

Mt. Lebanon City Council of PTAs Meeting
Wednesday, January 7, 2015
Mellon Middle School
Minutes

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance—The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. There were 17 people in attendance.

Approval of Minutes—Julie Maselko
The minutes from the November 5, 2014 meeting were presented and approved as written.

Treasurers Report—Melissa Bailey

- Georgia Pogue—10 outstanding request, some date back 6 years.
- PTA Council dues – substantially behind in Membership dues (~\$1300), please remind your units that dues are accepted any time of year.
- Financial statements were presented.

Correspondence—Chantelle Moore

- Julie Maselko read a letter from Doug Reichenfeld—Elementary Music Teacher/Facilitator thanking the PTA for their generous support of the instrument fund in our schools. Five families were helped with the instrument fund this year.

Executive Committee Reports

President's Report-- Julie Maselko

- Thank you to: Mellon Middle School Principal, Chris Wolfson and PTA President Julie Maselko for hosting today's meeting;
- New Legislation regarding clearances. States that any person with Direct Contact with children must have all 3 clearances. Comments from Dr. Steinhauer—"Law was very sweeping. Now clearances must be updated every 3 years for teachers/staff. However the District is waiting for direction from the Dept. of Public Welfare." More information to come.
- 106th Annual PA PTA Convention to be held April 17-19, 2015 in Erie, PA. Registration coming soon.
- Julie is working with Chris Stengel to provide Wi-Fi passwords for all PTA Presidents.
- School Board Appreciation will be held at the January 19th School Board meeting.

3rd V.P. Report/Superintendent—Dr. Steinhauer

- Weather already an issue the first week back in 2015. Steinhauer tweets any delays or cancellations before the phone call--@mtlstdsuper on Twitter. All Superintendents start talking early as severe weather approaches. At -10 is when damage to skin can occur.
- School Board update-
 - Preliminary budget will be presented in January. Just a placeholder budget to all changes to be made later. At the time, the unknowns are State Budget, Staffing Needs and Health Care Costs.

- Teacher Contract Negotiations started Monday January 5th. State appointed mediator attended the last meeting. Negotiations continue, contract ends June 30th, 2015.
- Changes in Leadership on Board. Larry Lebowitz is the new President and Mary Birks is the Vice President.
- Changes in laws:
 - Clearances
 - “Pass the Trash”—must report if a teacher is under investigation to next district.
 - Now everyone is a “primary reporter” of suspected child abuse.
- High School Construction Update—Band/Orchestra/Music rooms opening soon. Kids still have to walk outside for some class changes—new hallways done soon.
- ALICE training has been continuing. Introducing to students in a very “thoughtful” and age appropriate way. Some added options to things they already know. Will begin introducing to students in the 2nd semester.

Standing Committee Reports

Environmental—Bonnie Dougherty

- Tree City USA will be at Howe Elementary this year.
- Teracycle has been set up through Bonnie. Any funds can be designated to any non-profit. Contact Bonnie for more information. Environmental chairs at each school have been contacted.
- High School, Mellon and Washington are already set up.

Membership—Lauren Bloch (given by Julie Maselko)

- It is not too late to obtain more PTA memberships for your local unit. According to the National PTA, units that run more than one campaign have, on average, 20% more members.
- January’s Membership incentive by PA PTA has not been posted but will be distributed to local units once it is received.

Community Liaisons

School Board—Mary Birks

- A lot of wonderful things going on in the district.
- Moving into negotiations with the MLEA. School Board hired professional negotiator, same guy as last year, Al Malo.

Outreach—Mary Birks

- 4th Annual Ladies Night Out Purse Bash is Friday January 23, 2015. Tickets on sale now.
- Parenting Series continues in 2015. This year’s topics include, The Worried Child, Discipline Dilemmas and Family Talk: Listening without judgment and talking without yelling.

- Intake numbers for November/December were 28 clients aged 8-18. Not just Mt. Lebanon but also K.O., Pittsburgh Public.
- Part-time job available—Administrative Assistant needed. 20 hours per week, flexible times.
- Need volunteers for Purse Bash on January 20, 21, 22 from 10-2 to work phones.
- As an agency, Outreach is a mandated reported. However not held liable if the assumption is wrong.

Library—Laurie Schultz

- Correction to the Nov. 5th minutes—about 50 children attended the event held by the Teen Advisory Board. There are 5 Teen advisory board members.
- Lots of events coming, please see flyer for more information.
- There are 2 newsletters also available.
- Maker space open hours during the week. There is a directed activity if the students don't come in with a specific project.

Police—Jamie Hughes

- The Coat Drive was very successful. Over 400 items of clothing were given to the Salvation Army in December. They were in great need of these items. Will try to start the Coat Drive earlier in 2015.
- ALICE—very happy with how it is going. Training for the parents was well attended, approximately 50 parents showed up for the presentation.
- Lt. Fisher passed along some comments about traffic.
 - Please ask parents to model good behavior. Safe Walking does start at home.
- Citizen's Police Academy will be held Tuesday evenings March 3rd through April 28th. Free on-line applications. There are opportunities to visit the shooting range, simulated traffic stops and examining evidence.

Unfinished Business

- None

New Business

- None

Unit Presidents Announcements

- None

Adjournment—The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

Submitted by: Chantelle Moore, Recording Secretary

Approved: _____