

**Mount Lebanon City Council of PTA's
Council Meeting Minutes
Mount Lebanon High School
May 23, 2018**

Katie Caste Council President called the meeting to order at 10:31 am. The group said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Julie Maselko presented seven students with Georgia Pogue Awards. The students each received a \$500 scholarship for post-secondary education. Students and their families were present for the presentations and celebratory cake and photos.

Seth Dubin, a representative from SHIM was in attendance to thank the PTA's of Mount Lebanon School District for their \$350 cash donation as well as 4500 pounds of food and personal items to stock the SHIM pantries. SHIM is celebrating 50 years of providing services to local families in need. SHIM provides services to 1700 individuals every month. In addition to providing supplemental food for families SHIM provides the following services:

- Education for refugee and immigrant families
- Early childhood education and youth mentoring
- Budgeting support and utility assistance for families in need
- Clothing donations are accepted every Monday and Tuesday (in-season only please)
- Back to School Supplies – in 2017 400 area children received free school supplies and backpacks from SHIM

Community Representative Reports:

Outreach: Mary Birks shared the following information on upcoming Outreach programs. Outreach provides services to children age 5-21 years of age and their families.

- Choices (a Prevention Education program) – meets the 3rd Saturday of every month
- Femtastic – for girls ages 15-18 and their mom's will start June 2nd. They have space for 5 pairs. The program will focus on positive body image.
- Outreach was selected by The Pitch an advertising contest for non-profits. As a recipient of this award Outreach will have new graphic design and social media advertisements developed for them through local ad agencies. Look for new advertisement through social media and graphic design this summer.

School Board: Sarah Olbrich reported that the 2018/2019 budget passed with a .39 mileage increase. There will not be any reductions in staffing or programming. There are still some questions that need to be answered on the rock pile. The school board is currently waiting for the final report. Retirement awards were presented to 13 retirees at the last school board meeting. The decision to have a full time SRO (School resource officer) will be discussed at the upcoming June meeting.

Mount Lebanon Police Department: Officer Mike Smakosz reported that he or Officer Scott Kunz have been at the high school since April 3, 2018 from 7:30-3:30pm daily. This has been a positive experience for them both. Students are familiar and comfortable with them as a result of the K-8th grade outreach that the police department provides in the Mount Lebanon Schools.

Mount Lebanon Public Library: Connie Matthews shared the following information concerning summer programming and activities that will be available throughout the summer at the library. Katie Donahoe is the new teen librarian at Mt. Lebanon Public Library. “Libraries Rock” is this summer’s reading program theme. The summer reading program kicks off June 21st. There are several Matt’s Maker Programs available this summer. Schedules and full program information can be found at <http://www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/>.

The minutes of the March meeting were not available for approval. They will be prepared for review at the September meeting.

Treasurer’s Report: Rich Messimer shared the following reports: Georgia Pogue Scholarship fund Budget to Actual, Georgia Pogue Scholarship Fund Finances, Georgia Pogue Scholarship fund Proposed 2018/2019 budget, 2018/2019 Proposed Mt. Lebanon City Council of PTA’s Budget, and the Council budget to actual report for May 20, 2018.

- Rich is suggesting that we vote to transfer at a minimum \$500 up to \$1000 annually depending on the end of year budget from the Council PTA budget to Georgia Pogue.
- Additional cost savings are being considered for the annual PTA training meeting. A possible breakfast training instead of a luncheon would reduce expenses.

Executive Board Reports:

Council PTA President Katie Caste: After thanking Julie Maselko and Principal Brian McFeeley for hosting today’s meeting Katie shared the following.

- On April 12th School Board Members shared their responses to questions asked by local PTA units with school Principals and PTA Presidents. She reiterated that the School Board members encourage the community to email them with questions or concerns prior to school board meetings and feel the more they hear from us the better.

Mount Lebanon School District Superintendent Dr. Tim Steinhauer

- Dr. Steinhauer is happy to share that the school board approved the 2018/2019 budget. He reinforced the opinion that the district’s main programming will not change and they are always looking to make improvements. The MTLSD School Board has initiated a District Constituent-Driven Strategic Planning process committee. Dr. Steinhauer encouraged us to attend the upcoming Community Forum on June 7 at 7pm, in the Jefferson Middle School Auditorium.
- Matt’s Maker Space open house will be May 22 at all the elementary school.
- The MTLSD Student Protect app, a new mobile alert and suspicious activity reporting app is now available. This app allows students, parents and community members to send tips to report the following: threats to schools or individuals; firearms or weapons concerns; suspicious activities or bullying. Tips go immediately to Mt. Lebanon School District administrators and the Mt. Lebanon Police Department. Reports will be monitored at all times. Tips may be sent anonymously or you may leave contact information for follow-up.

- Mount Lebanon High School was selected as a Green Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. The high school is among only two schools in the state recognized with this award. Mt. Lebanon High School was nominated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The nomination recognized Mt. Lebanon High School for a variety of green initiatives such as developing a comprehensive recycling and composting program and establishing a locally sourced, healthy food program. High School Representatives will travel Harrisburg in June and to D.C in September to receive recognition.
- We are happy to welcome Dr. Heather Doyle as the new Director of Special Education for the district and Caitlyn Deat as the new Unit Principal at the High School.
- Dr. Steinhauer expressed his thanks to partner superintendents Dr. Irvin and Dr. Davis for their support and commitment to the district.

Parent Education Committee Report: Julie Maselko

- Julie reported that the Shape the Sky presentation was very informative but poorly attended. Unfortunately, we were not allowed to film the presentation but you can sign up for their newsletter.
- Spoof is a program that uses your cell number to send text messages from your number. It is important to be aware of this application to help your children navigate technology. They might be telling you the truth when they say they didn't send the message.
- Julie recommended more online or recorded webinars for parent education topics to reach a larger audience. She suggested having a resource link that updates parents on hot topics.

New Business:

- A motion was made to approve moving a \$500 minimum from the Council PTA budget to the Georgia Pogue Scholarship Budget. Julie Maselko made the motion, Lisa Silverman 2nd the motion. Motion approved
- Election of the Audit Committee: Bonnie Dougherty, Julie Maselko, and Danika Lagorio volunteered for the committee. Julie Maselko made a motion to approve the committee, Moira Aulbach 2nd the motion. Motioned approved.

High School President Announcements: Julie Maselko

- The High School PTA received a gracious Thank you note from Outreach for the lottery tickets that were donated.
- Food Services has been wonderful to work with: All schools in the district can use them for events such as Teacher Appreciation or other PTA sponsored events. The Food Service Director Nolen Fetchko provides full service catering including linens.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Submitted by

Rebecca Matheus, PTA Council Secretary

June 6, 2018

Minutes Approved September 5, 2018