

Livonia PTSA Council Executive Board Meeting

September 18, 2024

In attendance:

Council - Andrea Malenfant, Mandy Gerstenbrand, Kellie Dummer, Laura Ulaszek, Debbie Pline, Nicole Dant, Mike Testa, Jon Wennstrom, Keadin Parish, Megan Moore, Holli Kerkhof, Andrew Pesci

Guests - Elizabeth Vacheresse, Brittany Johnson, Colleen Badgero, Jenna Kuhn

In attendance via Zoom: Lynda Scheel, Andrea Oquist

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Mandy Gerstenbrand.

Introductions (lots of guests)

Approval of the August 21, 2024 meeting motion by Kellie D., 2nd by Holli K. Minutes, unanimously approved.

Superintendent Report – Andrea Oquist via Zoom

- Great start to the school year
- Safety flip book. Asked Council and units to push it out. Sent via email and LPS will send out again.
- Livonia Early Childhood Center (LECC) ribbon cutting is Sept 30
 - o Progress made on playground, hopefully done by the end of the month
- Livonia Career Technical Center (LCTC) – mobile field trip, “Tools to School,” with carpenters’ union
 - o LCTC students helped with the greenhouse community build at Garfield. Many community sponsors – thank you to them. Growing stations, berm, orchard – apple and pear trees
- Renewal of Wayne County Millage (info will be in upcoming newsletter)
- Mandy asked about DEIB and how to guide units in terms of the district. Mandy and Andrea will meet.

Elementary Report – Jon Wennstrom

- Safety review meeting with all staff. Crisis response team reviewed duties. They meet a minimum of once a trimester.
- Most units have had their first PTA meetings
- Curriculum Nights: 5/6 schools – all virtual on 9/19; most K-4 have already had theirs.
- K-6 in first round of iReady testing
- Oct.1 is a PD Day – will look at iReady scores

Respectfully submitted by Laura Ulaszek

Secondary Report – Andrew Pesci

- LCTC Open House tonight – Sept. 18
- HS/MS Open Houses were last week or week before. Looking at changes in format
- Athletics in full swing as well as plays/musicals
- Homecomings:
 - o SHS Sept. 20
 - o CHS Sept. 27
 - o FHS Oct. 11
- HS/MS conferences – Nov. 6 and 7
- Safety meetings with staff. Info shared with triad principals
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NEW BUSINESS

DEIB – we need a new chair but will wait until after Mandy’s meeting with Mrs. Oquist. Discussion and Brittany Johnson from Coolidge expressed interest in being chair.

Candidate Forum – Mike Testa

- September 26 at 6 pm. City Hall Auditorium
- 8 new questions submitted. Using many repeat questions and adding new ones.
- Got feedback from other Council members and will give questions to Livonia TV by Friday
- 3 student reps, one from each high school
- Needs help from Council members the night of (members volunteered)
- Will last about an hour and a half
- Scout troop will lead The Pledge
- It will be recorded and posted on website and social media

IEP Binder Event – Andrea M.

- Looking for mid-October date and thinking Riley for location
- Student Services coordinators want to come
- Wants info sent to all students as students in gen ed also have IEPs and 504s

Costume Closet –

- October 2 at Franklin 6-7:30 pm, café, 4:30 set-up
- Sorting and organizing at Cass 9/21, 9:30 am
- Donation bins at the event
- Will do collection after Halloween at elementary schools
- Has been on district social media

Food Service Appreciation – Andrea M

- Goodie bags. Units make sure that its said that it is coming from PTA/PTSAs and not schools.
- Units will pick-up at November Council meeting
- Will get info on Amazon Wish List out soon

Corn Roast – Megan M. and Laura U.

- Went well, good amount of traffic
- Mike T. donated tent to Council, Megan mentioned we should get weights.
- Floss as giveaway next year

OLD BUSINESS

None

OFFICER'S REPORTS

Treasurer – Nicole D.

- Reports passed out, no questions
- Andrea M. asked Nicole to send out email about not needing to pay MI dues
- Mandy G. – via MI PTA, many bank accounts have been hacked so they are suggesting paying for members be done through Givebacks not mailing in checks. Holli K. – checks are being washed. MG – MI PTA discussion on debit cards – stick with checks due to 2 signature, more accountability
- If units paid \$40 MI dues, checks will be returned

Corresponding Secretary – Debbie P. - No report

Recording Secretary – Laura U. – No report

2nd Vice President – Andrea M. – No report

1st Vice President – Kellie D.

- Reaching out to Franklin re: Chili Cook Off with Franklin, 1/18/25

President – Mandy G.

- SOAs – remind units to submit
- LECC ribbon cutting info sent to Council

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advocacy – Mike T.

- Current millage expires in 2028. Will have a report for the website.
- Financial literacy which is now required by the state will be part of econ classes per Debbie P.

Bylaws – Andrea M.

- Will be getting a new template from the MI PTA
 - o Wait until new template comes out to update unless at 3-year mark

Respectfully submitted by Laura Ulaszek

- Make sure you aren't past 3 mark
- Review with membership and vote on them - when uploading, meeting minutes must be attached
- Will send an email out to units
- LECC will need to update now because of the name change
- Discussion with Coolidge board (present at meeting) about how to update bylaws, read at meeting and vote because they are making changes
- Kellie D. requested that we look at Council's policies and procedures in November

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging - OPEN

- Discussion noted above

ELVs & Math APS – Keadin P.

- She will go to library to make sure space we use is cleaned up

Founders' Day – Andrea M. - Report above

- Will go to St. Mary's on October 1 to book date (Ranch flight at every table!)
- Will look into photo booth
 - Kellie and Laura suggested Rock Out Entertainment
- Google Photos is set up for units to start uploading photos – was in September newsletter and will be in everyone until FD
- Franklin Bel Canto Choir performing?

Membership - Nicole D

- 1,885 members

Newsletter - Laura

- Articles for the next newsletter will be due September 25
 - Remember to write for the future

PEP – Keadin P.

- Sent out email reminder to remember to upload SOAs

Reflections – Megan M.

- Met with Debbie Yates (former chair)
- Sent link to chairs and prior chairs
- In discussion with Kellie Stark, LPS art teacher, on how to increase participation
 - Maybe after school or a district studio day
- Projects due November 15
- Chairs need to drop off projects at the November 20 Council meeting
- Will look at date for ceremony

STEM – Patty N. (not present)

- Date in December

Student Engagement – Andrea M. – No report

Website – Laura U.

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

YMAD - Debbie P.

- April 23, 2025 at CHS
- Website has updated info
- Reached out to past chairs and is collecting chair names

Other Business

MI PTA Convention – April 12, 13, 14

Holli K. suggested posting schools that need chairs for Reflections, YMAD, etc. on Facebook Officers Forum to draw attention.

Holli K. will help with donations for Chili Cook Off

Motion to Adjourn at 7:38 p.m. by Laura U.