

Levittown Council of PTAs
General Membership Meeting

March 17, 2011

Minutes

Call to Order 7:35

Pledge, Attendance

President's report- See Attached

1st VP- Reminder-Folders are due by the May meeting. If your committee is done, you can turn them in at any time.

2nd VP- See Attached

Recording Secretary- Minutes approved from February 2011

Corresponding Secretary- Sympathy card sent to Lynn Petrofsky on the passing of her son Benjamin.

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

Historian- Received a letter from the Levittown Historical Society. They are looking to volunteers, if interested, please contact them directly.

Superintendent's Report- Dr. Sirois went over dates of budget meeting. March 16 the CAC and PTA Budget Committees are supposed to meet, but we are working on extending that date. The agenda will be gone through at each meeting until all items are gone through. He spoke at great length regarding the state budget cuts and how it will affect not only our school district, but most school districts, as well as the tax cap which is scheduled to be implemented for the 21012/2013 school year. He spoke about the mandates increases for Health Insurance, the NYS Employee Retirement system and Teachers retirement system. And about the increasing of the tax levy and expenditures, along with optional cuts to our budget, as well as implementing full day Kindergarten with it's monetary benefits. Urged the membership to log onto the district website and submit the fill-in petition to the local legislatures re: no tax caps, no cuts and no unfunded mandates.

Committee Reports

Arts in Education- Please remember to fill out the report form for District.

Audit- Monthly Audit was done and everything was found to be in order.

Council Budget- Esta thanked the committee. See Attached. Lisa Vanderburg made a motion to accept the PTA Budget Committee Report. Motion 2nd. Discussion. Of the members who voted, the vote is unanimous.

Elementary Curriculum- No Report

Health, Safety, and Environment- A list of hot spots with pictures was given to Gary Hudes. Pre Prom workshops at Mac Arthur on 3/10 went well. Division is Monday 3/21 and LMEC on Tuesday 3/29. Discussed staggering start times at schools. Working radios are important for staff and student safety. A lot of the schools don't have working radios. Yom site concerns were discussed with the 8th Precinct. Next meeting is 4/13 at 10am in Pupil Services. Cindy Mulz thanked the Committee; she mentioned that the Pre Prom workshop has been taped, so if someone can't make any of the 3 meetings they can make an appointment to see the tape.

Legislation- Leg/Ed Conference is this weekend in Albany. March 22nd is Virtual Lobby Day. March 26th is Legislation Brunch at Hofstra University Club.

Procedures- No Report

Secondary Curriculum- Last Nights Budget Planning Session was discussed. Dr. Chesterson spoke about the different codes that would significantly be changing on the upcoming budget.

Items on the possible reduction list are:

- Class size increase: 1-2 in Elementary and High School is doing scheduling very differently this year. Where it used to be student sensitive, it will now be budget sensitive. AP Courses that don't fill up will not be offered. If there are not enough students for an AP class, they will be encouraged to take the accelerated class and then be offered to take the AP exam at the end of the course. An example of how they are carefully scheduling: If a class has a max of

20 kids (photography) and there were 28 students signed up for the class, they used to split the students and run 2 classes of 14. Now they will fill the class with 20 and have the other 8 pick a different class. Seniors will have first choice, then juniors, then sophomores and lastly freshman.

- Special Ed chairs currently don't teach, only in a chairperson capacity; likely teach 1 or 2 classes.
- Custodial OT for Athletic practices.
- Music lesson eliminated, more at the elementary level than secondary. Right now band and orchestra start in 3rd grade. Orchestra will continue to start in 3rd, band going to 4th.
- Grade 7/8 combo baseball team (there is only one other team to play)
- Maintenance and discretionary codes, principals were asked to cut 10%
- Technology staff

Budget adoption was pushed to April 6th

Physical Education Grading Policy – Keith Snider has worked with Dr. Sturs to discuss the impacts to those in special education. The rubric has been modified and a statement has been added that students with IEP will have possibility to get maximum grade in each section of the rubric.

NYS Board of Regents discussing major changes at their next meeting. Typically what has been discussed has actually been put in place. See attached list.

Special Committees

Scholarship Dinner Dance- There are 312 people paid for the dinner, minus 1 school with 65 people, to total 370. We were required to bring in 350, so we have made the minimum.

Liaisons

District Budget – See Attached

Dollars for Scholars – Next meeting is 3/28 here at LMEC. Need support from Units. Letters are being generated for the mailing, should be coming out at the end of April. Applications are in the schools. Normally 7 scholarships per school are given, this year there will only be 5 per school.

Enrichment – No Report

Food Service- See Attached

GC Tech – See Attached

LEADD – March 27th here at LMEC, Dr. Sirois is Grand Marshal, Division is Andrea Gonzalez, MacArthur is Zach Shapiro. Theme is LEADD with Talent, there will be talent show. Walk is at 10:30, Kiwanis Breakfast in the Panther Room.

Council Scholarship –Need 1 volunteer from each school.

Sr. Citizen Prom – See Attached

SEPTA- See Attached

Transportation – No Report

Wellness – No Report

New Business –Discussion took place regarding teachers, unions and other personnel issues.

Adjourned 9:25pm - Minutes prepared by Angela List