

Livonia PTSA Council Executive Board Meeting

April 16, 2025

In attendance:

Council - Andrea Malenfant, Laura Ulaszek, Debbie Pline, Nicole Dant, Jon Wennstrom, Megan Moore, Andrea Oquist

Guests – Kristen Quesada (CHS principal), Jenna Kuhn

In attendance via Zoom: Lynda Schell, Holly Kerkhof, Patty Novak

(Several Council members absent due to Robotics Worlds and other LPS events)

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Andrea Malenfant.

Approval of the March 19, 2025 meeting minutes motion by Nicole D., 2nd by Debbie P. Minutes, unanimously approved.

Superintendent Report – Andrea Oquist

- Hosting Wayne RESA at LECC on 4/23
- Wayne RESA meeting today. Shared unified programming along with Northville Public Schools (peer connections, unified athletics). Info will be shared at BOE meeting an in Link
- Highlighting inclusion/ability awareness – discussions with Grant, Johnson, Garfield
- Federal funding (IDEA, Title 1, Title 3) – do not have firm answers yet. Will put contingency funds aside to account for potential loss (drafting resolution for Congress at LPS BOE meeting to share soon)
- Earth Day: Hayes hosting event and highlighting green initiatives
- City Arbor Day Committee to plant trees at LECC
- Garfield Craft Show – Friday, May 2 starting at 9 am. Proceeds to fund programming
- MI Association of School Boards to honor platinum and diamond status boards
- Spring sports underway
- Honors Nights at MSs and HSs coming soon

Elementary Report – Jon Wennstrom, Riley principal

- Arbor Day at LECC and Resource Fair on Thursday
- 6th grade camps
- 3rd-6th grade M-Step window
- YMAD awards
- Finding Nemo Jr. at Riley
- Riley student council working on spring project
- Rotary Easter Egg Hunt this Saturday at Rotary Park
- Thanks to LPTSAC for attending his play

Respectfully submitted by Laura Ulaszek

Secondary Report – Kristen Quesada, Churchill principal

- All Middle School final activity night at Holmes
- DC trips – Emerson and Frost going soon. Holmes just went
- Awards Nights coming up
- 101 Dalmatians play at CHS
- LCTC Fashion Show 4/22
- Proms, graduations, honors nights
- Scheduling process
- 7th-12th grades had art displayed at Civic Center Library art show
- Robotics teams qualified for States, 2 students honored with scholarships
- M-Step, ACT, PSAT
- Concerts, CAPA Shows, senior dance showcase
 - o CHS – The Play that Goes Wrong
 - o 10 Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse

NEW BUSINESS

2025-26 Officer Election – Laura U.

- 2025/26 Executive Board
 - o President – Mandy Gerstenbrand
 - o 1st VP – Keadin Parish
 - o 2nd VP – Andrea Malenfant
 - o Treasurer – Nicole Dant
 - o Corresponding Secretary – Megan Moore
 - o Recording Secretary – Laura Ulaszek
- Lynda S. motioned to accept slate as presented, Debbie P. seconded
- All present in favor

Officer Training – Andrea M.

- Tonya Whitehead, MI PTA president, presenting opening session
 - o What our mission is as a PTA
 - People have lost track
 - Not focusing on students
 - Conflict between board members
- Need Council members to run sessions
 - o Nicole and Debbie – treasurer
 - o Megan and Laura – secretary
 - o Mandy and Andrea – president and VP
 - o Kellie – membership
- Jenna K. suggested closing sessions could be about fundraising
 - o Connect with other units
 - o Tips and tricks
 - o Units could speak on most successful fundraiser
- Discussion on updating training documents
- Discussion on if there is a recommended balance that PTAs should have at the end of the year. Some have a lot of money
 - o You should spend what you bring in with a bit of a cushion

- Whatever you are fundraising for, you need to spend the money unless it's a long-term project but that needs to be stated, This is not a bank account. This was discussed at MI PTA Convention
- Have enough for summer and events before first big fundraiser
- Discussion on how if you don't need to fundraise because you have money, don't (i.e. don't charge for an event)

YMAD – Debbie P.

- 1,860 students turned in commitment forms
- Representation from all schools except Niji
- Wednesday, April 23, 6 pm at CHS, magician
- Rosedale asked if parent contact can be on forms
 - Forms can be edited by chair, many add contact
- Set-up starts at 3:30 pm, be done by 5:30 pm

OLD BUSINESS

Transportation, Maintenance, Warehouse Appreciation Event – Andrea M.

- Donuts and goodie bags delivered
- Went well

Reflections – Megan M.

- Went well
- Attended state convention and have state awards
- Suggestion for QR codes for films and dances, Laura can help with this

Family Engineering Night

- Lower attendance but people there had fun
- Discussion about changing date to earlier in the year

MI PTA Convention

- Mandy, Keadin, Nicole, Megan attended as well as Nicole F. from Niji
- Andrea presented a workshop on Sunday
- Units should have a line item for convention
- Would like to see more units attend

Discussion on increase in dues and how it must be voted on

OFFICER'S REPORTS

Treasurer – Nicole D.

- See reports
- Nicole motioned to increase Reflections budget by \$200, Laura seconded, all in favor

Corresponding Secretary – Debbie P. - No report

Recording Secretary – Laura U. – No report

Respectfully submitted by Laura Ulaszek

2nd Vice President – Andrea M. – No report

1st Vice President – Kellie D. absent

President – Mandy G. presented via written report below

“Old business:

- transportation appreciation event on 3/20, Kellie and I delivered goodie bags/donuts
- Reflections, Megan M. can give a recap
- MI PTA, notes below in Pres. report

New business/president report:

- Nominations committee, vote on 25-26 slate, with quorum present
- MI PTA convention was held this past weekend in Dearborn - myself, Keadin, Nicole D. and Megan were on hand, as well as Nicole F. from Niji, and Andrea M. as a presenter. Next year's convention will be held in East Lansing, 4/17 - 4/19 2026. I'll keep you updated once I hear anything else about this!
- Summer Leadership training will be held the first week or two in August, location TBD. We won 2 free reg. for this event, I'd like to raffle them off at off. training perhaps?
- YMAD on 4/23, please check with Debbie P. about what/when she needs help!
- with the national dues increase, would we like to change anything with Council dues? I'm good either way!
- Officer training 5/21 @ Frost, 6-8 p.m.
 - request put in to MI PTA to hold group session
 - Who's leading each breakout? (pres, sec, treas., mem.)
 - please look at the documents in MH/the website and let me know if you'd like changes made, I'm sure I can copy these at school.
 - giveaway? name badges/ribbons/stickers/something else?
 - we should be good on wooder/snacks, maybe need some cookies?
 - I will work on a graphic/google form for signups
- in June, we'll look at next year's calendar, and audit party”

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advocacy – Mike Testa – no report

Bylaws – Andrea M.

- Communication sent out to units regarding amending bylaws, need to pay outstanding memberships

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging - OPEN

ELVs & Math APS – Keadin P. – no report

Founders' Day – Andrea M. - Report above

Membership - Nicole D

- 2,586 members

Respectfully submitted by Laura Ulaszek

Newsletter - Laura

- Articles for the next newsletter will be due April 25
 - o Remember to write for the future
 - o Put text in email, attach pictures

PEP – Keadin P.

- Coolidge 9030, Kennedy 6300, Buchanan 6000
- Please turn in your things, points are bonus

Reflections – Megan M. – report above

STEM – Patty N. – No report

Student Engagement – Andrea M.

- Working on getting Garfield more out there, they don't have a PTA
- Brainstorming ideas
- Emerson doing great having student meeting during Eagle Time
- Would like more student involvement at other MS/HS

Website – Laura U.

- Check your pages on the website and send any changes to Laura.

YMAD - Debbie P. - Report above

Other Business

Discussion on advance memberships, Jenna K. will email Laura and info will be in May newsletter

Motion to Adjourn at 7:30 p.m. by Laura U.