

Mount Lebanon City Council of PTA's
Council Meeting Minutes
Hoover Elementary School
September 5, 2018- 9am

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

March 2018 meeting minutes were approved.

May 23, 2018 Meeting Minutes were approved with the following correction- March 2018 minutes not April 2018 meeting minutes were unavailable at the May 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.

- Rich requested that all unit PTA's return audit binders to him within the next two weeks.

Executive Board Reports

Council PTA President Katie Caste: The Parent Education Night, held August 20th, was very well attended. Dr. Christopher Willard presented *Growing Up Stressed or Growing Up Mindful*. The response to his presentation was very positive. If you were unable to attend this presentation, you can view it at: <https://mtle.bo/GrowingUpMindful>

Mount Lebanon School District Superintendent Dr. Tim Steinhauer:

Dr. Steinhauer discussed and shared the following:

- The first day of school went smoothly across the district. There were no changes in administrative positions or building Principals which provided excellent continuity and a smooth start to the school year.
- The upper practice field at the high school is predicted to be completed by the end of November.
- The Jefferson hillside is closed for repair. Crews are working on stabilizing the hillside which is eroding. Pointing work and brick repair is being completed at Jefferson Elementary.
- The district had a net enrollment increase of 17 students. The district retains and attracts 5,500 students.
- Dr. Chris Willard presented at three events for the district: an administrative meeting, a parent education presentation, and a school district presentation. Dr. Willard's presentations, which focused on social and emotional learning, self-awareness, perseverance, and self-discipline were very well received.
- The app Head Space, a meditation app was given to 720 faculty and staff members.
- Mt. Lebanon Magazine did a nice feature on the districts Social Emotional Learning and Mindfulness initiatives from the elementary schools to the high school.
- Dr. Steinhauer introduced, Dr. Heather Doyle who started in May 2018 as the new Director of Special Education. After being introduced Dr. Doyle shared that in response to parent requests a new PTA special education committee has been formed. This group Lebo PRIDE (Partners

Respecting Inclusion and Differences Everyday) is a committee of the districts PTA that provides education, advocacy, and support to parents and students with special needs. The first presentation is planned for November of this year.

- Dr. Davis, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education shared Niche.com ranked The Mount Lebanon School District #1 in the region and the #3 District in PA. Mt. Lebanon School District was ranked the #15 School District in the country out of 10,758 school districts, The District was also ranked the #1 Safest School District in the Pittsburgh Area the #3 Safest School District in the state. All Mt. Lebanon schools received an A+ rating.
 - The High School Link Crew, trained as mentors to help guide 9th grade students through their first year of high school welcomed the Class of 2022 to the high school.
- MLPD Officer Bryan Henley has been assigned as the School Resource Officer (SRO) to Mt. Lebanon High School, for the 2018-19 school year. The decision to have a full time SRO officer was approved at the June 2018 School Board meeting.
- As a reminder the MTLSD Student Protect app, a mobile alert and suspicious activity reporting app is 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.

Other Officers:

- Bonnie Dougherty shared that there has been a lot of positive feedback from the Newsletter Coordinators at both the elementary and middle schools in regard to providing a link to activities instead of listing all outside activities separately. She clarified the need to simplify the process for PTA newsletter coordinators by providing a link to community information rather than post individual activities separately in newsletters. All community programs shared through the newsletter links are approved by Jeanine Szalinski.

Old Business: Katie Caste

- Vote to approve the 2018/2019 Council PTA budget
 - The 2018/2019 budget proposed at the May 23, 2018 meeting was presented for approval today. It was distributed to council members prior to the meeting. Julie Maselko made a motion to approve the budget, this was seconded by Cristina Battaglia. The motion was unanimously approved.

New Business: Katie Caste

Audit Committee Report: Bonnie Dougherty

- The audit committee of Bonnie Dougherty, Danika Lagorio and Julie Maselko completed the audit of both the Georgia Pogue and the PNC account maintained by the council. Overall both council accounts were well maintained. The following suggests were made.
 - Quarterly statements and quarterly reconciliations need to be in the binders.
 - Sections within the binders should be labeled ie: Monthly reconciliation reports etc.

Katie Caste thanked the audit committee for their work.

Moira Aulbach made a motion to approve the audit committees report, this was seconded by Natalie Kukla. The motion was unanimously approved.

The January PTA Council meeting has been changed to Thursday January 3, 2019 at Lincoln Elementary.

Unit President Announcements:

- Julie Maselko, Mt. Lebanon High School PTA, shared that a Community Service Fair is being held September 27, 2018. Contact Christy Smith, the High School Librarian if you have community service opportunities you would like to share.
- Natalie Kukla, Washington Elementary, reminded unit PTA's that September is Love your Library Month. Please consider making your planned donations this month. All donations made in September will be matched.

Community Representatives:

School Board: Sarah Olbrich welcomed everyone back and encouraged anyone with comments or questions to email the school board.

Mount Lebanon Library: Connie Mathews, Children's Librarian, shared the following:

- The library will be renovating the Teen Space.
- A Welcoming International Potluck will be held Sunday September 16th 4:30-7pm.
- Many new teen programs have been planned including Horror movie night and book club. See the following link for additional information. <https://www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/134/Teens>
- There was a 3% increase in summer reading club participation. 1,370 school aged children in elementary and middle school participated this year which is about 37% of area children.

Outreach: Mary Birks

- Outreach is working with the Mount Lebanon police department to try and find funding to purchase a trailer so the "Hidden in Plain Sight" teen bedroom can be a traveling educational experience. Hidden in Plain Sight is a staged teen bedroom where parents are given an opportunity to find all the hidden drug paraphernalia.
- Outreach has started a Divorce/Support group for women. Additional information can be found at their website. <https://outreachteen.org/>
- Outreach Councilors are currently completing Trauma Informed Care training.
- The Choices Program, a drug and alcohol education program is available. Sessions run the third Saturday of every month.
- The Parent Education Series will begin again this fall- please check the website for new programs coming soon.
- The Outreach Facebook page has some links to wonderful education resources for parents. Mary encouraged us to watch "Said No Teen Ever".

Mount Lebanon Municipality: Susan Morgans

- Susan provided a detailed explanation of upcoming recycling changes. Starting in January 2019 we can no longer recycle glass. Additionally, only plastics 1 and 2 will be accepted for recycling.

- Additional Information on the recycling changes can be found in the latest issue of Mount Lebanon magazine. <http://ebooks.mtlebanon.org/mtl/2018/mtl-092018/> and on the municipality website at <http://lebomag.com/recycling-changes-to-come/>.
- The Mount Lebanon Historical Society will open its renovated history center Saturday September 29, 2018.
- The Mount Lebanon Fire Department will host an open house Saturday October 6th from 11-3pm. The departments new engine will be on display.

Meeting adjourned at 10:06am

Submitted by:

Rebecca Matheus, Council PTA Secretary

September 24, 2018

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