

Levittown Council of PTAs  
General Membership Meeting  
November 21, 2013

Call to Order 7:12PM

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

Attendance

Recording Secretary – Minutes presented October 24, 2013. Need to wait for a quorum to approve minutes.

Treasurer's Report- See Attached. Treasurer Report is filed for audit. Laura Brown audited the books and all was found to be in order.

President's report- Report Attached.

1<sup>st</sup> VP- No Report.

2<sup>nd</sup> VP- No Report.

Corresponding Secretary – Thank you letter was received from the BOE for our donation of food to the Food Pantry in recognition of the service of our BOE.

SEPTA – Meeting Monday night, Kevin McCarthy will be speaking about home work strategies for all children. Updates are on the district website and the SEPTA Facebook page.

Committee Reports

Arts in Education- Report Attached

Audit- No Report

Council Budget – Report Attached

Elementary Curriculum- Report Attached. Next meeting is December 17th.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Grossane.

There were questions previously asked regarding APPR #'s: Final #'s 473-Highly Effective, 109-Effective, 0-Developing and 1-Ineffective-this teacher is on a teacher improvement plan with their supervisor. These #'s are not surprising, when speaking with other Superintendents in the county. When you have a high school in your district, those students take an SLO at the beginning of the school year and the SLO's skew the #'s because it is a district assessment, not a state assessment.

Assessment committee will be looking at the # of assessments the students are taking. Examining ways we can lessen the #. Will not administer NWEA in grades 4-6 for January. They took their initial one in the spring and plan is to not give Jan/Feb, but will be giving the June assessment.

Over at MacArthur tonight they are performing Les Miserables, if you have time tomorrow night & Saturday go watch the students.

DHS competitive marching band placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state. They have gone from 11<sup>th</sup> a few years ago to 3<sup>rd</sup> this year.

Continue meeting regarding ways we can change our means of instruction in ELA and MATH in HS and Science at Secondary level.

Patty and Council members spoke to Deputy Commissioner Ken Slentz @ PTA Convention. Trying to arrange a meeting with our district. Once there are possible dates we will try to coordinate a meeting.

Health, Safety, and Environment- No Report – No meeting, hoping for one week of Jan 6<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Grossane mentioned that at the County Superintendent meeting it was announced Panic buttons will be installed 5 per building to be delivered sometime in January- as per the Chief of Police and Police Commissioner.

Dollars for Scholars – Report Attached. looking for new ways to raise money. Ask E & A or building principals for ideas.

Legislation- Report Attached

Procedures – No Report

Secondary Curriculum – Report Attached. Next meeting November 25, 2013

#### Special Committees

Budget – No Report

By Laws – No Report

Honorary Life – No Report

PTA Sr Award - No Report

Meet the Candidates - No Report

Reflections – Report Attached

Dinner Dance- Report Attached

#### Liaisons

Dollars for Scholars – Report Attached

Food Service – Report Attached

GC Tech –Report Attached

LEADD – Report Attached

Teachers Center – No Report.

Wellness – Need a Chair.

Nominating – Report Attached. Motion was made to accept the members of the nominating committee by Angela List. Motion seconded by Maria Xenios. Vote taken, all in favor – motion passed.

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Gardiners Ave – 2<sup>nd</sup> year with 100% teacher membership; Abbey Lane will be having a shopping night at Levittown Hall; Lee Rd 12/10 4pm-8pm blood drive; DHS will have Barnes & Noble fundraiser on 12/14 from 2pm-4pm.

Note Upcoming Events on the back of the agenda.

Adjourned - Minutes prepared by Angela List

Levittown Council of PTAs  
General Membership Meeting Agenda  
November 21, 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.

\*\* Switch all cellular devices to vibrate. Sign Off- Tune In; We have a lot to talk about.

- I. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Roll Call/Establish Quorum
- III. Approval of Minutes- Recording Secretary
- IV. Treasurers' Report
- V. Executive Committee Reports
  - A. President Report
  - C. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Report -NR
  - B. 1<sup>st</sup> VP Report -NR
  - D. Corresponding Secretary written
- VI. Superintendent Report
- VII. SEPTA Report ✓
- VIII. Standing Committee Reports
  - A. Arts in Education -written will email
  - C. Council Budget-NR
  - E. Health, Safety and Environment-NR
  - G. Procedures -NR
  - B. Audit- NR
  - D. Elementary Curriculum -written
  - F. Legislation written-email
  - H. Secondary Curriculum written
- IX. Special Committee Reports
  - A. Budget
  - C. Honorary Life -NR
  - E. Meet the Candidates -NR
  - G. Reflections -written
  - B. Bylaws-NR
  - D. PTA Senior Award- NR
  - F. Nominating -last item
  - H. Senior Award Dinner Dance written
- X. Liaison Reports
  - A. Dollars for Scholars -written
  - C. GC Tech written
  - E. Teacher Center-NR
  - B. Food Service written
  - D. LEADD written
  - F. Wellness
- XI. Old Business
- XII. New Business
- XIII. Adjournment
- XIV. Guest Speakers: Laurie May, Director of Nassau Region PTA  
Dr. Bob Aloise, NYSPTA Education Coordinator



"Together..... We can make a difference."

Levittown Council of PTAs  
General Membership Meeting  
October 24, 2013

Call to Order 7:44PM

Pledge and moment of Silence to support our troops and to bless this country.

Attendance

Recording Secretary - Minutes approved as presented from September 19, 2013

Treasurer's Report- See Attached. Treasurer Report is filed for audit. Donna Papa audited the books on Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> and all was found to be in order. Still waiting for dues from East Broadway and Gardiners Avenue.

President's report- Report Attached.

1<sup>st</sup> VP- We have folders for all of the chairs.

2<sup>nd</sup> VP- The directory is going around one last time. Gardiners Avenue needs to submit new delegate information.

Corresponding Secretary – Sympathy Cards to Lisa Curran, Mary Rickard and the Pappas Family. As well as a get well card to Ping Yann Chou from accounting.

Superintendent's Report

Debbie Rifkin sat in for Dr. Grossane and went over the Regents for Math and English.

Math Algebra 1 – all schools are required to teach common core course called Algebra 1 this year (Integrated Algebra) and students enrolled in this course must take common core regent-beginning in June. We will provide the traditional regent towards the end of June. They have to take the common core regent and kids can pick the higher score on the transcript – Only for this June and August Regent Exam, as this is a transition period. New regent will be scaled as the NYS Assessments and will be scored the same 1-4. It is not clear if NYS is going to give a conversion chart or if districts will have to make a conversion.

8<sup>th</sup> grade taking Algebra 1 – would have to take 3 tests: the 8<sup>th</sup> grade math assessment, the common core regent and traditional regent. Districts are very close to getting a waiver so the students do not have to take the 8<sup>th</sup> grade assessment.

English – District had the choice on which regent to administer. Having only 1 year of common core English It is looking like we will give the traditional regent. AP class curriculum aligns better to common core regent and we are looking into that. No Decision has been made yet.

Questions were asked regarding Regents and dates.

Policy change from the NYS DOE, not the district. They have eliminated the option for an IEP diploma, so students with sever disabilities no longer have the opportunity to get that piece of paper that says "Diploma". These students can get local diploma and 2 types of credentials. There is good and bad. The good - It puts own-ness on the district to provide authentic experiences for theses students. Job coaching, life skills. Bad- these students used to be able to get the paper that says diploma. Policy went through first read last night at the BOE meeting.

SEPTA – Dr. Barry McNamara spoke about bullying and it was a great turn out. The candle fundraiser is almost over, but you can still order on line. There are flyers for all units. She explained where to find SEPTA on the district website.

Committee Reports

Arts in Education- Please email Robin with your events

Audit- No Report

Elementary Curriculum- Report Attached. Next meeting is Nov 19th.

Health, Safety, and Environment- Report Attached

Legislation- Tally sheets received from SEPTA, Lee Road, E. Broadway, Northside, and Summit. DHS did not have meeting yet.



Procedures – No Report

Secondary Curriculum – Report Attached. Next meeting November 22nd.

#### Special Committees

Budget – Hopeful to have all rep names by end of evening. Would like to have a brief meeting, then set up meetings to go over what need. Patty explained what budget meeting is. Each year district has committee to look at the needs and wants of items would like to see added or deleted from district budget. Meet with Superintendent.

Honorary Life – No Report

Sr Award Dinner Dance- Sign up sheet going around for the names of chairs so we can get appropriate info to them. Guidelines and info are in packet going around tonight with a sample letter. Dec 1<sup>st</sup> names of recipients are due to Mary by December 1<sup>st</sup>, as well as photo and bios.

Nominating – Cindy not present at meeting. Sheet going around for Rep names that have not been written yet. If Co-Pres you should list one as rep and the other as the alternate. If sole president, you should be rep and go down your chain of officers to get alternate.

Reflections – Report Attached

#### Liaisons

Dollars for Scholars – No Report

Food Service – Looking for names from Units. Please forward ASAP as the names need to be approved by BOE before reps can go into the cafeterias. There are 2 BOE meetings before the first meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup>. Lee Road would like to know where we get the smallest apples that always have bruises.

GC Tech –Report Attached

LEADD – Sunday is the walk 10:30. Fair is from 11-1. There will be a costume contest if you would like to come dressed.

Wellness – Need a Chair.

Transportation – Need a Chair. Had 2 members at the last meeting, we were not aware there was a meeting and we do not know the date of the next meeting.

Old Business – Last month there were questions regarding the food pantry. Community groups having donation drives for Island Harvest, why not our pantry. Mrs. Farkas and Nina Glen sent out letters to community groups reminding them of the Levittown Food Pantry.

New Business – When Laura put out flyers for the November Family Game Night it did not say Wisdom.

Cultural Arts Programs – Had lots of Cultural Arts programs. Rohan Murphy, a disabled Olympian wrestler with no legs came to present and Salk is having him tomorrow. Division is having a PTSA Assembly Jacy Good – a survivor of texting accident will be presenting to all classes and she is actually a key note speaker at convention.

November 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be a Veterans Day Parade. High school bands are performing; it will start at the old K-Mart parking lot and going down the Turnpike to the Library.

Question was asked on how to donate something to the Levittown Historical Society:

DAHS Marching Band is competing @ States in Syracuse this weekend. They are 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state for small schools.

Note Upcoming Events on the back of the agenda.

Adjourned 8:54pm - Minutes prepared by Angela List

Levittown Council of PTAs Budget 2013-2014				
General Fund:	Proposed 2012/2013	Actual 2012/2013	Proposed 2013/2014	Actual to Date 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	\$38.26
AIDS Awareness	\$6.10	\$0.00	\$6.10	
Banking Supplies	\$30.00	\$16.00	\$30.00	\$6.00
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	\$465.00
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	\$18.01
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	\$942.16
Available Balance				\$9,039.97
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  
Treasurer Report

October 24-November 21, 2013

General Fund

<b>Opening Checkbook Balance:</b>		<b>\$9,009.97</b>
Expenses:		
President Principal Dinner	268.00	
Check Imaging Fee	2.00	
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$270.00</b>	
Income:		
Membership Dues	300.00	
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	
<b>Closing Checkbook Balance:</b>		<b>\$9,039.97</b>

Senior Award Fund

<b>Opening Checkbook Balance:</b>		<b>\$12,226.33</b>
Expenses:		
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	
Income:		
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	
<b>Closing Checkbook Balance:</b>		<b>\$12,226.33</b>

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## Levittown Council of PTAs President's Report

Good Evening! Welcome to this evening's Levittown Council of PTAs general meeting.

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

Thank you to all the people that helped us host our meeting this evening. Summit Lane will be our host for January.

I want to start off this evening wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving. There are so many things to be thankful for this year. I am thankful for my family, my executive board, for no major storms and for all of you.

After attending convention this past weekend I always get a greater sense of the more global picture; seeing how we fit and fair in the great scheme of things. With that being said I would like to tell you what I am thankful for- for all of us. I am thankful for our superintendent; who listens to our concerns and needs of our children. I am thankful for our assistant superintendents, the curriculum associates and their team for keeping up on the changes our children are facing with education, writing curriculum that keeps in line with the standards the NYSED has developed yet doesn't take away the creative piece of teaching and learning, I am grateful for our teachers that go the extra mile to look for ways to incorporate the standards into their lessons and not use the modules NYSED has put out as their only resource. And I am thankful for our BOE.

When you sit in meetings with individuals from all over NYS at convention; you hear what they have and don't have in their districts it makes you aware of how lucky we truly are here in Levittown. We have a community that shows a concerted interest in the education of our children, We may not always agree on all points; some may feel it's best to push one button while others push another but in the end we agree that the education of our children and their future (our future) is very important to us.

A few weeks ago the BOE adopted a resolution on standardized testing to be sent to NYSED. They had a final read on smoking on school premises policy and there was discussion on books that maybe on the common core reading list but may not be age appropriate for our children. Information, concerns and issues come from all sides and angles here in Levittown; our BOE, our superintendents listen to us.

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Whether we speak up at BOE meetings, speak at PTA meetings, participate in district committees, call or write our superintendents and BOE; we do make a difference for our children.

At last night's BOE meeting the audit reports were presented. Working on a 2% tax cap, needing roof and masonry repairs throughout the district, construction issues at the DAHS cafeteria, funds that have to be added to the budget: our district is in better shape than many others. It's all due to the great work and pride in this town. We have a great community here. I am thankful for all the movers and shakers.

Some Reminders and Information:

- ❖ Nassau Region PTA President/Principals dinner will be this Monday November 25<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Thank you for your continued support of the WLMS Food Pantry. Please continue to support the food pantries in Levittown
- ❖ The Adopt a Family program is in full swing. Contact Esta Lachow if you are interested in participating
- ❖ The next President/Superintendent meeting is December 2<sup>nd</sup>
- ❖ We have no Council meeting in December
- ❖ Some of the schools are still in need of Turkeys, pies or gift certificates. If you can help out with a turkey, a pie or gift certificates, contact the main office at your school.

On behalf of the entire Council Board We wish you and your family a very happy and Blessed Thanksgiving.

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

Respectfully submitted:  
Patricia Genco 11/21/13

Corresponding Secretary Report  
November 21, 2013

We received a thank you letter from the Board of Education for our donation of food to the Wisdom Lane Food Pantry in recognition of the service of our Board of Education.

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## **Arts and Education Report Council PTA**

### **Gardiners**

We kicked off the Get a Voice program and LEADD with an assembly called Sticks and Stones. Our upcoming holiday show is a Laser Light show set to holiday music which teaches the children the science behind lasers. We have many assemblies planned on each grade level.

### **Wisdom**

Wisdom had several programs in Oct. for LEADD. Rohan Murphy who is an amputee and a world class wrestler. He gave an inspirational assembly for our 6 & 7th graders. Highly recommend, but make sure you give ample time for assembly. We had Camfel Productions which did Dream Dare, Do! It was for our 6 & 7th grade and was a three screen character educational assembly. For our 8th grade they had motivational speaker Paul Failla who he did an assembly on Human Diversity.

### **Division Ave H.S.**

Division Ave HS PTSA was THRILLED to have Jacy Good- Hang up and Drive. She spoke about surviving a devastating accident the afternoon of her college graduation, which took her mother and fathers lives and left her with a 10% chance of surviving. Her story of courage and determination is inspiring and her message about distracted driving is powerful. Ms. Good was also a keynote speaker at this past weekends NYS PTA convention. All of these programs were Nassau BOCES approved.

### **Salk M.S.**

Salk also had Paul Failla speak to the 8<sup>th</sup> graders about Human Diversity.

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### **East Broadway**

In October for Red Ribbon and LEADD week the students were visited by the Wantagh Fire Department. They brought a smokehouse for some of the students to practice a simulated fire and how to evacuate their home.

Also the children attended an assembly about bullying called The Pledge. Three screens were set up in the APR for the children watch and at the end the principal had the students take a pledge to end bullying. There were two sessions K-2 and 3-5.

On November 27 there will be an assembly for all students to see Mad Science. This is an interactive program teaching the children science using hands on materials.

Keep the date

Arts and Ed Showcase  
Monday April 7, 2014  
9:00am to 3:00 pm  
The Cradle of Aviation Museum

### **SEPTA**

SEPTA had their meeting on Monday November 18, 2013. The guest speaker was Kevin McCarthy who spoke about Homework Strategies for All Children. The turnout was wonderful but there is always room for more. If you have questions and want to stay informed please come out and join us at our next meeting on Monday January 13, 2014 @ LMEC at 7:30 in the large board room.

Stay tune on our district website as well as like us on our facebook page, Levittown SEPTA, for up and coming workshops.

November 21, 2013

#### Council Budget

I have been in contact with the majority of the schools. They have met with building administrators and have a working list of things for us to discuss. I am hoping to meet with all units the first week of December and from there set up meetings with district administrators. Some of the areas we are looking into are Dive/Asst Coach for District Swim team, Marching Band uniforms, District grant writer, AIS before school services, video systems similar to ones at the High Schools, sound systems in DAHS auditorium and based on my experience at LEADD, the portable one at Memorial. If anyone has any ideas or concerns, please let me know.

#### GC Tech Student Competition

- Date: Thursday, January 9, 2014
- Time: 6:00 - 8:00 pm (followed by an award ceremony)
- Place: LMEC Gym & in several program classrooms

Our competition is open to everyone to observe our students (your children) demonstrate their skills of their specialty program. **Admission is free.** Bring your children, your neighbors and their children, and your family members. This is a great opportunity for our school age children to see what GC Tech has to offer "in action".

At 8:00pm, there will be an award ceremony in the auditorium to announce the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winners of each contest. This should end at approximately 9:15pm.

#### GC Tech Open House

- Date: Thursday, January 16, 2014
- Time: 6:00 - 8:00 pm
- Place: GC Tech (visit individual classrooms, labs and workshops). Speak with teachers; see the equipment; ask all the questions you may have concerning curriculum, articulation agreements with colleges; textbooks, computer programs, competitions, policies, Special Ed "push in" teacher, our Math, and English "push in" technical teachers and their curriculum; SkillsUSA Club, National Technical Honor Society, Key Club, etc. etc. Again, come and explore all the Technical Programs GC Tech has to offer students.

\*\*\*Please Note: This is scheduled for the same night as Council so maybe parents can visit us before Council begins.

#### SkillsUSA Club - Heads (Hats) and Toes (Socks)

- Holding Annual Clothing Drive
- Beginning in Dec...ending Jan 31st.
- Donations of "new, warm hats and socks" with tags attached will be collected and donated to the less fortunate.
- Any size, any color, any style, adult or children, male & female.
- Collection boxes will be located in each GC Tech classroom, GC Tech main office and LMEC lobby.

#### **SkillsUSA Club - Candy Gram Fundraiser**

- During the month of December, students and faculty may purchase a Holiday Greeting Card with a candy cane attached to send their own warm holiday wishes to other students and faculty members.
- Greeting cards will be delivered prior to our December recess
- Proceeds will benefit our scholarship award fund

Cookies for the holidays! Chef William Samboy from GC Tech would love to have the students bake for the Units for the Holidays. Some of you purchase trays of cookies for the staff in your buildings for the holiday season. This year for the first time, you may order trays thru GC Tech, Chocolate Chip, Butter, Fancy Jelly, Linzer Tarts, almond macaroons and believe it or not Rainbow cookies! The culinary department will need TWO weeks notice for the types and amounts for the orders. Price is \$8.00 per pound!! You can email your orders to [wsamboy@levittownschools.com](mailto:wsamboy@levittownschools.com) or contact me for more details. This is a great way to show support for our students as they hone their craft and to bring much needed awareness to the program.



## Elementary Curriculum

At the October Meeting we had a presentation on the Journey's website showing the different areas that parents and students can explore. There are many different tools with in the program to asses where a child is as far as progress is concerned.

The November meeting was held today, November 19<sup>th</sup>

Report Cards- Last year the district implemented new report cards for grades 2-5. This summer the committee got together and revised the K & 1 reports cards, which you will see beginning this trimester. Once the report cards go out and the district receives feedback from staff and parents the committee will meet again to discuss how it went.

The handbook is on the district website. Go to Departments – Instruction – Updated Handbook.

If there are questions regarding your child's report card or the handbook you should first direct them to your child's teacher. If not satisfied with the answers, then contact the building principal.

Questions were brought up about how the special area teachers grade the students. Mrs. Rifkin stated that when the committee meets they will review the handbook and report card and see if they can give more explanation to the special area grades.

Last year each Elementary school had an ELA Academy. Students were invited to this by recommendations from class room teachers. Each school had a program and it began about 8 weeks prior to the ELA. Each school chose specific times and dates to run the program that fit with their school population. This year the Dept. of Instruction is asking the Board of Education for resources to start a Math Academy, which will be run the same way as the ELA Academy.

Journeys- parents should have all received the log-in information to the website. There has not been much feedback regarding problems or issues. There is now an Iphone/Ipad application link on the Journeys website called HMH Readers.

Scholastic now has a site to purchase eBooks. <http://store.scholastic.com/microsite/storis/home>

The Maturation video that students in Grade 5 see has been updated and the new videos will begin this year.

Next meeting is December 17<sup>th</sup>.



Angela List <angelalist40@gmail.com>

## L S Community Scholarship Inc Report

1 message

jacknmadison@optonline.net <jacknmadison@optonline.net>  
To: angelalist40@gmail.com

Thu, Nov 21, 2013 at 12:31 PM

I will not be able to attend the Counsel Meeting this evening. Here is my report.

The Levittown Schools Community Scholarship Inc, held its first meeting of the school year Monday November 18, 2013.

It is official. We are no longer apart of dollar for scholars.  
We are now "The Levittown Schools Community Scholarship Inc"

Incorporated with are <sup>own</sup> tax id number  
And have an Attorney filing for our 501 3 C status.

A motion was made and seconded to go forward with a mass mailing to all Levittown school residences and business asking for donations to the newly renamed scholarship program.  
I will not be able to attend the Counsel Meeting this evening.  
In the pass 8 years the mailing have grossed between \$6,000 and \$13,000.

Last year \$10,000 was given is scholarships to graduating seniors of MacArthur and Division.

The fund has a CD with a balance of \$51,600.00 set to mature on 7/16/16  
and a checking account balance of \$4,577.16

The executive board of "The Levittown School Community Scholarship Inc" will be meeting December 9, 2013 to work on the new Logo, Letterhead and future meeting dates to be schedule for January, March and May.

Respectfully submitted by Maureen Sawula



Debe Howe

11/19/2013

### Legislation Report

The PTA has many purposes and this past weekend at the NYSPTA convention, One of most important purposes was in action, To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of youth. 295 voting delegates discussed resolutions, voting to keep 14 existing resolutions, update 5 resolutions, rescind 1 and pass 2 new resolutions, while voting to send 1 new back to committee. The new proposed resolution, Social Host Law, which was asking for statewide criminal law caused some discussion and was sent back to committee by a very small majority margin vote. I believe the fact that the makers of resolutions not being there to present it themselves and not being there to address concerns and present supporting facts led to the resolution not being adopted.

We heard from guest speakers, Otha Thornton, President of the National PTA and Stella Edwards his legislative committee chair. They brought messages from National PTA and challenged us to become a "school of excellence" which is a program to help PTA's strengthen the family school partnership, this years deadline has already passed but we can apply on April 1 for next year , they also encouraged us to participate in programs like 'Family Reading Experience Powered by Kindle" which allows PTA units to share stories of their units Family Reading events and be entered into a drawing to win a set of 10 Kindle readers. The deadline for this is December 13.

We also heard from Jacy Good a young lady whose parents were killed and she was severally injured in a car crash caused by a distracted driver, she has started a campaign called 'Hang Up and Drive' and she along with AT & T are asking EVERYONE to take the "It can wait" pledge, please do so right now if you have a smart phone, please take it out & goto [WWW.ITCANWAIT.COM](http://WWW.ITCANWAIT.COM) and take the pledge it takes 1 minute. I also ask you to spread the word to your

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friends and family especially to new teenager drivers since accident rates for drivers 16 to 19 is higher than any other group.

We also heard from the teacher of the year Greg Ahlquist from Webster School district, he captured the audience attention and answered several questions and even 1 from a student from East Meadow who asked about how to bring his teaching methods to her school.

Attendees at the convention had the opportunity to attend 23 different workshop from teen suicide, nominations & elections, college planning, reflections and advocacy. I obviously did not all 23 but if there is a workshop that you would like info about I will try and get it for you. The convention had 373 attendees, from all 16 regions, 40 exhibitors (mostly photographers), Nassau Region had the most with just over 100, they also received honorable mention for the state PARP award, had 2 Jenkins winners and 2 Gazzola winners.

The next Legislative event is the Leg/ED conference March 1 & 2 in Albany and next years convention is Saratoga again.

### Reflections

This years theme is Believe Dream & Inspire, it's not too late to have you child participate the deadline is Dec 13. I have 22 interests back & 1 entry. Next years theme is "The World Would Be a Better Place if" ,also announced at convention was the winning entries from the Reflection Theme search 2015-16 and 4 out of 5 winners are from Nassau Region.

### Dollars for Scholars

We meet last night 11/18 and we officially have a new name "Levittown Schools Community Scholarship Inc".,you will be receiving our mailing by the end of February. We are working on fundraiser ideas. If you have a senior please make sure you have them ask their guidance counselor for the application they should be in the office by Jan.

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### Honorary Life Report- Nov 21, 2013

All presidents and committee chairs should have received and distributed the honorary life materials. They were emailed to all chairs on October 31. The deadline for recipient names, bios and photos is December 1<sup>st</sup>. This can be emailed to me (preferably) or can be interofficed to me to the DAHS PTSA mailbox.

You should receive your invitations by December 14<sup>th</sup> at which time you will need to copy at distribute them in your buildings.

If you have any questions at all please refer to the letter you received or feel free to contact Angela or me.

Submitted by:

Mary Rickard

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## Council Meeting—November 21, 2013

# REFLECTIONS

- The Reflections theme for this year is "Believe, Dream, Inspire."
- Each unit may advance two entries for each category in each grade division.
- Each unit's reflections chair must create an online account at [PTA.org/Reflections](http://PTA.org/Reflections).
- All participation information needs to be submitted online.
- Nassau Region Drop off is at LMEC on January 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Pick up is on January 27<sup>th</sup>.
- The theme for next year is "The world would be a better place if" ...

Submitted by : Dawn Tiemer

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Nominating Committee Report for November 21, 2013  
Submitted by Cindy Mulz

The Nominating Committee for Levittown Council of PTAs 2013/2014 school year is presented  
as follows;

Abbey Lane- Tina Bodkin, President; Alternate Vanessa Dooley 1<sup>st</sup> VP

Division Ave – Mary Rickard, President; Alternate Angela List 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

East Broadway- Amanda Forchelli, Co-President; Alternate Lisa Muro Co-President

Gardiners Ave- Maria Xenios, Co-President; Alternate Carmela Logozzo Co-President

Lee Road- Margaret Costa, Co-President; Alternate Margurite Lieb Co-President

Northside- Susan Massoni, Co-President; Alternate Kristine Ekberg Co-President

Salk/MacArthur- Marlene Pavsic, Co-President; Alternate Maureen Sawula Co-President

Wisdom Lane- Laura Brown, President; No Alternate provided *Linda Pereira*

SEPTA- Robin Cammarata, President; No Alternate provided —



Secondary Curriculum-October 29, 2013

Wellness Committee recommends moving Health to 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> grade instead of 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade. They feel it is a priority to get it in sooner.

Common Core Regents:

Math Algebra I Common Core 8H and 9R - all students will take a CC Regents in June but will also take the traditional regents as well and be able to select the higher grade for their transcript. This is being offered to districts as an option because it is a transition year. New CC exam will be scored on a 1-4 scale with a conversion chart provided. 8H students have also always had to take the 8<sup>th</sup> grade assessment. We are seeking a waiver from the federal government so they won't have to take that test as well.

English- all students at the end of 11<sup>th</sup> grade. We are not giving the CC regents in English this year.

State has eliminated the IEP diploma. Local option still available. Same credits as regents diploma. Must have a 55 on English Regents and Math Regents.



Other option is now CDOS Credential. Career Development and Occupational Studies. The state believes this puts the onus on the district to provide vocational and technical training.

Skills and Achievement Credential – these students will take alternative assessments.

Our next meeting is Monday November 25<sup>th</sup>.

Submitted by:  
Mary Rickard



itcanwait.com | Join the movement   #itcanwait

## Bring the It Can Wait Movement to Your School

### Interactive safety campaign teaches students the dangers of texting while driving

In 2009, AT&T developed a public safety campaign to educate drivers, especially young drivers, about the dangers of texting while driving. The message is simple: when it comes to texting and driving, it can wait!

The dangers are clear. On average, teens text five times more than a typical adult, and much more likely to be in a crash if they text and drive. Texting while driving is now the number one cause of teenage driving fatalities. Each day, 275 accidents are caused by texting while driving.

The It Can Wait campaign has raised awareness by sponsoring studies, documentaries, nationally televised public service announcements, and by communicating through social media including the [www.itcanwait.com](http://www.itcanwait.com) website. Since 2009, thousands of organizations, law enforcement agencies, professional sports teams, educational programs, schools, consumer safety groups, national retailers, auto industry, and legislators have joined AT&T, the National Organizations for Youth Safety (NOYS), National Safety Council, and the U.S. Department of Transportation in this cause.

To highlight the dangers, AT&T commissioned a 10 minute documentary film called The Last Text, and most recently, a film entitled From One Second to The Next. These films, available on YouTube and the It Can Wait website, provide tragic real-life stories of those seriously injured or killed, and those left behind. We encourage you to watch them.

In the first half of 2013, AT&T participated in more than 50 local driver safety events in NY; more than half were held at area high schools. Included in those events are typically representatives from law enforcement agencies, school resource officers, local officials and/or state senators or assembly members. AT&T has a strong partnership with the NY State Police and many county and local law enforcement agencies, including the Police Juvenile Officers Association, commonly called "School Resource Officers."

For high schools, we provide the resources to assist schools in hosting a driving safety day or event, such as a school assembly that fits into a school period. We routinely work with schools to match their needs and interests.

AT&T also provides online driving simulators for students to use, stickers, pledge boards and forms as well as other fun things for the students. For school assemblies, we involve student leaders such as a student body president or student government leader. Many schools invite the media to cover the event, as they can help promote the school's efforts in keeping students safe on the roads, are vital to helping build awareness in the community.

AT&T does not seek a speaking role though we have been asked to do so at many events and are happy to do so. Such events are strictly a public service, provided at no charge, and there is absolutely no selling of AT&T products or services.

AT&T's commitment to the It Can Wait campaign is illustrated by the countless hours that AT&T employees have dedicated to this cause. Our employees often take time on weekends and evenings to participate in events. Like the public at large, there are AT&T employees that have lost loved ones as a result of texting and driving, and as a wireless communications provider, we understand how misuse of a mobile device while driving can lead to disaster.

It Can Wait is helping ensure that our young drivers understand what is at stake should they text and drive. No message is so urgent that it is worth diverting attention from the road and risking lives in the process. It Can Wait.

If you have any questions about the It Can Wait campaign please visit [www.ItCanWait.com](http://www.ItCanWait.com). If you or your PTA Chapter is interested in partnering with AT&T to bring It Can Wait to your school to help educate your students on the dangers of texting while driving, please contact AT&T's Amy Hines Kramer at [ah532b@att.com](mailto:ah532b@att.com) or 518-436-0189.



## Food Service Committee Report for November

Submitted by Patricia Genco on 11/21/13

- Food Service started late this year due to difficulty in getting volunteers as well as district issues.
  - Concerns have been addressed as they arose throughout September, October and November.
  - Introductions of representatives, district employees and chartwell representative took place.
  - Charge of Food Service explained to all representatives including the frequency of cafeteria visits(at least once a month)
  - Cafeteria updates on Division Ave and the plans for the MacArthur cafeteria. The issues at Division are being addressed and progressing. The contractor served lunch to students in September when the cafeteria was not open yet and is continuing to pay for revisions and repairs.
  - Chartwells discussed the USDA requirement changes for next year
    1. All grain products will be whole grain- we do this already in our schools ; the only product not whole grain until it has to be are the chicken nuggets.
    2. Sodium Restrictions will be more strict
    3. Competitive foods sold or served outside of the cafeteria( this includes the vending machines as well as fundraising items will have to follow USDA guidelines
- Interim rules were posted and distributed to companies, the government allowed for feedback; snacks have to be wholegrain or fruits, drinks have to be 100% fruit juice or zero calories.
- Menus for next month were reviewed; Question asked regarding hot lunch alternative for the elementary schools for vegetarians or persons with dietary restrictions due to health or religion. There is no hot lunch alternative however there are cold lunch alternatives.
  - Issue came up regarding the exchange of money at the elementary school. Children who bring money to pay for lunch are not being given change. The cashier is putting the balance onto their account- parents want change. Allen will investigate.
  - Issue was brought up regarding the purchasing of multiple snacks – Allen explained you can put a no snack comment into the system or allergies. If you want to only allow one- you can send your child with snack money for only one the computer system cannot be used to limit amounts.
  - Schedule for upcoming meetings was distributed. They are at 9:30AM in the large board room on:
    - December 18, 2013
    - January 22, 2014
    - February 26, 2014
    - March 19, 2014
    - April 23, 2014
    - May 21, 2014
    - June 18, 2014
  - New Representatives trained on the use of thermometers



11/21/13

LEADD

The LEADD Fair and Walk took place on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, it was a Harvest theme and was well attended!



Tina





## POINTS OF PRIDE

NOVEMBER 2013

### Academics

- The 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program named six high school seniors Commended Students for exceptional academic promise.
- Division Avenue High School senior Gabriela Pereira is one of 5,300 National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholars.
- 182 high school students were designated as Advanced Placement Scholars for exceptional academic achievement on the May 2013 national exams, seven of which were named National AP Scholars.
- MacArthur High School was named a New York State Reward School.
- 46 Gerald R. Claps Career and Technical Center students were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society.
- Three students presented their research at the New England-St. Lawrence Valley Geographical Society conference at Clark University in Worcester, Mass.
- Six Division Avenue High School students submitted an original research-based essay and creative video project to EmPower Solar.
- MacArthur High School Advanced Placement Government and Politics students participated in a streaming session with students at St. Andrew's Secondary School in Glasgow, Scotland about politics and national issues.
- Middle school students have been introduced to a project-based curriculum that focuses on engineering and robotics concepts called "Project Lead the Way: Gateway to Technology."
- Elementary school students are engaged in the Journeys Common Core program that focuses on deep reading of complex text, close reading skills and the development of vocabulary.

### Arts

- Five high school students were selected to participate in and to serve as alternates for the annual NYSSMA Winter Conference All-State ensembles at the Eastman Theatre in Rochester, N.Y.
- 10 high school and middle school students were selected to participate in the Long Island String Festival Association's Secondary Festival.
- 88 students-musicians throughout the district were designated as NMEA All-County musicians.
- The Division Avenue High School marching band placed first in all of its attended local shows and is Long Island's first-place band. The marching band also placed third in New York State.
- The MacArthur High School marching band participated in the Newsday Marching Band Festival.