

Mount Lebanon City Council of PTA's
Council Meeting Minutes
Jefferson Elementary School
November 7, 2018- 9am

Katie Caste, Council President, called the meeting to order at 9:06am. The group said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Officer Scott Kunz gave a detailed presentation on current drug and alcohol trends seen in the school district and community. The district has seen an increase in vaping but otherwise trends have remained consistent. Officer Kunz provided examples describing how teens are hiding their alcohol and drug usage. The Mount Lebanon Police Department's presentation on current trends with regard to drugs and illegal substances gave parents insightful knowledge on what to "look for."

October 3, 2018 Meeting Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Rich Messimer updated us on current financials. Council received a \$1000 donation for Georgia Pogue from the 2018 graduating class. The current council book balance is \$ 7,087.02 and the current Georgia Pogue balance is \$20,190.32.

Executive Board Reports

Council PTA President Katie Caste:

Katie thanked Jefferson Elementary PTA President, Kristin Archbold and Dr. Sarah Shaw, Jefferson's Principal for hosting today's meeting.

Katie thanked the School Board and Dr. Steinhauer for the October 15th PTA recognition night. PTA appreciates the districts support and is grateful for the positive working relationship that we have with the school board.

The next Council PTA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 3, 2019, 9am, at Lincoln Elementary School.

Mount Lebanon School District Superintendent Dr. Tim Steinhauer:

Dr. Steinhauer discussed and shared the following:

- Dr. Steinhauer stressed hope, optimism, and the districts commitment to providing safe, welcoming, and nurturing schools for all our children while sharing the districts response to the Tree of Life Synagogue tragedy. He shared that there is no perfect plan for how to address such a tragedy. The district continues to do it's best to provide a respectful and an age appropriate response. He reiterated the districts commitment to advancing an environment in our schools where respect, inclusion, and compassion inform how we act, what we say, and what we expect of our students.
- All Mount Lebanon School district buildings have received the Anti-Defamation Leagues' "No Place for Hate" designation. The funding was received and individual schools are putting together teams. January 10th, these teams will attend an ADL training.
- The completion of the high school Turf Field is behind schedule due to the weather.

- The community and security task force are looking at individual buildings to make the best decisions they can for safety and security updates.
- The new Director of Business is Rob Geletko.

Katie Devine shared information on Act 86 which allows guest substitute teachers. There is currently a state-wide shortage of substitute teachers. You are eligible to work in the Mount Lebanon school district if you hold a bachelor's degree in any subject area. If you are interested in learning more, please attend one of the two upcoming informational meetings being held at the high school. November 29, 2018 at 10am or December 7, 2018 at 2pm.

Heather Doyle, Director of Special Education provided an update on Lebo PRIDE. A parent meeting is scheduled for November 13th at 7pm in room D205 at the high school. The meeting will provide an introduction to special education and support services to parents as well as provide them with an opportunity to network with other parents in the district. Additional meetings are planned for February 12th and April 30th.

Old Business: Katie Caste

- Council PTA is looking for help with the Reflections program.

New Business: Katie Caste

- Nominating Committee for 2019
 - As per the Bylaws the rotation is
 - Jefferson Middle School, Lincoln Elementary, Hoover Elementary, and Jefferson Elementary
 - Moira Aulbach-PTA Council volunteered
 - Motion made by Julie Maselko, Seconded by Kristin Archbold

Unit President Announcements:

- **Julie Maselko**, Mt. Lebanon High School PTA, shared that the high school biology department is looking for 5-gallon aquariums. Please let Julie know if you have a donation.

Community Representatives:

Outreach: Rachael French

- Outreach offers multiple early intervention programs for children and families.
- As a reminder, Mount Lebanon residents receive two free sessions and then the 1st 10 sessions are \$20 each.
- Parent consultations are available.
- Teen Screen will be available in January 2019 at the middle schools and high school. This assessment tool screens for anxiety, depression, and early warning signs of drug and alcohol abuse. Last year 190 students were screened, 35 of those were positive screens that required follow-up counseling.
- Additional programming information can be found at their website. <https://outreachteen.org/>

School Board: Sarah Olbrich

- Last month- \$1 million dollars was approved for safety and security updates and improvements.
- Next week Dr. Irvin and Dr. Davis will share the yearly audit report.
- The Strategic Planning Committee will be sharing their report at the November 12th meeting. Based on the survey results the 4 main planning areas are: Academic Excellence, 21st Century Competencies, Social and Emotional Learning, and Welcoming and Safe Building Environments.
- The Student Outcomes Report will be presented by Dr. Irvin and Dr. Davis at the November 19th meeting.

Mount Lebanon Library: Rachael Blier, Children's Librarian, shared the following:

- The annual Book Cellar Holiday sale is November 17th.
- Check out the library's website for additional information on upcoming programs such as the Harry Potter, Historical Beasts presentation for adults and older teens, Zoo-Ba-Do-Bop, a music extravaganza for all ages and much more. <https://www.mtlebanonlibrary.org>

Mount Lebanon Fire Department: Lieutenant Kris Siegert, shared the following:

- K-5th Grade programing continues to include basic first aid, fire safety and prevention, and smoke detector education. Weather Emergencies and Flood Water Safety was added to the 5th grade curriculum.
- The fire department is now providing education to the students in the middle and high school, Life Skills program.
- The department is expanding community and parent education programs, hosting open houses and health and safety events.
- The fire department is developing a fundraising campaign to raise funds to make improvements on the fire simulation trailer.

Meeting adjourned at 10:54 am

Submitted by:

Rebecca Matheus, Council PTA Secretary

January 2, 2019