #.

Contact person: Patricia Genco (516) 735-0136